

Youth & 4



**You're
Not a Kid
Anymore!**



Going for the Gold!
See Page 12

Youth & 4

March

VOL. IV, NO. 3

Circulation: 120,000

Contents:

Was Sex Really Necessary?	1
Your Best Self-Defense	5
News That Affect You	7
Nuclear War: It Won't End Like You Think!	10
Be on Your Best Behavior	11
A Golden Dream	12
Tropical Ice	14
You're Not a Kid Anymore!	16
News & Reviews	18
Teen Bible Study: A Sneak Preview of Your Awesome Future	21
Dear Youth 84	23
Reader By-Line: Four Days in March	28
By the Way . . . "Are You Listening to Me?"	29

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: **Herbert W. Armstrong**
MANAGING EDITOR: **Dexter H. Faulkner**

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: **Mike Bennett**
GRAPHICS: **Michael Hale**
EDITORIAL AND GRAPHICS STAFF: **Tom Delamater, Eileen Dennis, Matthew Faulkner, Nathan Faulkner, Lowell Wagner Jr.**
CONTRIBUTORS: **You the reader**

Published by the Worldwide Church of God
PUBLISHER: **Herbert W. Armstrong**
TREASURER: **L. Leroy Neff**
PRODUCTION DIRECTOR: **Roger G. Lippross**
CIRCULATION MANAGER: **Boyd L. Leeson**

Youth 84 is published monthly (except combined June-July and October-November issues) by the Worldwide Church of God, 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, Calif., 91123. Copyright © 1984 Worldwide Church of God. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A. Reentered as second-class postage in Manila, Philippines. The publishers assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited artwork, photographs or manuscripts.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE YOUTH 84 ADDRESS NEAREST YOU.

United States: 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, Calif., 91123. For literature requests you may call toll-free 1-800-423-4444; in California, Alaska and Hawaii call 213-304-6111 collect.
Canada: P.O. Box 44, Station A, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2M2. For literature requests you may call toll-free 1-800-663-1242.
Mexico: Institución Ambassador, Apartado Postal 5-595, 06500, México D.F.
Colombia: Apartado Aéreo 11430, Bogotá 1, D.E.
United Kingdom, rest of Europe and the Middle East: P.O. Box 111, Borehamwood, Herts., WD6 1LU England
Zimbabwe: P.O. Box U.A.30 Union Ave., Harare
South Africa: P.O. Box 1060, Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa 2000
Ghana: P.O. Box 9617, Kotoka Int. Airport, Accra
Kenya and the rest of East and Central Africa: P.O. Box 47135, Nairobi, Kenya
Mauritius and other Indian Ocean Isles: P.O. Box 888, Port Louis, Mauritius
Nigeria: P.M.B. 21006 1006, Ikeja, Lagos State, Nigeria
Australia, India, Sri Lanka and Southeast Asia: G.P.O. Box 345, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia
New Zealand and Pacific Isles: P.O. Box 2709, Auckland 1, New Zealand
The Philippines: P.O. Box 1111, Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines
Caribbean: P.O. Box 6063, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936
Switzerland: Case Postale 10, 91 rue de la Servette, CH-1211, Geneva 7
Scandinavia: Box 2513 Solli, Oslo 2, Norway

Be sure to notify us immediately of any change in your address. Please include your *old* mailing label and your new address. U.S. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: *Youth 84*, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91123.

COVER: When does childhood end and adulthood begin? The article "You're Not a Kid Anymore!" examines just what it means to become mature, beginning on page 16. Photo by Nathan Faulkner.

Letters

Picked on by bullies

I would like to thank you for your article in the December issue, "Hurt Feelings? Who Needs Them?" because I get picked on in school, and I understand how hard it is for someone not to be paranoid and physically hurt, especially if you aren't liked by bullies.

People who pick on me do not realize what they are doing and so when they hit me, I never hit back at them because I know that vengeance is for God to repay and not for me, and also if I did hit back at them, I would probably get hurt.

I pray about every day that they won't even see me and won't bother me. I know that they won't if I pray and have faith in God and believe what He says.

Name Withheld
Kentucky

Encouraging new outlook

I'm 15 years of age. I would like to thank you for your [magazines]. They are encouraging and lately they're giving me a new outlook and a reason to look through the pages of my life and see where I have messed up.

Your "Dear Youth 83" letters help me a lot also. I sometimes have the same problems.

Cozzie Burrus
Lawton, Okla.

Prison library

I really enjoyed your *Youth 83* October-November issue. I happened to pick your magazine up by stopping at the library here at the prison. I like the manner in which you address certain issues in your *Youth 83* magazine, keeping God in the minds of the young people, and good healthy morals as far greater than just . . . loose sex, etc. Keep up the good work!

Name Withheld
Pennsylvania

Essay contest winner

I'm 16 years old and I'd like to say that *Youth 83* has been a great inspiration to my life. I'm the president of the Baptist Southern District in Texas. I entered a religious essay contest three years straight and with the help and guidance of *Youth 83*, I've placed third twice and, by the grace of God, I placed first the last time. It is a blessing as well as a privilege to have people such as you all to help us understand the wonderful works of God.

Partina Prear
Galveston, Tex.

Love, Marriage and Sex

Was Sex

Really

Necessary?

By Herbert W. Armstrong

We have covered, in recent issues, two vital purposes relating to sex in humans — procreation and marriage. But now comes the question: Did these really require sex? Part seven of a series.

Marriage and family life are necessary in humans because babies and growing children need the tender care, loving instruction, discipline and warm affection of a father and a mother.

But there is another equally vital need for the *marriage relationship* within the family and home. And this *vital need* required a right sexual relationship totally unrecognized today. So we ask:

Could not God have devised some other means of generation than SEX? And would not the marriage and family relationship be happier without SEX?

The “chaste severity” of church fathers

The formulators of early Christian thought would have answered the above two questions in

the affirmative. Referring to these founders of traditional teaching, Edward Gibbon says, in chapter 15 of his famous *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*: “The chaste severity of the fathers in whatever related to the commerce of the sexes flowed from the same principle — their abhorrence of every enjoyment which might gratify the sensual, and degrade the spiritual nature of man.”

Their favorite opinion, continues Mr. Gibbon, was that if there had been no “fall,” Adam would have lived forever in a state of virgin purity. Paradise might have been peopled, not by “degrading” sex, but by some harmless mode of vegetation.

Apparently God made a terrible mistake when He created sex. That is, in the “chaste severity” thinking of those Catholic fathers!

“By them,” continues Mr. Gibbon, “the use of marriage was permitted only to the fallen

posterity, as a necessary expedient to continue the human species.”

Mr. Gibbon speaks of these men, as “unwilling to approve an institution [marriage] which they were compelled to tolerate.” And, further, “Since desire was imputed as a crime, and marriage was tolerated as a defect, it was consistent with the same principles to consider a state of celibacy as the nearest approach to the Divine perfection.”

Poor souls! Ignorant of the biblical revelation that God (Hebrew, *Elohim*) is a FAMILY — ignorant of the truth of the Kingdom of God — these men misunderstood the very GOD-PLANE relationship of the Eternal! The fruits of that teaching have been an indescribably enormous MOUNTAIN of human woe and misery!

What was wrong about marriage, they reasoned, was not the ceremony or the *state* of marriage — but the use of sex *in* marriage!

How much better would marriage have been, *without sex!*

And that is the **BIG QUESTION** to be settled once and for all in this article! Was **SEX** necessary for the God-plane marriage and family relationships? Could we not have had these without **SEX**?

WHY was sex necessary, anyway? Why not some intellectual way, free from passion and sex, of producing offspring?

Satanic origin

This pagan concept was Satan-inspired (I Timothy 4:1-3). It simply means this:

Satan is an *individual being*, with **NO POWER TO REPRODUCE HIMSELF**. Satan is deprived of **FAMILY RELATIONSHIP**. God, on the other hand, *IS* the divine **FAMILY** — Father, Son and those begotten by the Holy Spirit to be *born* into it. God has bestowed on mankind the privileges of **FAMILY**, and of reproducing our kind, bringing our *human* offspring into our human **FAMILIES**.

Satan resents this! So Satan palms himself off as the **GOD** of this world (II Corinthians 4:4).

The *true* God — the Eternal **CREATOR** — pictures Himself, in His Word, as the divine **FAMILY**, and bestows on man the privileges of reproduction and *family* relationship. Satan represents God's system of reproduction as being wrong. He deceived the world for hundreds of years into believing marital **LOVE** through **SEX** is a corroding, contaminating thing.

The "New Morality" concept

Today, worldwide **REVOLT** has set in against the repressive "chaste severity" of the "fathers." The formulators of the modern permissiveness see only one thing — that repression, passively adopted but not practiced by Protestants, became intolerable. The sex-is-evil attitude had to go.

The medieval concept downgraded the God-plane **MARRIAGE** and **FAMILY** relationships *below* asceticism. The "New Morality" threatens to *abolish* these divine institutions! Satan was subtly deceiving the medieval world. He

is just as cunningly deceiving the "New Morality" modern world today!

Instead of coming to the true **MEANING** and **PURPOSES** and right **USES** of sex, they blindly swung to the opposite extreme of declaring **ANY USE OF SEX IS GOOD — NOT EVIL!** Therefore, says the modern revolt: "Let's **USE IT** — freely — in or out of marriage — perverted or otherwise — **DOWN WITH ALL RESTRAINTS!** Let's **LIVE IT UP!**"

So, in the present moral rebellion, labeling immorality "*the New Morality*," marriage has lost whatever meaning or sanctity it

**In the present
moral rebellion,
labeling
Immorality "the
New Morality,"
marriage has
lost whatever
meaning or
sanctity
it had.
Its very existence
is threatened.**

had. Its very existence is threatened.

Now we have seen, in the preceding articles in this series, that there is vital and deep-rooted **MEANING** to the **MARRIAGE** institution, and to the establishment of **HOME** and **FAMILY** life.

But the **BIG** question of the present article is: Was **SEX** really necessary for the high and noble God-plane relationship of the marriage state, and the institution of home and family? Could not these have been more enjoyable, more pure and clean, more righteous — and better for humanity — *without sex*?

To answer this **BIG** question

about sex, we need to look further into the **FAMILY** relationship that constitutes the **KINGDOM OF GOD**, and the betrothal relationship between **CHRIST** and the **CHURCH**.

Love relationships

God has given mankind the institutions of *marriage*, and *family*, to *prepare* us for an **ETERNITY** of happiness and joy in His Kingdom — His **FAMILY!**

Just **WHAT**, then, is the very basis and foundation of the **FAMILY RELATIONSHIP**?

That basis is **LOVE!**

Of all the **CHARACTER ATTRIBUTES** of God, the very first, greatest and most important is **LOVE!** Above all, **GOD IS LOVE!** (I John 4:8, 16).

The very first of the attributes of God — expressed in the fruits of His Holy Spirit in man — is **LOVE** (Galatians 5:22). When this very God-life is infused within us, by His Spirit, it is "the **LOVE OF GOD** . . . shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy [Spirit]" (Romans 5:5, Authorized Version throughout).

Thus, in first begetting us, God infuses within us the divine **GIFT** of *His love!* The divine **FAMILY RELATIONSHIP** is a **LOVE** relationship. The tie that holds the divine Family together is the tie of **LOVE!**

To those thus begotten of God, converted by His Spirit, Christ says through John: "Behold, what manner of **LOVE** the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called **THE SONS OF GOD** . . . Beloved, *now* are we the sons of God [begotten], and it doth not yet appear what we *shall be* [when *born*]: but we know that, when he [Christ] shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (I John 3:1-2).

Even now, converted begotten sons of God have spiritual **FELLOWSHIP WITH THE FATHER** and with the Son, Christ (I John 1:3).

So the **FAMILY** relationship, both on the divine plane, and in the human type, now, is a **LOVE** relationship — and **GOD IMPLANTS WITHIN HIS BEGOTTEN**

CHILDREN *His divine love* TO EQUIP THEM FOR THAT DIVINE LOVE relationship.

Likewise, the betrothal Husband-and-wife-to-be relationship between CHRIST and THE CHURCH is a LOVE relationship.

Notice, again, God's teaching that MARRIAGE on the present human level is to be a LOVE relationship, just as is Christ's relationship to His Church:

"Husbands, LOVE your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it... that it should be holy and without blemish. *So* ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. . . . For *this cause* shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh" (Ephesians 5:25-31).

For *what cause* shall a man marry a wife? For what PURPOSE? For that of LOVE!

The betrothal relationship between Christ and the Church — of which marriage between humans is the type — is a LOVE relationship. Husbands are to love their wives "even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it."

But notice again! To Adam and Eve in the Garden in Eden, God gave SEX as the cause for marriage — as did Jesus in Matthew 19: "He . . . made them *male and female*, and said, *For this cause*" shall a man and woman marry (verses 4-5). Because of SEX they shall marry.

So we have the two scriptural reasons for marriage — for LOVE, and because of SEX. These are not two contradictory reasons. They blend into ONE — to express LOVE through SEX!

Sex was created, not only as the means of reproduction and bringing about a FAMILY, but, in humans, as a means of expressing LOVE *in marriage*.

So again I ask, *just what is love?*

And again I answer, the world does not know!

Three kinds of love

There is more than one kind of love. The Greeks had *three* words for it — each with a different shade of meaning.

In today's modern world, the meaning of LOVE has been all but lost. It has been so romanticized, so confused with LUST, that people carelessly call any sex

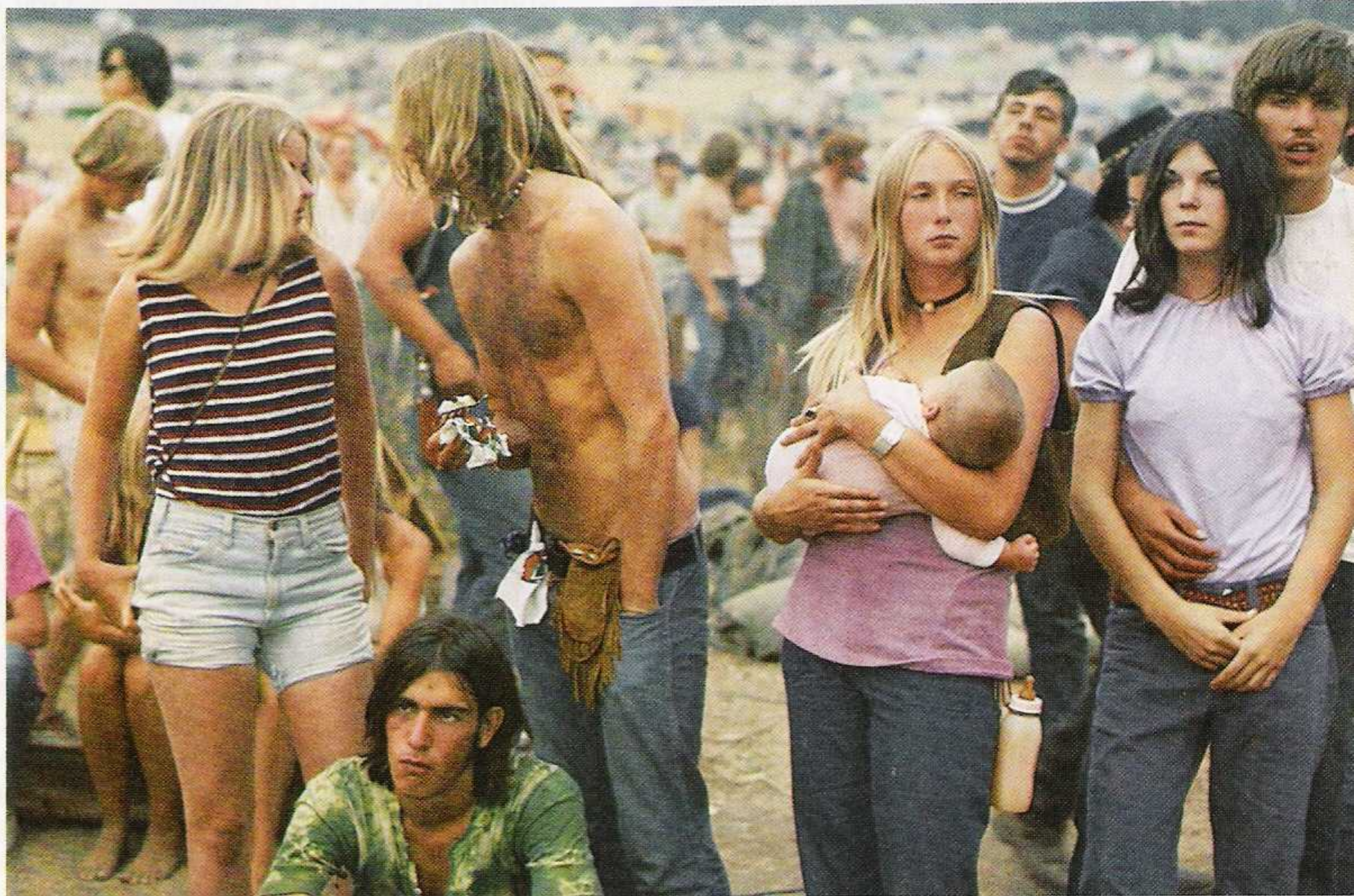
longs to fill him with it — if he will surrender and believe!

Second is *philia* and a related form, *philadelphia*. This is the love of friendship — brotherly love — love of parent, or child.

Third is *eros*, which refers to sexual love between husband and wife. It means love, not lust. The Greek language uses a different word for lust. *Eros*, however, is a love expressed physically, not spiritually.

Just what, then, *is* love?

If I had to define love in four



desire or sex use love. Usually this is LUST.

Today nearly all popular songs are falsely supposed to sing about love. Motion pictures, television, novels — all confuse and eroticize love and induce society to accept lust in the name of love.

The Greeks are more definitely expressive. They use three words that define love more accurately.

First is *agape*, which is moral or spiritual love. This is the love GOD expresses toward humanity. It is the divine, spiritual love, supplied by God's Holy Spirit. The natural and unconverted man *does not have this love!* But God

Experimentation with "free love" in the late '60s has had a devastating impact on the family life and sexual morality of the '80s. (*Youth 84* photo)

words, I would say, "Love is *an unselfish outgoing concern*" for the good and welfare of the one loved. Love is primarily on the *giving, serving, sharing* side of the fence — not on the *getting, taking, factional, striving* side. It is not selfish.

God *is* Love. Consider how God expresses love toward us who are humans. Yes, even those who are *hostile*, and rebellious toward God: "God *so* loved the world,

that he *gave* his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Jesus Christ is God — one of the divine Persons who compose the God Family. Notice how Christ manifested love: "God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, *Christ died for us . . . when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son*" (Romans 5:8, 10).

How did Jesus Christ express

lent analysis of love. He draws an interesting distinction between true mature love and infantile love. The latter is primarily emotional, thoughtlessly selfish, seeking its own gratification. Like "puppy love," it does not love another as he is, or for what he is, but as he is imagined or romantically desired to be.

"Illusion," says Dr. Cole, "is the standard diet of infantile love. It is, as the poets say, blind . . . Cupid appears appropriately enough in diapers" (for our British readers, "nappies").

Mature love, says Dr. Cole, is not blind. "It has progressed from pabulum to porterhouse."

Jesus said, "It is more blessed to *give* than to receive." That is a true statement, of which nearly all humans are ignorant. Carnal humanity is bent on getting, taking, having. The average person, selfishly, is primarily interested in gratifying the desires of his five senses — with no concern for others.

All sense-enjoyments not sin

The five senses do cry out for gratification. We humans are composed of FLESH — mortal flesh — MATTER. We can receive pleasurable sensations through these five senses. In their "chaste severity" the early "Christian fathers" deemed *any* pleasurable sensation or experience, through the senses, to be sinful. THAT IS EMPHATICALLY NOT TRUE! It depends on the attitude of mind. If it is covetous, lustful, selfish, it is sinful. But if not, it may be beneficial.

God even tells us, in His Word, that our senses *should be exercised by use*, so that we can distinguish good from evil (Hebrews 5:14). Our senses were put within our bodies *to be used — but not misused!*

God created us so that we must eat food to live. He equipped us with the sense of taste. God gave us this sense so that we might *enjoy* the necessity of eating. We

should, therefore, exercise our senses to distinguish true, natural, health-building food from those false foods that destroy health — and then *give God thanks*, and really ENJOY the eating!

In like manner God made it possible for us to receive great pleasure and enjoyment of the most upbuilding and wholesome kind from the sense of sight. He gave us the faculty for appreciating the *beautiful*. But a man can *misuse* his sense of sight by looking *lustfully* at a woman.

God equipped humans with the sense of *hearing*. How much inspiring, uplifting, pleasurable enjoyment we receive from beautiful MUSIC! But of course, this sense, too, may be used for good or for evil. Glorious music was actually created in the archangel we call Lucifer. But when, in pride and greed, his whole character changed, and he FELL from his estate of perfection to become Satan, he became corrupted and perverted in all his ways (Ezekiel 28:13, 17). Satan is the author of perverted, discordant, degenerated modern music — of a wail, a dirge, a moan, a squawk or a rhythmic *erotic* fast beat.

IN LOVE, God equipped humans with the five physical senses, to supply man with wholesome ENJOYMENT AND PLEASURE! But the *use* of these senses can be turned in the wrong direction! The *privilege* carries with it the obligation of responsibility. This is part of the character-building process.

I repeat! Sin is not the *thing* — but the WRONG USE of the thing! God *intended* man to be HAPPY! It is God's will that we ENJOY life — that it be pleasurable, satisfying, wholesome, rewarding! But God gave us *minds* — and made HIS WORD available — to distinguish the TRUE values from the false! Not to *decide*, in our own minds, what our selfish or lustful desire would like to *make* right — but to *distinguish* what God reveals *He has made* right.

The *right* use of the five senses
(Continued on page 24)



God equipped us with senses to enjoy the sight, smell and taste of the food we eat to stay alive.

His love for the Church? The scripture has been quoted above — *He gave Himself for it!*

Love is UNselfish. It is not an emotion, though it may be expressed with an emotional content. True love *combines* the rational aspect of outgoing concern — desire to help, serve, give or share — along with sincere concerned affectionate *feeling*.

William Graham Cole, in his book *Sex in Christianity and Psychoanalysis*, gives an excel-

Photo by Warren Watson

Your Best Self-Defense

In a world full of crime and violence, is there a form of self-defense you're overlooking?

By Tom Delamater

Do you ever worry about being beat up?

Or robbed, raped or murdered?

Many people do. Some are buying handguns or other weapons to protect themselves. Others, especially women concerned about the possibility of assault or even rape, are learning martial arts such as judo, karate or kung fu. Many others just worry and wait.

How safe is your world? Looking at crime statistics, we'd have to say not very. But how safe are you? *That* can be a different story.

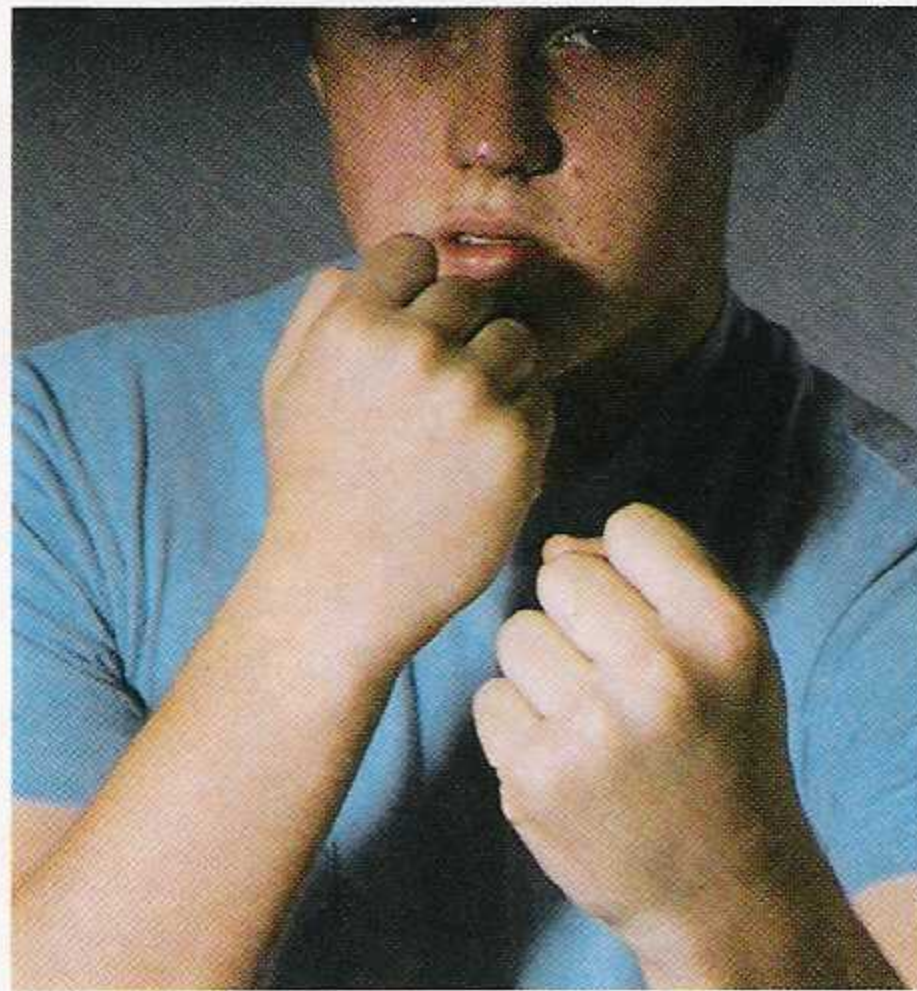
Strength in numbers?

Let's say you're pretty safety conscious already. You've listened to precautions from your parents and teachers and tried to avoid being careless. This, alone, makes you much safer than the average person. But it's still easy to be afraid in this world of ours, isn't it?

When you stop and think about it, though, constant worry about self-defense is rather futile. For example, no matter how strong we get, there's always the possibility someone stronger will come along. Or, we'll be faced by others who have combined forces to impose their will upon us. That's the idea behind gangs, for instance — strength in numbers.

So people form gangs to try to

dominate other gangs. Rebels form terrorist groups to try to overthrow governments. And governments form armies to try to defend themselves from, and sometimes overthrow, other governments. In each case, these groups, if given the opportunity, will align themselves with other groups in order to increase their strength — and



their ability to defend themselves.

The problem is, in each case men must rely on other men — and that's not always a comfortable position to be in. Will they change their minds and turn against you? Or will the enemy still be stronger?

Isn't there a better form of

self-defense? The answer is yes! And nowhere is it more clearly illustrated than in a story you can read in the pages of your Bible, in the Old Testament book of Daniel.

A story of survival

More than 2,500 years ago, a king named Nebuchadnezzar ruled over Babylon, at that time the most powerful kingdom on earth. The more he thought about his power, the more Nebuchadnezzar thought all the world should pay special honor to his kingdom.

So the king ordered that a huge statue be built — a golden image reaching nearly a hundred feet into the sky. Dedication ceremonies were announced, and all of the men in high positions in the

government were required to attend (Daniel 3:1-3).

At the dedication, a surprising announcement was made. The people were told that when the music began,

Guns and gangs — some forms of "self-defense" are wrong. But is there a right form of protection this world overlooks?

they were all to bow before the statue. They were also told that anyone who refused would be thrown into a large, roaring furnace (verses 4-6). For most,

this command was no problem, because idol worship was customary in Babylon. But three men in the crowd — Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego — worshiped only the true God and would not bow before the image Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Even the prospect of burning to death could not turn these men away from God!

When Nebuchadnezzar heard of this, he was furious, and he called the three men before him. “‘Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up? Now when you hear the sound of . . . all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?’” (Daniel 3:14, 15, New International Version).

These three men definitely needed an effective form of self-defense! Given an ultimatum, they were being threatened with death by the man who ruled the most powerful kingdom on earth.

No, only one thing: “‘If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king’” (Daniel 3:16, 17, New International Version).

Amazing! These men were not obsessed with survival or self-defense. They knew that to bow before another god would mean to disobey the true God, and that God said He would protect them for instead obeying Him (Exodus 20:3-6).

Notice, too, that Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego were willing to obey God even if He didn't protect them (Daniel 3:18). Obedience shouldn't occur just because you think you're going to get something. God sometimes allows us to be tried for our own good.

By this time Nebuchadnezzar was so angry that he ordered that Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego be tied up and cast into the fiery furnace, which had been heated seven times hotter than usual. After they were thrown in, Nebuchadnezzar peered into the furnace to watch the men die an agonizing death. But he was

amidst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God’” (Daniel 3:24, 25).

Excited and awestruck, Nebuchadnezzar called for Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego to come out of the furnace. Those present stood transfixed as the three men strode out of the furnace and walked up to Nebuchadnezzar. The king stared in wonderment, noting that their hair and clothing hadn't been touched by the flames. Nor was there even the smell of smoke on them (verse 27). God had, indeed, protected them.

This made a believer out of Nebuchadnezzar, who declared that all the people should honor the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, “because there is no other God who can deliver like this” (Daniel 3:29).

A lesson for today

Millions of people today rely on weapons and other forms of self-defense because they feel that is the only source of protection they can have confidence in. But did Jesus Christ teach that we should be concerned with retaliation as a form of self-defense? No. He said, “And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise” (Luke 6:31). In other words, put yourself in other people's shoes and treat them as you would want to be treated.

Many people think that biblical teaching makes Christians defenseless in a world filled with crime and violence. After all, Jesus Christ taught the concept of turning the other cheek (Matthew 5:39), and the apostle Paul said, “See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone” (I Thessalonians 5:15).

But God is real, and He has the power to intervene on our behalf — on one condition: “And whatever we ask” — including protection — “we receive from Him . . .”

Why?

Why? (Continued on page 28)

Why? (Continued on page 28)

Why?

(Continued on page 28)



Many turn to the martial arts to protect themselves. But there is a better way! (Photos by Hal Finch)

But note well their reaction:

“‘O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter,’” they said. No guns? No gangs? No kung fu?



amazed at what he saw!

“Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, ‘Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?’ They answered and said to the king, ‘True, O king.’”

“‘Look!’ he answered, ‘I see four men loose, walking in the

Piecing Together the Nuclear Puzzle

• “My marriage and family plans have changed. I’m not really sure if I want children because I’m not . . . ready to deal with the thought of . . . seeing them killed in a nuclear war.”

This high school junior is having to face up to life in a nuclear-armed world. And, like millions of other young people, she’s scared and confused.

It’s such a complex and frightening issue that many people, in fear and frustration, have closed their eyes to the subject, hoping against hope that it will just go away. But it’s awfully hard to find the solution when your eyes are closed.

In this issue, we have broken the subject down to just a few of its most important parts. We hope this will make the nuclear issue easier to understand when you see it on television or in the newspapers.

But even with a complete understanding of the issue, the problem would still not be solved. After decades of work, the world’s leaders have taken us closer to — not farther from — nuclear suicide.

“The way of peace they know not . . . they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace” (Isaiah 59:8, Authorized Version).

How will we get out of this mess? Do the world’s leaders know? For the answer, be sure to read the article on page 10, “Nuclear War: It Won’t End Like You Think!” There is a way out of our nuclear nightmare. □



How Our World Became a Nuclear Time Bomb

• How did our world reach this frightening state? Wars have been fought throughout history, but it wasn’t until the atomic bomb was developed nearly 39 years ago that all humanity was threatened.

Scientists exploring the mysteries of physics early in this century discovered incredible forces within atoms. They knew that this power could be harnessed, but they just didn’t know how.

During World War II both sides put high priority on unleashing this power for destructive use. It was first used by the United States to end the war with Japan. Nuclear bombs haven’t been used in war since.

These early bombs were based on the energy released by splitting large uranium atoms. Later, scientists found a way to release even greater amounts of energy by combining hydrogen atoms, creating the even more destructive hydrogen bomb. This process is the same one that powers the sun and other stars.

The Soviet Union became the second nation with nuclear weapons in 1949. In the 1950s and 1960s, tensions between the United States and Soviet Union grew. They both began rapidly building nuclear weapons in an effort to keep even with each other.

Today there are more than 40,000 nuclear devices in the

world. Most of them are in the tips of missiles, aimed at targets often thousands of miles away. Many could be fired in a matter of minutes.

In the past few years, more than ever before in this nuclear

age, the existence of these weapons has been the subject of heated arguments around the world. There are no easy answers, even for this world's most brilliant leaders. — *By Mike Bennett* □

'We Need to Stay Armed'

• Why do nations continue to build nuclear weapons? One word often used to explain this is *deterrence*. What does it mean?

“Deterrence: (n) 1. The act or process of deterring. 2. The maintaining of vast military weaponry in order to discourage war.”

This simple idea has been used by kings and generals from ancient Egypt to modern Moscow and Washington. In one form or another, the use of deterrence goes back thousands of years.

This is the idea behind deterrence: To prevent invasion, you must convince your enemies that you are ready to fight back if attacked. This will make them think twice before they attack. By keeping your forces strong, you avoid the need to use them.

When talking about the Old West, for instance, this might mean two cowboys, with their hands on their holsters, both saying, “Try that and you’ll be sorry.”

When talking about nuclear weapons, the idea is that one nation will not attack with nuclear weapons if faced with nuclear revenge. The destruc-

tion it would receive outweighs any advantages it would gain by starting a nuclear war.

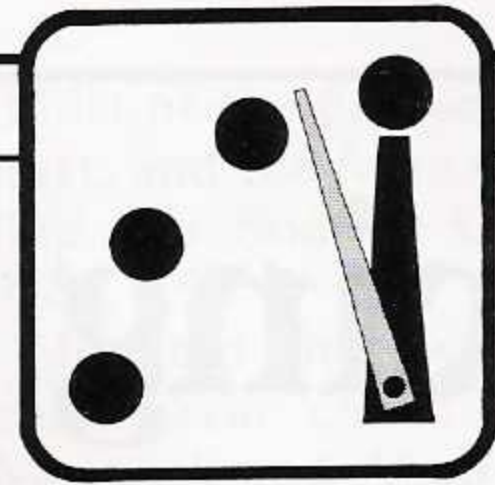
For this reason, according to the idea of deterrence, no nation really wants to use its nuclear weapons. It builds them only as insurance that other nations will not use their nuclear weapons.

But many of the disarmament movements aren’t so sure these weapons won’t be used. They feel that the mere presence of these weapons threatens the destruction of mankind. They have called on world leaders to begin taking these weapons apart, immediately, whether or not other nations do the same.

Most world leaders feel this would be foolish. They feel that as long as another nation has missiles pointed at their country, they can’t just throw away their own missiles and hope that other countries will do the same. Instead, they have had arms talks in an effort to reduce the number of weapons. These talks have had only limited success.

Nations, to survive in a nuclear-armed world, feel they must convince their enemies that, if attacked by nuclear weapons, they will use nuclear weapons in retaliation.

As U.S. President Ronald Reagan put it: “It is sadly ironic that in these modern times it still takes weapons to prevent war. I wish it did not.” — *By Ron Toth* □



The *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists*, a magazine about nuclear war, has reset its doomsday clock. In January, the clock was moved from four to three minutes before midnight. The clock, on the *Bulletin's* cover, symbolizes “the threat of nuclear doomsday hovering over humanity.”

The *Bulletin's* editors said they moved the clock closer to midnight because of the cancellation of nuclear arms talks between the United States and the Soviet Union last November.

'We Need to Stop the Arms Race'

• When the first of a new breed of nuclear missiles were installed in Europe last December, they aroused a storm of angry protest around the world. “Get the missiles out,” was the cry of the nuclear disarmament groups.

But the issue of stopping the placement of U.S.-made Pershing 2 and cruise missiles, aimed at the Soviet Union, is only part of a bigger goal. Ultimately, the groups hope, nuclear weapons everywhere will be banned.

The U.S. missiles are being placed in Europe by NATO* as a way to balance out new missiles that the Soviet Union has aimed at Europe. But members of the disarmament groups are afraid that, someday, something may go wrong with the balancing act.

More and more of them doubt the wisdom of even allowing nuclear weapons to exist. The goal of many of them is to convince world leaders that the only way to peace is to get rid of nuclear weapons.

The problem is that world leaders, especially those of the

* See Glossary.

Soviet Union and the United States, don't trust each other. "Why," they ask those who favor disarmament, "should I throw away my country's nuclear weapons before my enemy throws away his country's weapons?"

The hope of some disarmament groups is that if one side disarms, the other side will follow. They want the leaders of their nations to lead by example.

The disarmament movement is made up of many different groups with a greatly varied membership who represent many different religious, economic, racial and political backgrounds.

The movement includes those who are against all wars and those who are only against nuclear war. It also includes people who think peace can only be reached through major political change and those who just want peace and aren't concerned with other issues.

Most of the groups advocate only peaceful protests. In Europe this includes civil disobedience, hunger strikes, tax strikes and blockage of U.S. military bases. In the United States, marches are the main type of protest.

Organizations promoting disarmament lack agreement over definite long-term aims. This, coupled with evidence that some organizations on the Continent have received backing from the Soviet Union, has caused some credibility problems for the disarmament movements.

According to Dr. Otto von Habsburg, a member of the European parliament, these movements "didn't complain about 600 Soviet missiles aimed at Germany; there was no outcry until the installation of American deterrent missiles was proposed."

But disarmament advocates say any new weapons increase the danger. "With the nuclear arms race," said one activist, "mankind has been sentenced to death. I am driven by fear, by the feeling that we are running out of time." —

By Kerri Miles □

What Does It All Mean? A Nuclear Glossary

ABM (antiballistic missiles) — Missiles used to destroy an enemy's nuclear missiles when they are in the air.

Ballistic missile — A missile that is launched on a curve that takes it out of the earth's atmosphere, then returns it to the ground.

Cruise missile — A jet plane without a human pilot that can be used to carry nuclear weapons. It flies close to the ground where it is hard to detect.

Deterrence — The idea that if both sides have enough nuclear weapons to destroy each other, they will both be too afraid to use them in a war. (See "Mutual Assured Destruction.")

Disarmament — The idea that all nations should get rid of their nuclear weapons because if they exist, they will probably be used.

Electromagnetic pulse (EMP) — A powerful instantaneous blast of electricity that accompanies a nuclear explosion. It can destroy unprotected electronic circuitry in radios, telephones, televisions and navigational systems.

Fireball — The extremely hot (10 million degrees Fahrenheit, 5.5 million Celsius) center of a nuclear explosion.

First strike — A nuclear surprise attack designed to destroy another nation's ability to strike back. Thousands of nuclear weapons would be involved in such an attack.

Fission — A nuclear reaction that is used in bombs and in nuclear reactors at power plants. Big atoms, like uranium or plutonium, are split releasing awesome amounts of energy.

Fusion — A nuclear reaction used in hydrogen bombs. Energy is released by fusing — or joining together — small atoms. This releases even more energy than fission.

Kiloton — Measure of a nuclear weapon's power, equivalent to 1,000 tons of TNT.

Megaton — Measure of a nuclear weapon's power, equivalent to one million tons of TNT.

Mutual Assured Destruction (MAD) — A belief that nation "A" will not use its nuclear weapons on nation "B" if nation "B" has enough nuclear weapons to get revenge by destroying nation "A."

NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) — Begun in 1949, NATO serves to counter the European forces of the Soviet Union. Members include Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France,

Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and West Germany.

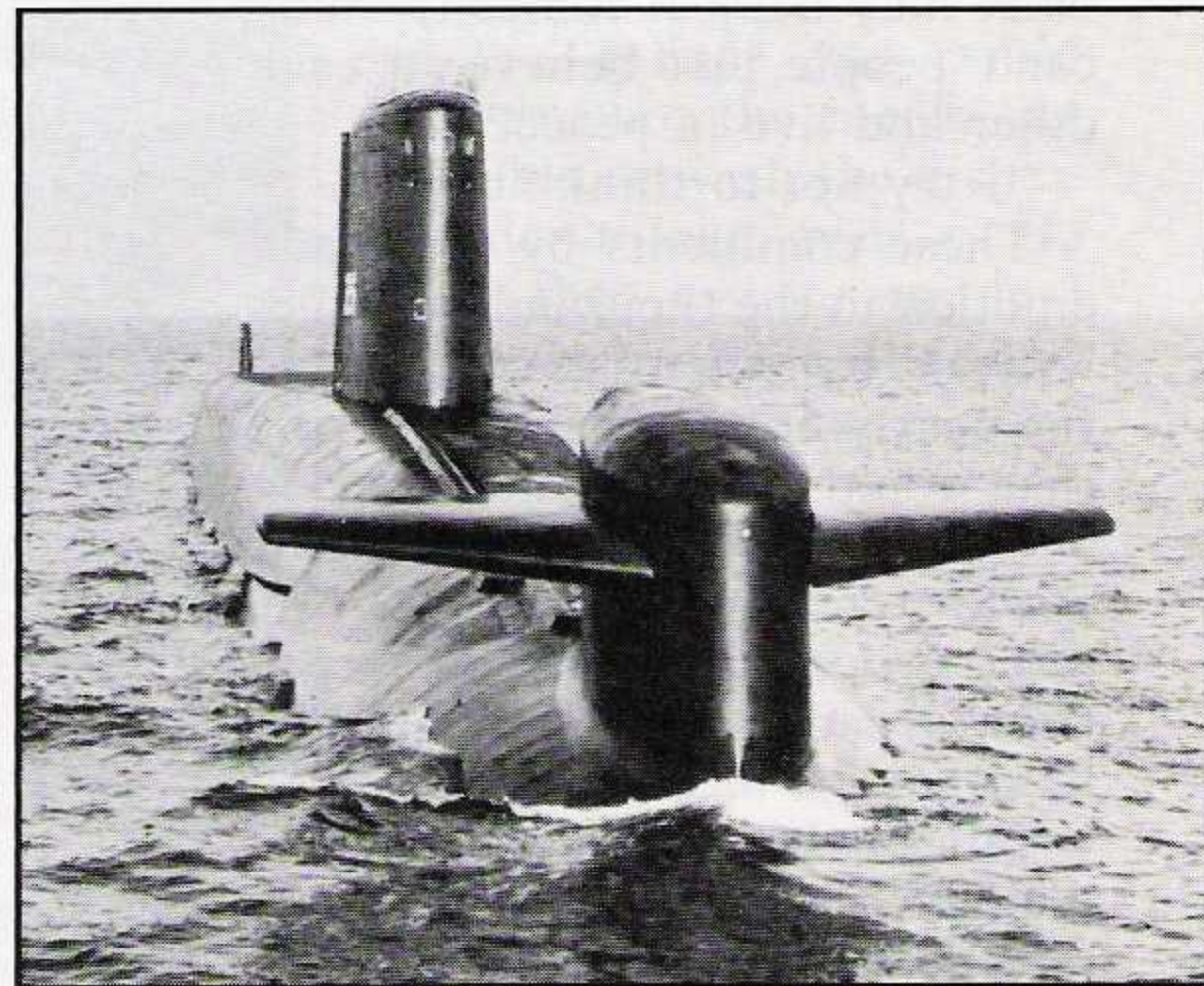
Nuclear winter — Freezing temperatures and winter-like conditions that some scientists feel would follow nuclear war. Nuclear explosions would produce a reflective layer of radioactive dust suspended in the atmosphere.

Pershing 2 missiles — U.S.-produced missiles, designed for placement in Western Europe, which have caused a great deal of controversy. Like the Russian SS-20, they are launched from a mobile launchpad. Unlike the SS-20, they have only one warhead.

Silo — A circular hole in the ground used to launch missiles. Usually strengthened by steel and concrete.

SS-20 — A Soviet-built missile with three warheads. According to U.S. estimates, it can be shot up to 3,000 miles (4,800 kilometers) away. The Soviets have about 360 of them aimed at countries in Europe and Asia. The SS-20 is launched from a mobile launching pad that resembles a large truck.

Warhead — The nuclear or conventional weapon carried in the last stage of a missile.



From submarines to silos, there are many ways to launch nuclear missiles.

Warsaw Pact Nations — Officially called the Warsaw Treaty Organization, the Warsaw Pact is a collective defense organization made up of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania and the Soviet Union.

NUCLEAR WAR: *It Won't End Like You Think!*

By Michael Snyder

Terrifying times lie shortly ahead for this world — but there is surprising hope yet!

“I’m sure I wouldn’t survive a nuclear attack — at least I hope I wouldn’t. There wouldn’t be much to survive for.”

“What’s the use? Life would be hell after nuclear war.”

“I cry out of fear when I think what may happen someday. Why can’t people just believe in each other and live in peace?”

“I try not to think about it.”

These comments by teens add emotion to the thousands of pages written by scientists explaining the nearly unimaginable suffering that would follow nuclear war.

And now, because of increased world tensions, many feel the clock is ticking closer than ever to that dreaded hour of nuclear holocaust.

Filled with anger at the possibility of dying in a nuclear inferno, millions have vigorously protested the placing of additional nuclear weapons by the United States and the Soviet Union. Millions of others have quietly given up hope. And still the buildup continues.

The human verdict is in — and it’s not good news. Left alone, humanity probably wouldn’t survive a nuclear exchange.

So what’s the point in even

reviewing this kind of bad, sickening news? There’s an important purpose!

The surprising hope

In what may seem a paradox, one of the surest things you can count on in this age is that humanity will survive! There’s no guessing about it.

How can we know this?

Humanity now stands on the verge of inflicting a nuclear nightmare upon itself. But the fact is that the soon-coming, self-inflicted nuclear war was foretold thousands of years ago. And with the terrible bad news came incredible good news!

Listen to these authoritative words! “If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened” (Matthew 24:22, New International Version).

Yes, there is an all-powerful, loving God who will not allow His creation to be annihilated. He will step in, through His Son Jesus Christ, and at the last minute forcibly *halt* the self-inflicted destruction of humanity.

That’s the good news.

But the bad news is that the Bible reveals that humanity will use nuclear weapons to destroy entire cities before God steps in (Matthew 24:21, Ezekiel 6:6).

(For more information, send for our free booklet, *Are We Living in the Last Days?*)

God doesn’t want man to destroy himself: “‘As I live,’ says the Lord God, ‘I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die . . . ?’” (Ezekiel 33:11).

Unfortunately, the Bible reveals that humanity as a whole will continue to foolishly demand its own way — the way that leads to war — all the way until the return of Jesus Christ. Believe it or not, the Bible says that even as Christ returns to cut short the threatened extinction of humanity, people will mourn and even futilely attack Him (Matthew 24:30, Zechariah 14:2-4, Revelation 17:14)! They will actually mistake Him as an enemy — that’s how perverted and confused this world is.

But it doesn’t have to be this way for everyone.

God has an awesome plan for all of humanity — including you! He has a definite purpose for rescuing mankind from the throes of nuclear devastation.

What’s to come

The same Bible that authoritatively foretells nuclear destruction
(Continued on page 27)

Whether you are invited to a formal dinner party, a casual get-together, a wedding or a friend's home for the weekend, do you know how to be a great guest?

Not knowing what you're supposed to do is embarrassing enough, but unintentionally doing something that is considered bad manners can be even worse. Plus, it can be a sure way not to get invited back.

The French even have a phrase for making a mistake in social situations — it's called committing a *faux pas* (pronounced foe pah, and literally meaning "a false step").

The guest role

So how can you avoid making a *faux pas*? Here are some tips you'll want to keep in mind when you play the role of a guest.

First of all, when you receive an invitation, it is courteous to promptly let the person who invited you know whether you can come or not. This helps the host or hostess out tremendously in preparing for the occasion.

Many formal invitations will have a RSVP on the invitation. RSVP stands for a French phrase that means "please reply" in English. This is a polite way of letting your host know whether or not to expect you. Don't ignore the RSVP, as some unthinkingly do, but respond promptly, even if you're declining the invitation.

According to Kathryn B. Niles and Hildegard Streufert in their book, *Family Table Service for Today's Living*, "It is considered a serious breach of manners to cancel an invitation after it has been accepted, unless for a very good reason."

Being a houseguest

Knowing the proper manners for being a graceful overnight guest will serve you well. One point to keep in mind is to bring the equipment you need. Your host will wonder how much you prepared for the visit if you forgot your toothbrush or you need to borrow a hair dryer or some clothes. Ask before you borrow anything.

And be sure to take back home with you everything that's yours when you leave. Before you say good-bye, double-check for possessions hiding under the bed, behind the door or in the closet. It is an inconvenience to your hosts to track you down and return your belongings after you leave.

As a houseguest, you should fit into the routine

Be on Your Best Behavior

By Wilma Niekamp Vernich

Here are some guidelines for being a welcome guest.

and create no additional work for your hosts. It is your obligation to keep the room neat and tidy. This means making the bed, picking up your clothes and keeping your suitcase in neat order and out of the way. You should also clean up after yourself in other areas of the house, for example, cleaning the bathroom sink. Leave everything as nice as it was when you arrived.

When your host says, "Please make yourself at home," do it, but don't abuse the privilege by propping your feet on the coffee table or tracking in mud or snow on the carpet.

Ask before using their telephone, and pay for any long-distance calls you might make. Also, if you're an early riser, don't wake everyone else up, and resist the urge to raid the refrigerator for a midnight snack.

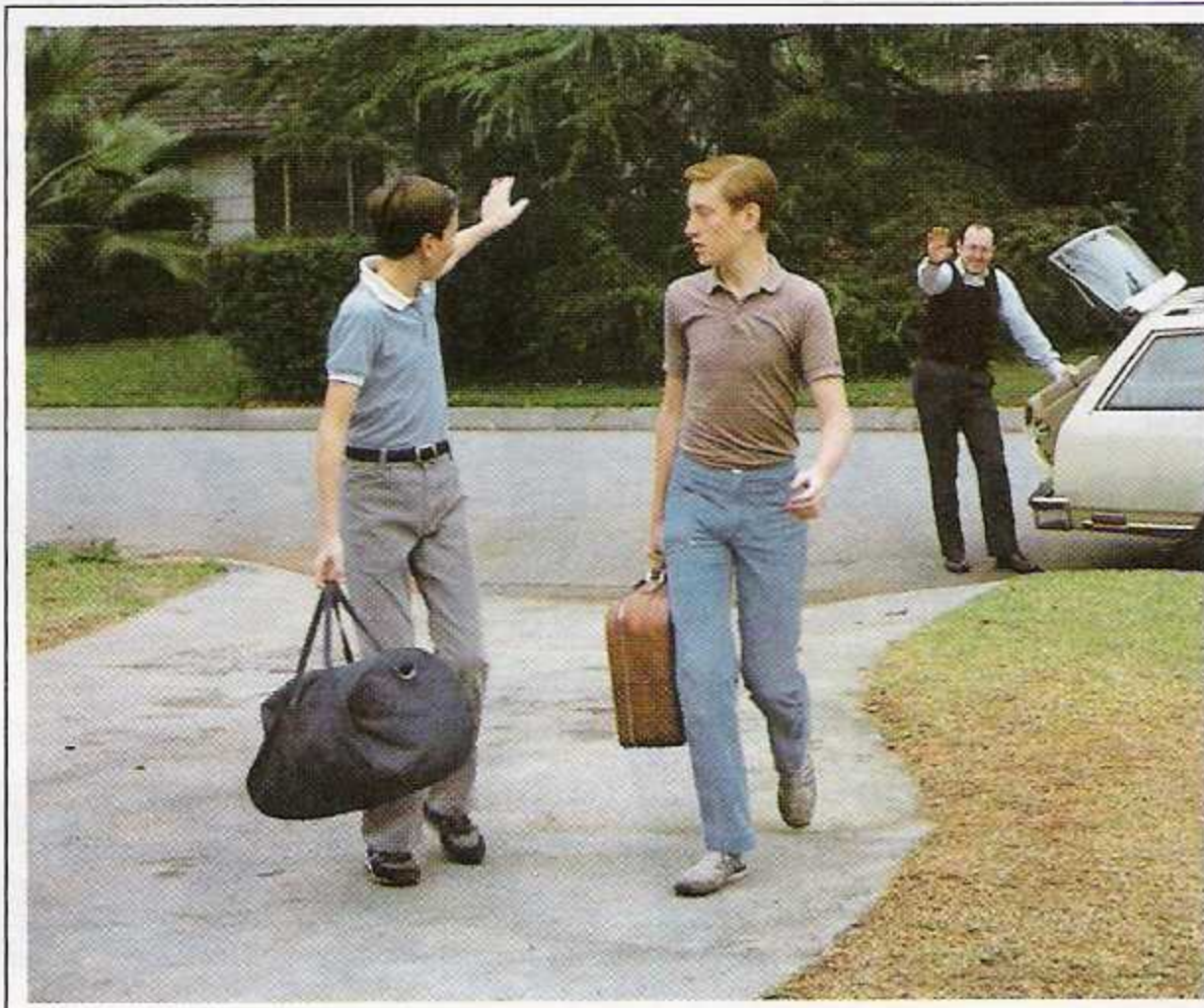
A guest should cheerfully offer to share the chores and join in family activities. Ask your hostess, "Is there any way I can help you?" Perhaps you could help prepare the meals, set the table or wash the dishes. But don't take over — do things the way your host and hostess want them done and respect their wishes if they would prefer to do some things themselves.

Make sure you don't overstay your welcome. You will want to set a definite time to leave and then stick to it. A considerate, conscientious guest will do his best to depart long before the host and hostess start

eyeing the clock on the wall or showing other signs of growing impatience.

It is a nice gesture on your part to send a thank-you note or send some flowers within a week after the event thanking your hosts for a wonderful time and for their graciousness.

Following these tips and learning other points of courtesy will help you become a welcome guest — someone your hosts would be happy to invite back. □



Great Moments in Olympic History

By Raul H. Reyes

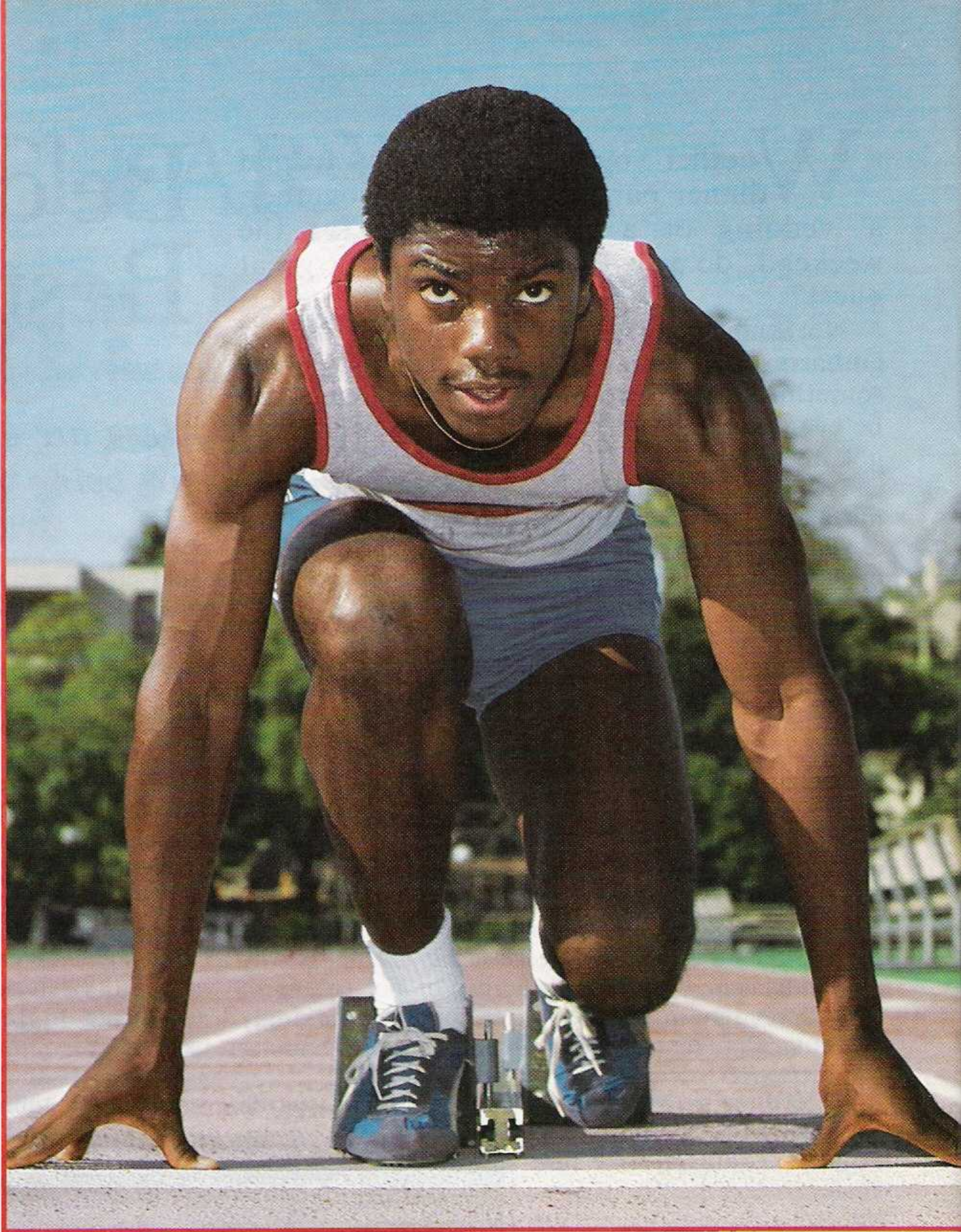
The Olympic dreams of the past inspire today's athletes — and everyone else who dares to dream. Like Harrison Dillard's story: He had hurdled every obstacle to make it to the Olympics. Now all the years of training and dreaming came down to these few seconds . . .

It was July 31, 1948. The place was the 1948 Olympics in London. The classic 100-meter event was about to begin.

In the first three lanes were the favorites. In lane one was Mel Patton of the United States, the world's fastest human.

Lane two featured Barney Ewell, also of the United States, one of the few men ever to beat Patton. Lloyd La Beach of Panama, who once shared the world record with Patton, was in lane three. In lanes four and five were two world-class runners from England.

Finally in lane six was Harrison "Bones" Dillard, also of the United States. Of them all, he was the most unlikely finalist. Dillard was the world's best hurdler, but he was not competing in the hurdles at all. While fast, he was not considered among the world-class sprinters. What



A Golden Dream

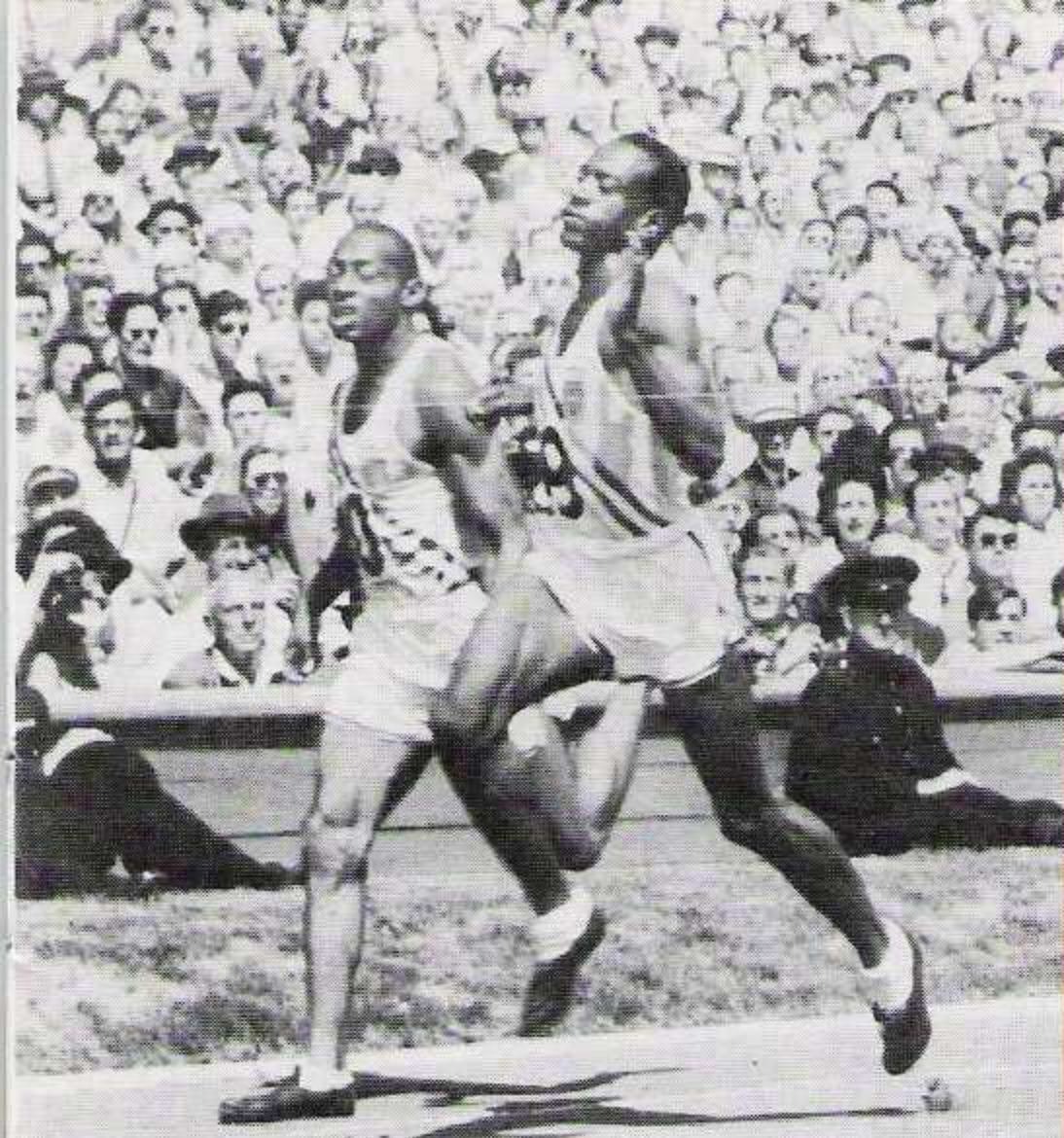
brought about this strange turn of events?

A 12 year old's dream

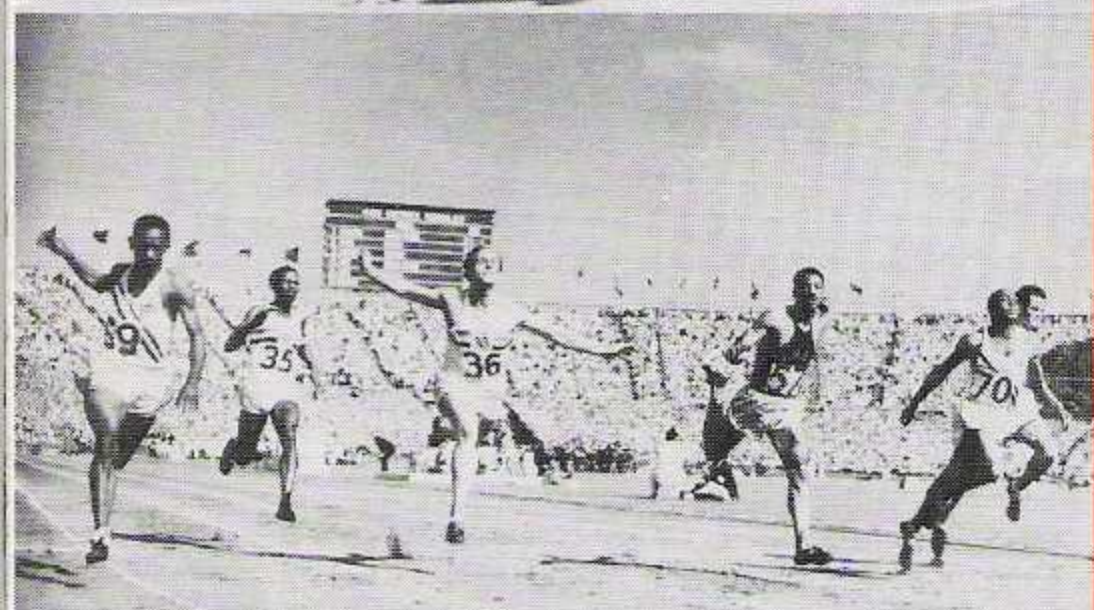
Twelve years earlier, Dillard had cheered Jesse Owens' triumphant return from the 1936 Olympics with four gold medals.

At the age of 12, Dillard set for himself a goal to someday serve his country by going to the Olympics and winning a medal.

Early in high school, Dillard realized that while he was fast, he was probably not fast enough to win the 100 meters like his friend



His lifetime dream of competing in the Olympic hurdles crushed, Harrison Dillard enters the 100-meter sprint, which he wins (top and center photos). But his dream of winning the high hurdles doesn't vanish. Four years later, he's in the race — and in the gold (bottom photos). (Far left, photo by G.A. Belluche Jr; others, Wide World photos)



Jesse Owens. So he switched to the hurdles.

Because he was not tall like most hurdlers, he was not expected to do well in that event. But years of practice and dedication paid off.

Dillard became the premier hurdler in the world. At one time he held five world records and won a record 82 consecutive victories. By the 1948 Olympics, he was favored to achieve his goal of winning a medal, and a gold medal at that.

Down but not out

All Dillard had to do to go to the Olympics was to be one of the top three finalists at the U.S. tryout final. Dillard, however, had the misfortune of having an off day. He hit the second hurdle,

losing his stride, and he wasn't able to regain it. Of the first six hurdles, he knocked down four. By then the three finalists had been determined.

Harrison Dillard, *the* best hurdler in the world, had not even qualified. Dillard, of course, was disappointed, but he didn't spend any time feeling sorry for himself. He found that if he could qualify for the U.S. 400-meter relay team, he still might fulfill his goal. That year the United



States was favored to win the 400-meter relay because of men like Patton and Ewell. While the top three U.S. finalists qualified for the 100 meters, the fourth also qualified to join them for the 400-meter relay.

It was this fourth position that Dillard hoped to qualify for. And qualify he did, not only for the U.S. 400-meter relay team, but also for the 100-meter event! He had come in third behind Patton and Ewell, the two fastest men in the world.

Thus Dillard, the hurdler, found himself in the Olympics with 68 of the world's fastest sprinters competing for the six final positions in the 100 meters. He was not expected to survive the heats. But qualifying heat after qualifying heat, Dillard

hung on and stunned everyone by becoming one of the six finalists.

The power of persistence

As fast as Dillard was, the highest he had ever been ranked was ninth among the fastest men in the world. Based on pure talent and speed, he should not have been among the final six. He had been running on pure desire and determination. Above all, as long as he had a chance to attain his goal, he was not going to give up. He was going to give it all he had.

Dillard had one of the world's fastest starts. If he was going to get beaten, they were going to have to catch him. A fast start and running the fastest race of his life were all that he would be concentrating on for the next few seconds.

The beginning of the race saw Patton, the favorite, get off to a poor start. One second, two seconds elapsed. Would Patton's speed overcome his poor start or would the other runners be able to take advantage of it?

Three seconds, four seconds, five seconds elapsed. Meanwhile in lanes two and three, Ewell and La Beach, the other favorites, were fighting it out for what now appeared to be first place.

Six seconds, seven seconds. What's this? Ewell and La Beach were not in the lead at all, but were slowly gaining on Dillard, who, unnoticed by almost everyone, had gotten off to an early lead with an excellent start.

Eight, nine, 10 seconds — and two men were seen lunging for the tape.

This was to be one of the closest races in the history of the Olympics, as 1½ meters separated fifth place from first place. Fifth place went to Patton. The two men who lunged at the finish line were Ewell and, of all people, the hurdler Dillard.

Harrison Dillard had run the fastest race of his life and, since the first three places receive a medal, he had achieved his goal of
(Continued on page 26)

Snow on the equator? Impossible! That was the reaction of skeptical Europeans when Dr. Ludwig Krapf reported seeing snow on Mt. Kenya in 1849. It took another 34 years before Dr. Krapf's report was proved correct.

From that time, the mountain has been luring climbers, hikers and nature lovers from all parts of the world. While the two main peaks require advanced technical climbing ability, the third highest peak (Pt. Lenana, 16,355 feet or 4,985 meters) can be reached by anyone in good health.

Here is an eyewitness account by a teen who scaled Pt. Lenana.

Tropical Ice

By Jane Naitore

*Tropical ice? What's that —
a new type of frozen drink?
No, it's an adventure!*

On the equator, you have to climb a long way to reach the snow. And that's what we planned to do.

Mt. Kenya, Africa's second highest mountain, was our goal. Kenya (also the name of our country) means "White Mountain," and we eagerly looked forward to climbing to the snow-covered top of one of its peaks.

Our group — six teens, two parents and our minister — had prepared for this climb for a long time. This preparation involved not only running and getting as physically fit as we could, but also borrowing equipment and clothing that would be necessary at the high altitude of the mountain. We knew we would need to keep dry and warm and we realized we would need strong shoes.

On the first part of the journey we drove through a thick bamboo forest until the road ended at about 10,000 feet (3,050 meters) above sea level. There we put on our rucksacks filled with food, clothes and our sleeping bags.

The climb was not simple, but we didn't give up. We needed to rest from time to time as we got higher and higher.

The lower forested slopes of the mountain are home to a great variety of wild animals. Buffalo and elephants are common, as are the ever-present swinging and chattering monkeys. The shy leopard is

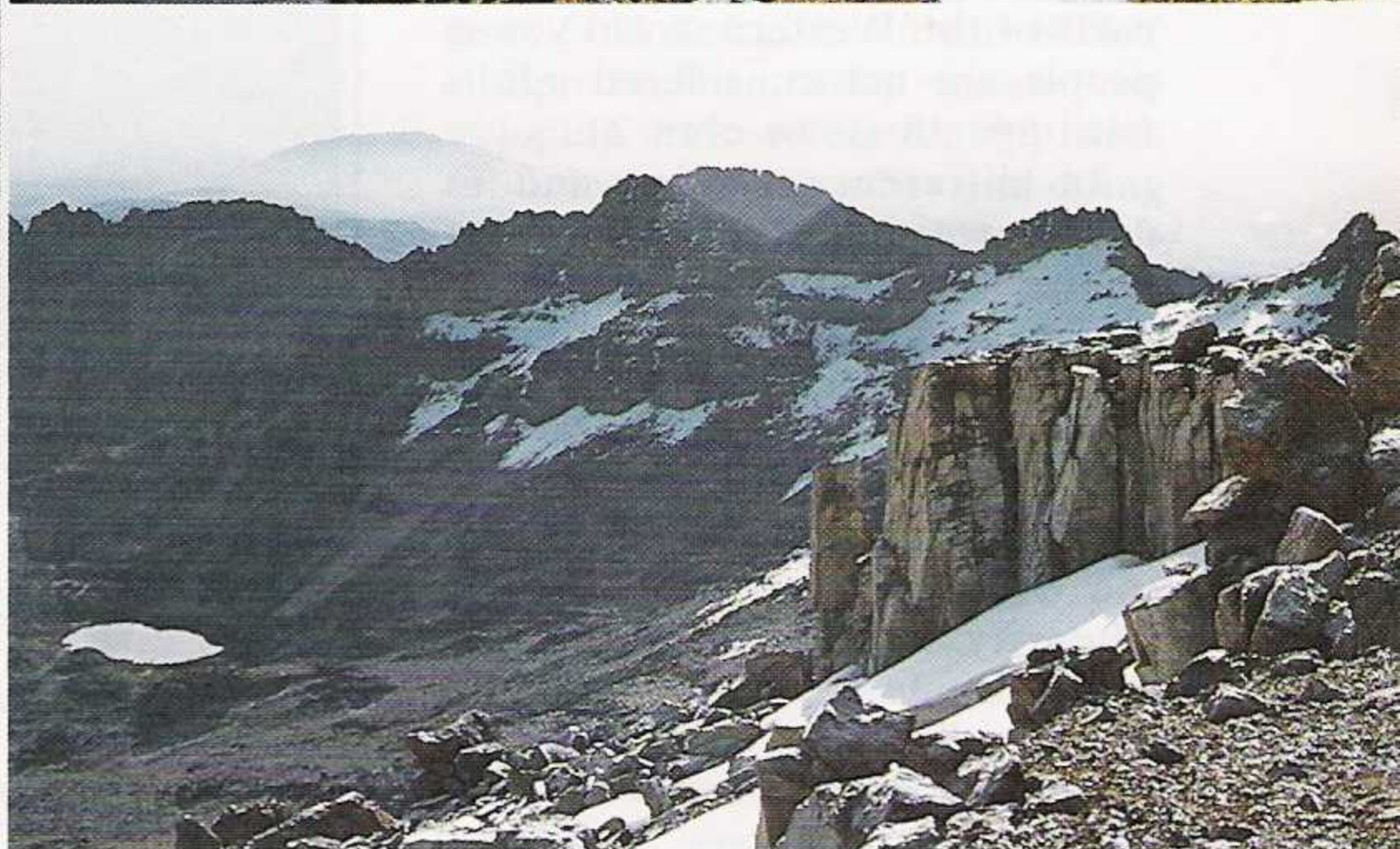
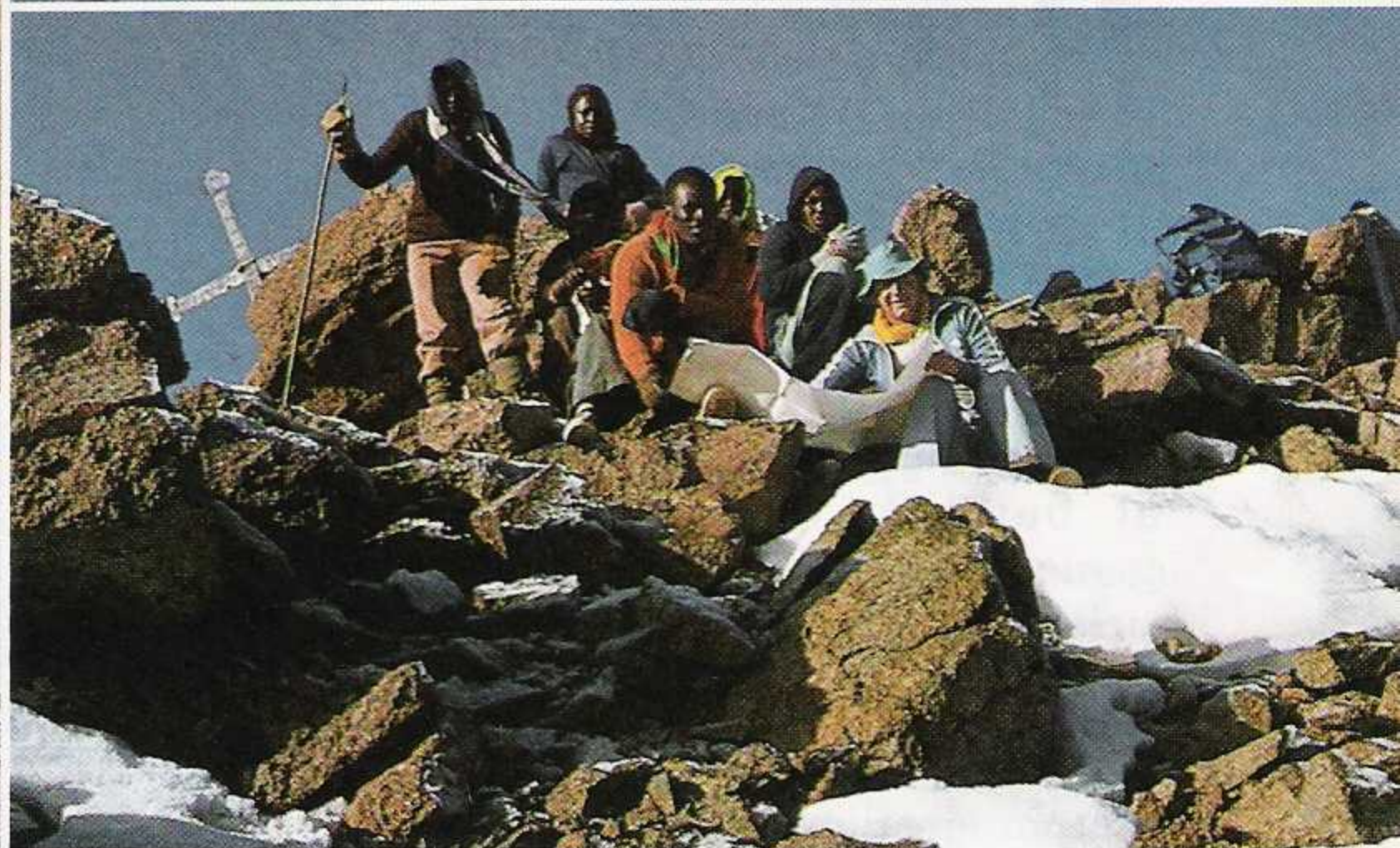
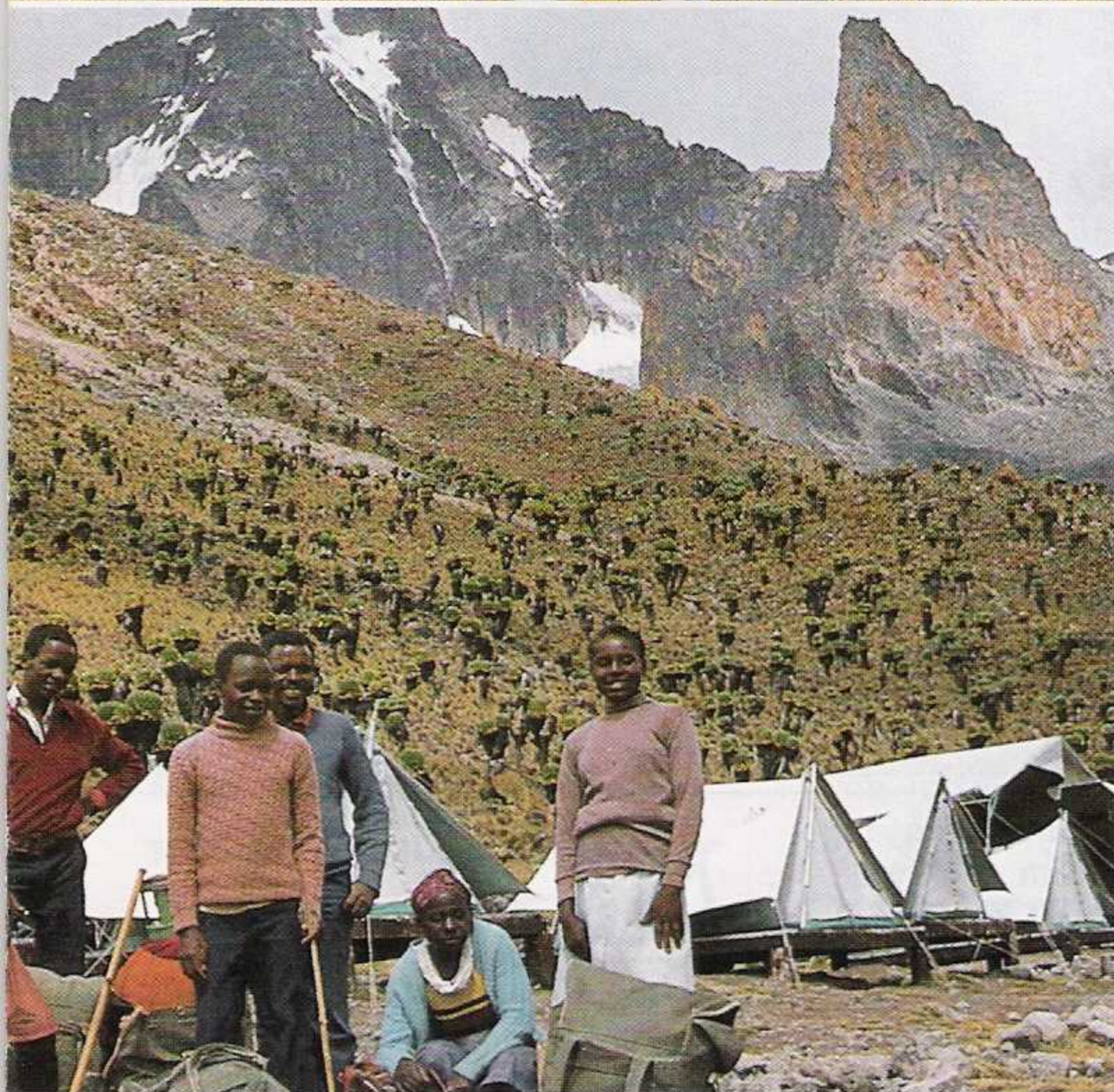
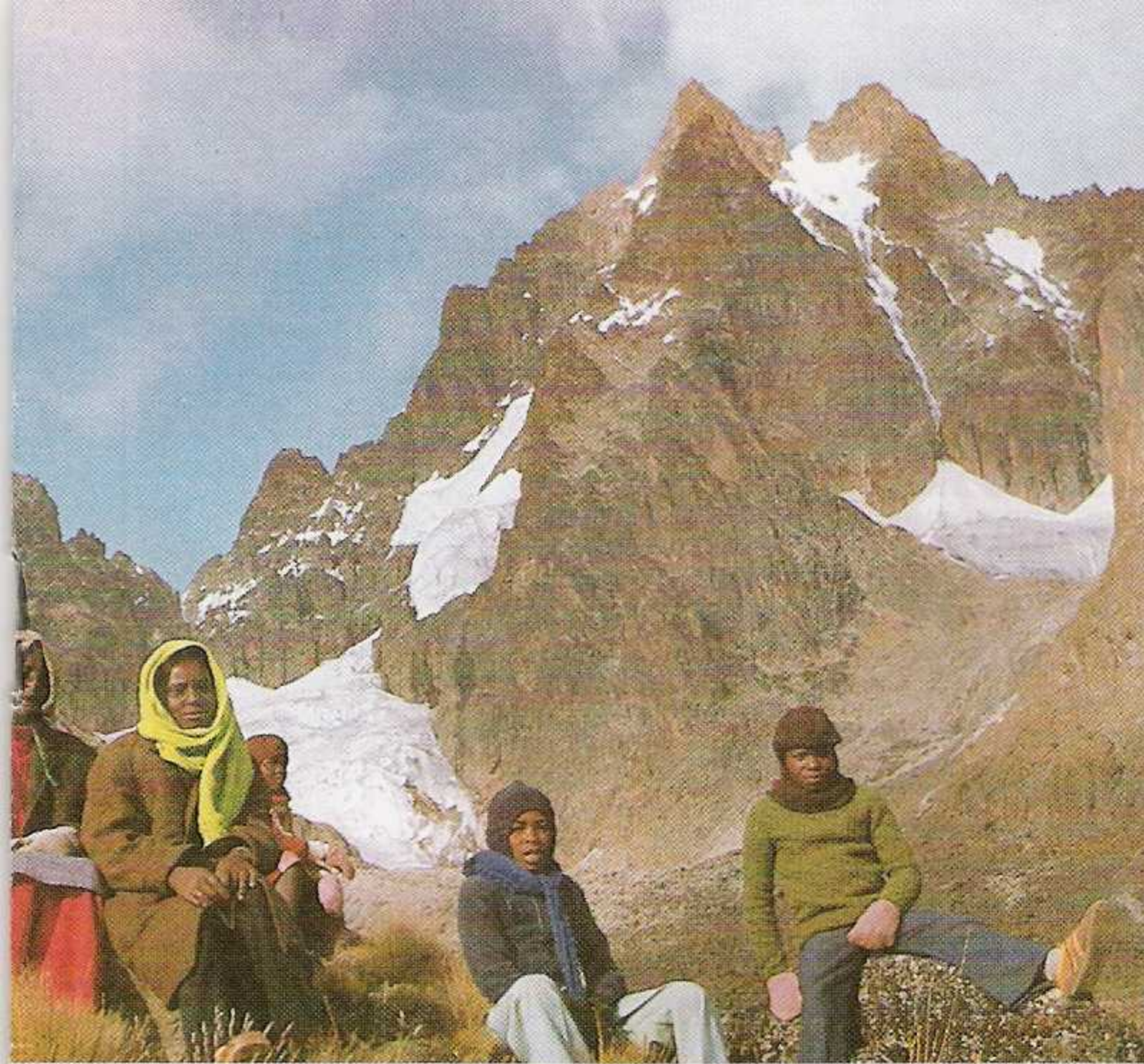


a permanent resident on the higher slopes and can live at heights of more than 14,000 feet (4,270 meters).

The vegetation is fascinating, too, with many unique species of plants. The most interesting of these is the giant groundsel that can grow to a height of more than 20 feet (six meters).

After about six hours of hiking we reached our campsite at 13,700 feet (4,175 meters). We were hungry and most of us had a bit of a headache because of the thin air. We felt better after eating some food, but this took a while because at that altitude it took us 1½ hours to boil our rice! We went to bed early to be ready for the next day.

The stars were bright when we awoke at 3 o'clock



the next morning. After some tea, we set off carrying flashlights to climb in the darkness to the top hut at 15,700 feet (4,785 meters). This section was steep and we became more and more tired with each upward step and each labored breath. But we didn't give up.

The sun was already shining when we reached the top hut and began the final ascent. Now we had to gain only 650 feet (200 meters) more of altitude across snow and glacier to reach our goal — Pt. Lenana, at 16,355 feet (4,985 meters). This part was a totally new experience for us — it was the first time we had ever touched snow!

By about 8 a.m. we reached the summit! Headaches were forgotten in the thrill of success.

Top left: On the first day, hiking toward Mt. Kenya. Bottom left and center: Giant groundsels dwarf the author (in purple skirt) and friend as they near the campsite. Top center: An early start the next morning. Above, top to bottom: The last leg in the snow; jubilant hikers at the summit; the inspiring view from the top. (Photos by Owen Willis)

From the top we enjoyed a magnificent view of God's creation.

The trip down was a good one. Along the way we spotted the footprints of a leopard and saw some buffalo. By evening we had reached the bottom of the mountain again, tired but happy to have achieved our goal. □

In our fast-moving world, growing up can be confusing. What does it mean to become mature?

By Jeff Zhone

By age 12, boys in some primitive tribes have already become experts at spearing fish, tracking wild game and gathering edible grains and fruits.

Even before teenage, the girls in these tribes are skilled at building fires, skinning game and making clothes.

Boys are ready to support families. Girls bear children at an early age.

While some cultures consider preteens mature, today in many parts of the Western world young people are not considered adults until age 18 — or even 21.

In different cultures and at different times, the meaning of maturity has varied greatly. What is meant by *maturity*, anyway, and why is it important?

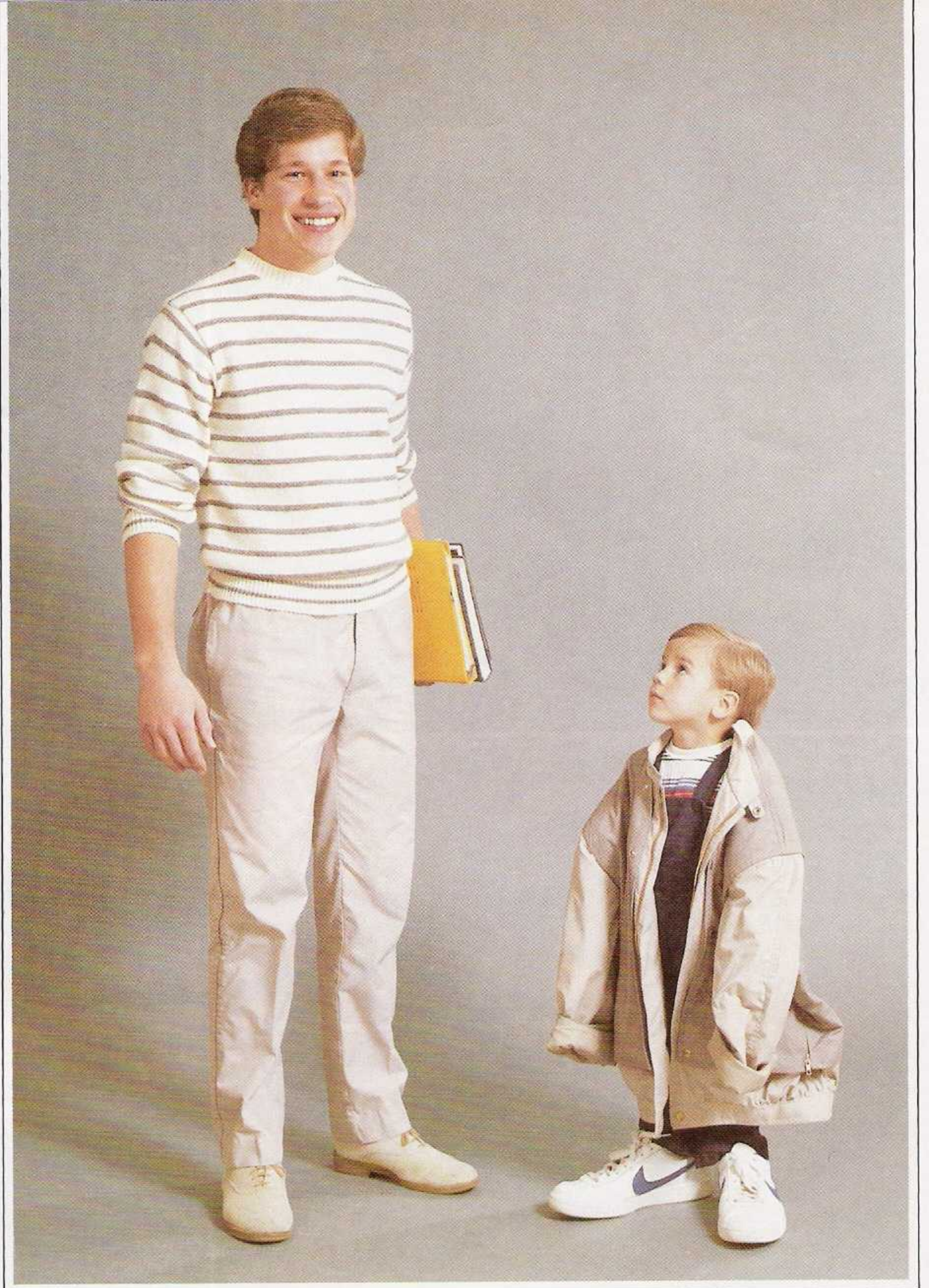
Maturity is a process

Is there such a thing as a mature person? Not really. Maturity is something that you can continue to develop throughout your life. So, really, there are no mature people, only *maturing* ones.

We've all seen people who look grown-up on the outside, but seem childish on the inside. Others who look childish on the outside may be surprisingly mature on the inside. This shows that the different aspects of maturity can develop at different rates.

True maturity involves four basic areas: the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. You may agree that a 16-year-old boy might be maturing physically if he is 6 feet tall, has a mustache and is coordinated at sports. But

Photo by Nathan Faulkner



You're Not a KID Anymore!

he is certainly not maturing mentally and emotionally if he is rude to his parents, constantly complains or drives the family car recklessly or too fast.

Outward signs

Physically, men and women today are maturing earlier. Research by British pediatricians shows that in 1840, girls on the

average reached puberty (their first menstrual period) at age 17. By 1960 the average age dropped to 13½. Boys are also reaching puberty faster.

What accounts for this phenomenon? Doctors have proposed several answers, including different diets, better health care and the effects of more light and less sleep.

As young people enter this stage of physical maturity called puberty, the body undergoes many changes.

Starting with puberty, a guy's muscles become stronger, better coordinated and more like those of an adult. His overall body size increases dramatically. He notices the beginnings of a beard on his face. For the first time, hair will also grow under his arms and in the pubic region. His voice becomes deeper.

A girl's body goes through even more complex changes than a boy's, because it is preparing itself for a complicated task called motherhood.

Monthly blood flows — menstruation — occur. Menstruation is the body's way of telling a girl that she is growing up. This process can be alarming to young girls at first. Parents can offer much instruction, advice and comfort during this time.

Hair also appears under the arms, on her legs and in the pubic region. Her body becomes larger and more like the shape of her mother's.

During puberty, both boys and girls often feel fatigued. That's because much of the body's energy is concentrating on the growing process. It is a fact that 12 and 13 year olds need more sleep than 9 or 10 year olds.

Mental, emotional phases

Along with the physical changes come mental and emotional ones. Everything is felt more strongly during this period. Good things seem more astounding and bad things seem more intolerable.

Little things seem to bother you more. Fears become more frightening, pleasures more exciting and irritations more distressing. Every experience seems to be king-sized during this period. Your mind is developing, and those strong, powerful feelings are emotions!

With mental and emotional maturity comes a willingness to begin accepting responsibility for decisions. An immature person, on the other hand, doesn't care

who takes the blame or what the cost is, just so he can please himself.

One who is maturing sets reasonable goals and works toward them. This includes exploring various careers and discovering your talents so you can set worthwhile, fulfilling, long-range goals. Teenage is the time to begin preparing for your life's work and for acquiring the advanced knowledge you'll need in achieving your other goals.

Yet when charting a course toward your goals, you are often confronted with problems. Here's when maturing young men and women must face reality by seeking advice, not from peers, but from parents or other knowledgeable adults. Immature people are afraid of reality and often resort to entertainment, drugs and alcohol as an escape.

Check your maturity

Ask yourself these questions to check your emotional maturity. Do I obey rules? Can I enjoy my freedom within certain boundaries? Or do I define freedom as: "Nobody tells me what to do!"? Do I follow the crowd, using "Everybody's doing it" as an excuse?

Here's what one corporation publishes as a public service: "If you move with the crowd you'll get no farther than the crowd. When 40 million people believe in a dumb idea, it's still a dumb idea."

The teen who claims he or she is mature enough to have sexual relations or disobey parents has an immature idea of what maturity means. Maturing teens realize that their parents' experiences have made them able to foresee the consequences of many actions.

Do you seek praise or advancement at the expense of others? Many don't get past this stage and achieve goals by tromping on others. They most assuredly will wind up regretting such actions, sooner or later.

On the other hand, a maturing person is concerned for the well-being of others. One of the

most important phases of maturing is shifting from a point of self-centeredness to an understanding relationship with others.

Vital spiritual aspect

Working to improve interpersonal relationships is also fundamental to maturing in a spiritual sense. A person is not maturing unless he is developing both an ability and a willingness to do unto others as he would have them do to him.

The Creator God tells us to esteem others better than ourselves. In daily life that means to consider the wants and needs of other people. Avoid embarrassing others with tactlessness or clumsy manners. Be aware of social niceties.

Spanning the bridge between emotional and spiritual maturity also requires setting standards and values for your life that cannot be compromised. These values should be based on the laws God describes in the Bible.

Spiritual maturity means developing a close relationship with God, learning His ways and doing them. This is a lifelong process — and it's the most important part of maturity. It's the only way to develop the true and deep maturity that God has.

Never enough mature people

So how about it — are you willing to work hard to develop true maturity? It's hard to do anything about physical maturity, but you can fortify your mental, emotional and spiritual capacities.

A former head of the World Federation for Mental Health said he believes a lack of maturity is responsible for many of today's problems: "So far in the history of the world there have never been enough mature people in the right places."

Resolve to be one of those who is truly maturing! □



News & Reviews

Two Wheel Tune-up

“What a great day for a ride!” you nearly shout as you roll your bike out of the garage. It’s been too long since you last got to ride, and you’re really looking forward to it.

But wait! Don’t hop on the saddle just yet. Take a few minutes to give your bike a quick physical.

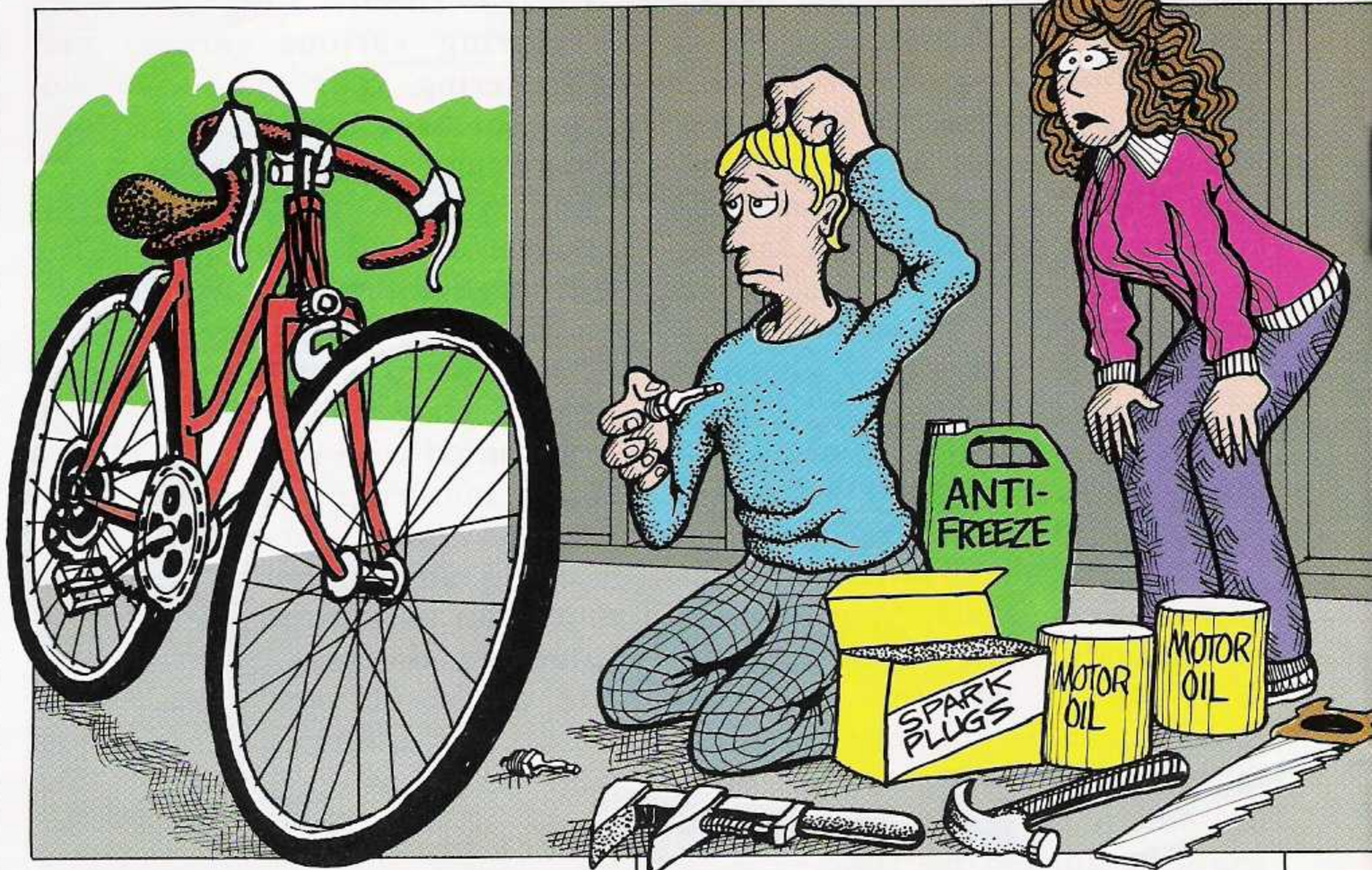
Tires. Give them a quick check for damage and wear. Are there any bald spots? Any splitting, cracking or cuts? This could be grounds for replacing a tire. While you’re at it, check for pebbles, bits of glass or anything else that may be stuck in them.

Brakes. Most people forget brakes exist — until they *do* cease to exist, usually on a long downhill slope. The time to check your brakes is now, not halfway down that hill.

If you have a bike with a coaster brake, you won’t have to worry too much about it. If something goes wrong, it’s best to have a mechanic take care of it.

But if you have a three-, five- or ten-speed, you should regularly check your brakes yourself. Make sure the brake pads aren’t worn down — like the worn-out eraser on an old pencil. If they are, replace them. While you’re at it, check your brake cables. If they are frayed or worn, replace them.

While at rest, your brake pads should be about one sixteenth of an inch (.16 centimeter) from the wheel rim. If not, you may not be able to stop your bike quickly in an emergency.



Nuts and bolts. Check every single nut, bolt, spoke and screw on your bike. Make sure nothing is ready to fall off.

Chain. If yours is dirty, give it a bath with a solvent then relubricate it with chain lubricant. You’ll be surprised how much quieter this can make your bike.

Derailleur. If you own a five- or ten-speed bike, you also own a derailleur or two. To work at their best, they should be cleaned with solvent then relubricated with a light oil.

Make sure derailleur cables aren’t worn or frayed and that they don’t have any slack in them.

Library card. This is not standard issue on many bikes, but can be added inexpensively (usually free). There are many good books that can tell you exactly how to make the repairs mentioned here. They can also tell you how to do more advanced repairs on your own, saving you lots of money.

Did your bike pass its physical? If not, spend some time working on it. A bike

that’s in shape will last for years of exciting cycling. — *By Lowell Wagner Jr.* □

Roots of a Great Dessert

Have you ever had a big, luscious helping of tapioca pudding — maybe with whipped cream and a cherry on top?

To many, tapioca is a delicious dessert. But to the people of many countries in Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Caribbean, it is just one of the products that come from their staff of life.

Tapioca is made from the root of the cassava plant, also called manioc, manihot or mandioca. Cassava is a slender shrub about nine feet (2.7 meters) tall. The roots of a single



plant can weigh up to 20 pounds (nine kilograms).

Cassava is grown in tropical countries where potatoes and grain do not grow well. For many, it is a main food source.

It is easy to grow and is not bothered by most insect pests. Cassava is used not only for food, but for making laundry starch, batteries, explosives, glues, photographic film, alcohol and even plastic toys.

Many varieties of the plant contain a poisonous milky sap. South American Indians who first grew cassava learned to grate or mash the root, squeeze out the sap into a bag or vessel, and boil the starch to make flour. This flour can be made into bread, brewed into alcohol or made into tapioca.

To make tapioca, the flour is heated. This makes the starch form into little balls with a gelatin-like consistency.

Tapioca is the most common food made from cassava that is sold in developed countries. Here is a simple recipe for making your own tapioca pudding — from scratch!

Fluffy Tapioca Pudding

Ingredients: 1 quart milk, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup quick-cooking tapioca, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar, $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt, 3 slightly beaten egg yolks, $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons vanilla, 3 stiffly beaten egg whites.

Instructions: Combine milk, tapioca, sugar and salt in a pot. Let stand five minutes. Mix in egg yolks. Bring to boil, stirring constantly. Remove from heat (mixture will be thin). Stir in vanilla.

Put *only one third of beaten egg whites* in large bowl. Slowly stir in mixture that was boiled in the pan. Mix in remaining egg whites, leaving little "pillows" of egg white. Chill. Serves eight to 10.

After an hour or so, it will be ready to eat. And as you munch away, don't forget the story of this light dessert with a rich background! — *By John Wheeler* □

fitness world by storm. It's a sport for young or old, rich or poor, male or female.

Aerobics itself is not a new idea. The word *aerobic* comes from a Greek word meaning "air." Today, the word is applied to exercises that cause an increase in the blood flow, pushing oxygen and blood to every part of the body.

But aerobic *dancing* is a fairly new concept that has reached popularity in the past few years. Most aerobic dance programs are designed to build stamina and increase heart and lung efficiency.

Such a program should always begin with a warm-up. Improper muscle warm-up is a big cause

of injuries in any sport, including aerobic dancing. This warm-up period also speeds up the pulse rate gradually.

The warm-up is followed by a period of fast-moving dances that increase the pulse to a working rate. Beginners should not try an advanced class that might last 30 minutes. Begin with about 10 minutes.

It is good to include a period of muscle-toning exercises in your program since the dancing itself does not tone every muscle.

The session should be concluded with a cool-down, or a series of stretching and relaxing exercises.

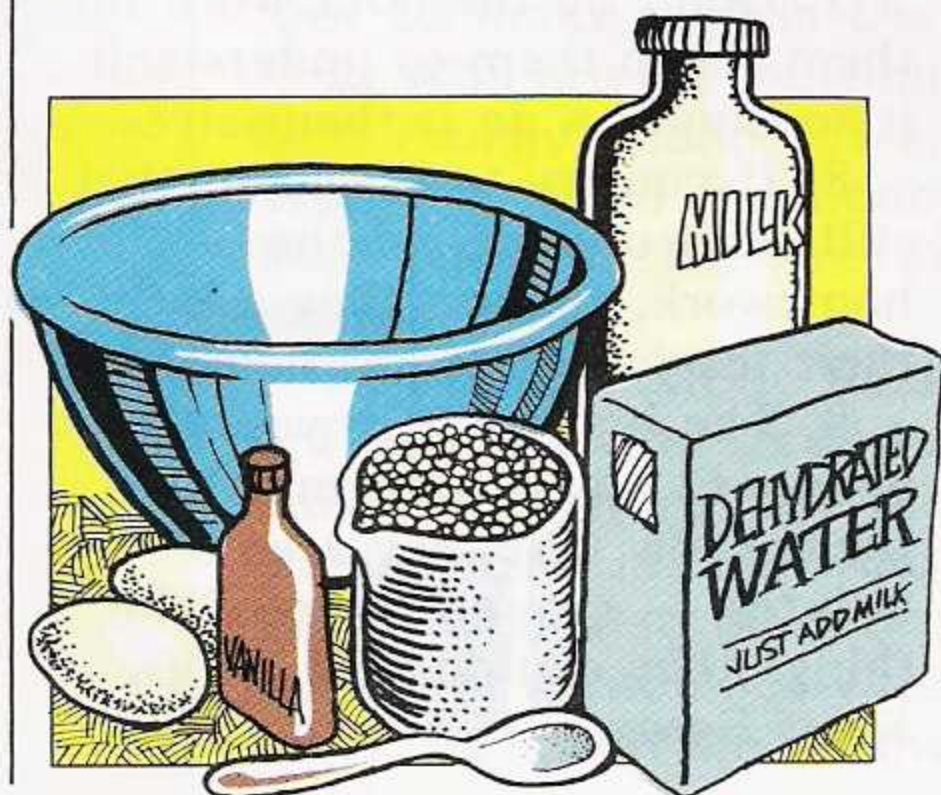
The only special equipment you really need for aerobic dancing is a pair of shoes that will absorb the shock of such a vigorous activity. And don't worry about the elaborate outfits of those on television. Any



Jump for Joy

You may have seen them on television early in the morning: the long, lithe bodies bending and jumping in some very unusual-looking positions. What are these people so excited about? It must be a lot of fun if it can get them up before the sun to watch their favorite instructors.

What is it? It's aerobic dancing. And it has taken the



News & Reviews

loose-fitting clothing will do.

If you decide to join a class, find a qualified instructor.

Remember: warm-up, exercise, cool-down — and *don't* overdo it. This is a serious, but fun, form of exercise. — *By Agnes Youngblood* □



Proverbs for Today: 'Pssst! Did You Hear About...'

"Guess what Dick said about you, Jane!"

"Hey, Jack! You won't believe what I heard about Jill!"

You've probably heard words like this from a friend. You might do well to beware of a person who seems to delight in pointing out people's mistakes behind their backs.

This kind of talk is simply gossip. Should you repeat something negative about someone even if you have evidence that it is true?

What does Solomon say about this? "He who covers a transgression seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates the best of friends" (Proverbs 17:9).

Suppose you know of a situation where a friend did

Help Them Make the Grade

Remember your assignments in fifth-grade math class? Sometimes they seemed so simple when the teacher was explaining them. But when you tried to do your homework, it was as if you had never seen a math book in your life!

Wouldn't you have appreciated someone sitting down with you, patiently explaining a math formula, a point of grammar or whatever it was that had you stumped?

If you have younger brothers or sisters in school, you could be this kind of helper to them. Your encouragement when

something wrong. Solomon's advice is that you don't go running to tell everyone about it. Blabbing about it runs the risk of ruining that person's reputation. If the person you gossiped about finds out who spread the story, you are likely to lose his or her friendship.

Instead, if you feel you should talk about it, go to the person who made the mistake with an attitude of concern and helpfulness. Discuss it just between the two of you. If this doesn't resolve the problem, it may be necessary to present it to someone else, like your parents, who can help you.

But broadcasting the situation around just hurts everyone. It will also brand you as a person who cannot be trusted. Think how you feel when someone spreads bad things about you. How you wish your "friend" would have shown more concern.

Let's show our friends that we really are friends. "He that covers a transgression seeks love." — *By Jim Roberts* □

they're feeling helpless at schoolwork can make a difference in their approach to school, as well as help their grades. To them, you are living proof that it's possible to pass the course they're struggling with!

Here are some guidelines to help you help younger sisters or brothers with homework assignments.

1. Let them know you're available to help, but don't force yourself on them.

2. Remember that you are their brother or sister, not their teacher or parent. Keep it friendly by not bossing them.

3. Find a quiet place to work in. The fewer the distractions, the better you both can concentrate.

4. Review the material yourself first so you understand it well enough to help them.

5. Find out how the teacher explained the material and explain it in the same way to avoid confusion. Be careful about using shortcuts. They are only for students who already understand the basics.

6. Go slowly. Remember that they are younger than you are, and their abilities may differ from yours. They may not yet understand things you now take for granted.

7. Don't do the homework for them. Help them to understand it so they can do it themselves.

8. If you try to help, but they still can't understand the homework, suggest they ask their teacher for extra help.

9. The biggest help you can give is to be encouraging. Let them know that they aren't failures — remind them of the things they can do well. — *By Sandi Borax* □

Teen Bible Study

A SNEAK PREVIEW of Your Awesome Future

Prepared by Richard A. Sedliacik

Would you like to have a brilliant, clear-thinking mind with perfect memory and instant recall? Perfect, vibrant health and a body that will never wear out?

Would you like to know the secrets of the universe? Travel through space faster than the speed of light? Live a life of unending challenge forever?

Believe it or not, such a thrilling future is in store for those who seek to please God and do His will. Let's learn more about your awesome potential — about the incredible future God has in store for you. The possibilities that lie ahead are infinitely greater than you have ever imagined!

Before beginning this study, be sure to get your Bible, a pen or pencil and some paper. Reading and writing out the Bible verses given in this study will help you to remember what you have learned.

1. To fully understand the awesome future God has in store for each of us, we need to first understand something about *who* and *what* God is. What does the first chapter of the Bible reveal about God? Genesis 1:1, 26.

The original Hebrew word for God in verse 1 is *Elohim*. *Elohim* is a plural noun, like the words *church*, *family* and *team*, all of which are composed of more than one member. The word *Elohim* in Genesis 1:1 actually shows that God is a family! Notice how verse 26 bears this out: "Then God said, 'Let *Us* make man in *Our* image . . .'"

2. Who are the individuals presently in the God Family? John 1:1-2, I Corinthians 8:6. Was the Word mentioned in John 1 made flesh and did He live *as* a human being? John 1:14.

At the prehistoric time described in John 1:1 (before the creation of the material universe), there existed only two divine Beings. One is God. And with God was the Word, who also is God. He is the one who was later miraculously begotten in the virgin Mary by God the Father to become the

human Jesus Christ, the Son of God. At the time described in John 1:1-2, the Word was not yet the Son of God and God was not yet His Father.

3. Have both members of the God Family always existed? Psalms 90:2, 102:25-27, I Timothy 1:17.

The two members of the God Family are immortal. There has never been a time when they did not exist. It is impossible for us to understand how these two divine Beings could have always existed, but neither can we really understand what electricity is. Yet we know electricity exists and is real.

4. Is God going to expand the size of His Family by bringing many more members into it? Hebrews 2:9-10, Revelation 21:7. Is Jesus Christ the firstborn of *many* children of God? Romans 8:29.

To be conformed to the image of Christ means to become like Him — to be glorified as He is glorified — to become part of the divine Family of God as much as Christ now is! Incredible as it may sound, that is our amazing potential!

5. But what must happen to us before we can enter God's Kingdom — His Family? Read and summarize I Corinthians 15:49-53 and John 3:3-8.

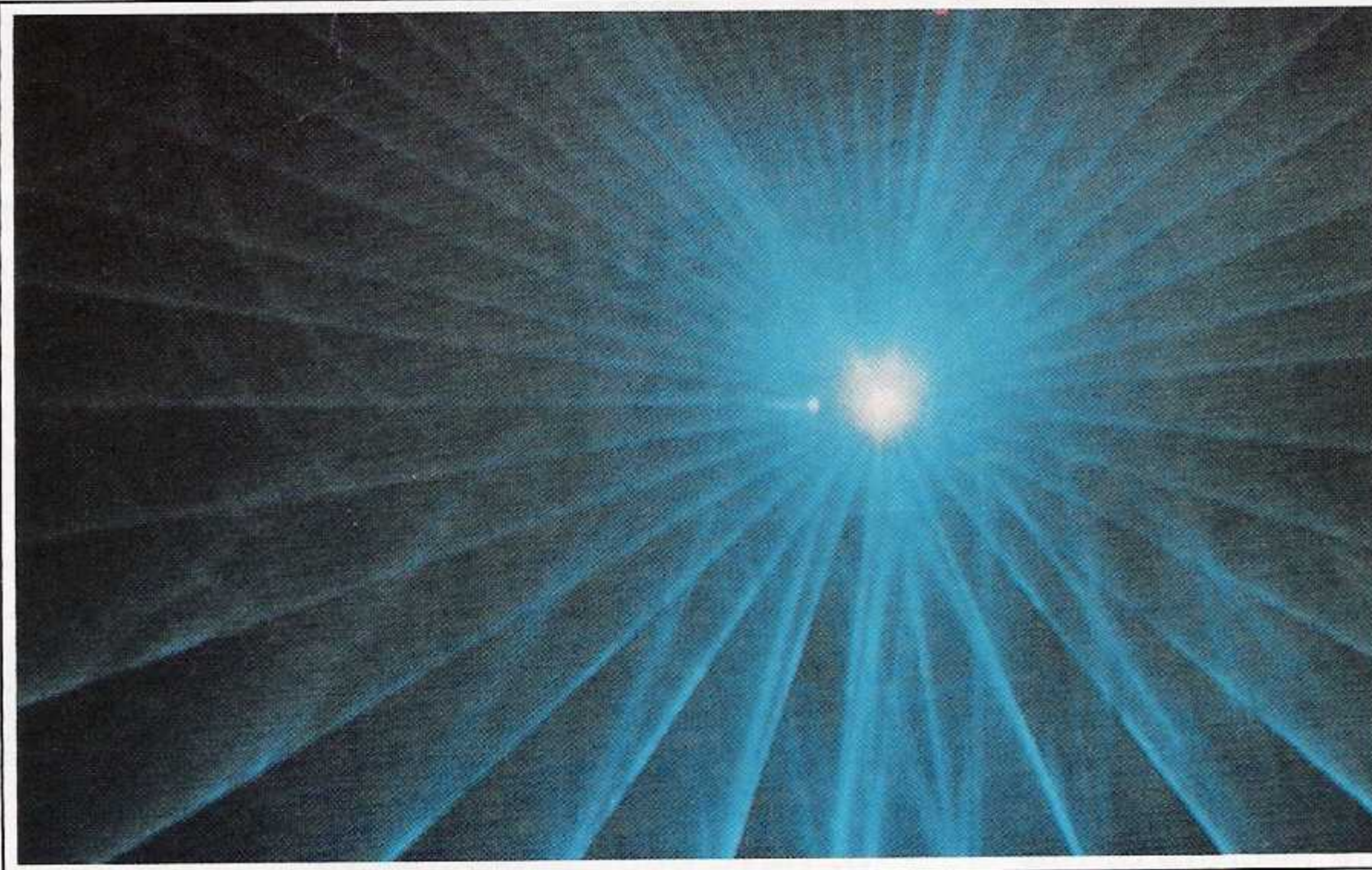
Jesus said we must be "born again" — meaning changed into spirit. Yes, born again — this time born of the Spirit of God as divine sons in the Family of God!

6. Will those who become members of God's Family be like Him? Psalm 17:15. Of what is God composed? John 4:24. Will they be composed of spirit also? I John 3:2, Philippians 3:20-21.

Those who are born again as members of God's Family will have eternal life inherent within themselves because they will be composed of spirit — just like Jesus Christ and God the Father!

7. To what did Jesus compare one who is born of the Spirit? John 3:8.

When you are born again, born of the



Nothing in this physical universe moves faster than light. But can you imagine traveling faster than this laser, crossing our galaxy in seconds? (Photo by J. Pavlovsky — Sygma)

Father's before He became a human being. After His resurrection, He was restored to the same power and glory. Christ's face and powerful spirit body now radiate light as the sun in full strength, with eyes blazing like flames of fire!

Spirit of God, you will be invisible to human eyes. The effects of the wind are easily discernible, but the wind itself cannot be seen.

8. When changed into spirit, will we have the amazing ability to suddenly appear out of nowhere and even pass through solid objects? Notice what Jesus with His spirit-composed body did in Luke 24:36-37 and John 20:19, 26. Will we also be able to transform ourselves into mortal flesh and bone when necessary, and even eat if we so desire? Summarize Luke 24:38-43.

9. Will our spirit bodies be capable of traveling through space at incredible speed — undoubtedly faster than light? Read and compare John 20:17, 19-20 with Matthew 28:9.

Earlier on the day after His resurrection, Christ would not let anyone touch Him because He had not yet ascended to His Father's throne in heaven. But later that day Christ allowed His disciples to touch Him. This shows that He had traveled to heaven and returned to earth on the same day!

"Truth is stranger than fiction," goes the old saying. The incredible, exciting truth about your awesome potential as revealed in the Bible pales into nothingness any science fiction thriller you could ever read or see!

10. Was Jesus to be glorified again at His resurrection? John 17:4-5. Had He previously given His disciples a fleeting glimpse of this glorified condition? Matthew 17:1-2. How does Christ's glorified body appear today? Revelation 1:13-16.

To be glorified means to have great power and brightness. Jesus Christ had a glorious, powerful spirit body like His

11. Will God also glorify all those who become members of His divine Family by giving them this same great power and brightness? Romans 8:17, Colossians 3:4, Daniel 12:2-3.

This glory will be so great it will make them shine like brilliant stars. But that's only part of what God has in store for those who seek to do His will while yet human beings!

12. What will those who become members of God's spirit Family begin to do? Revelation 3:21, 2:26, 5:10, 20:4-6.

The Kingdom of God is a *ruling* Family. And those of us who become a part of that Family are destined to rule with Jesus Christ. We will rule over and teach God's wonderful way of life to billions of humans in the world tomorrow!

13. Just how great is the authority Jesus Christ has inherited? Hebrews 1:1-2, Matthew 28:18. Will those who are born into God's Family share in that inheritance as coowners and corulers with Christ? Romans 8:16-17, Revelation 21:7. And will God's government continue to expand throughout the universe for all eternity? Isaiah 9:6-7, Revelation 22:5.

The Moffatt version of the Bible renders "all things" in Hebrews 1:2 as "the universe." Incredible as it may sound, your ultimate potential and that of every human being is corulership of the universe with Jesus Christ and God the Father!

This is the awesome potential God has in store for those who seek to follow His way of life. A never-ending future filled with exciting challenge, scintillating interest and eternal happiness and joy.

(To learn more about the purpose for your life, write for our free booklets, *Why Were You Born?* and *Your Awesome Future.*) □

Dear Youth 84,

Practical Bible-based answers to the problems of growing up.

Q. We were discussing the Bible in world history class the other day. One student asked where Cain got his wife. If Adam and Eve only had two sons and one of them was killed, who was there to marry? I'm confused. No one in our class could answer the question.

A. When God created Adam and Eve, He said, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth" (Genesis 1:28). In the fourth chapter of Genesis we read the story of Cain and Abel — the first of Adam and Eve's many children.

In the days before the Flood of Noah, people lived hundreds of years. Notice in Genesis 5:5, Adam was 930 years old when he died. And in verse 4 we are told Adam had both "sons and daughters." Although the Bible only names a few of the boys, there is a Jewish tradition that Adam and Eve had 33 sons and 23 daughters. Talk about a big family! Of course the only people to marry were brothers and sisters.

Such marriages were not wrong at that time soon after creation. But God designed into the reproductive and genetic process changes that would take place over several generations. Races were to develop and whole nations would be formed.

By the time of Moses, God instructed that people were to no longer marry within a family. The instructions on marriage God gave in Leviticus 18 forbid marriage to any near relative — not even a cousin. Marriage to a second cousin is permissible — but no closer family bloodline.

But at that time, Cain married one of his sisters.

Q. A very good friend of mine used to be a pleasant girl who

believed in God and tried to do right things. But now she has begun to mix with a rowdy group who smoke, get drunk and act rebellious. How can I make her stop her downhill slide?

A. Your desire to help your friend shows that you are a concerned person. But, when it comes to what other people do with their lives, the sad truth is that we can't make others change.

You can do some things that may help make her want to change herself, though. If you have been truly close to her, you may try to warn her. Tell her she is changing into a different person — that you fear for her and don't want to see her get hurt. If she respects your friendship this may jolt her to her senses and make her want to straighten up. Perhaps remind her of times she helped you, and all the good things she's done.

If she doesn't listen, then you can help by your prayers, by setting a good example and by being a friend and listener if and when she wants to change. In the meantime you would be wise to make other friends lest her example unconsciously rub off on you (as others' bad examples did on her).

Q. I go to a private school where some of

the girls in my grade are very selfish, especially with their typewriters. This is hard on me because I don't have a typewriter and many of the school's are broken. Why are some people so selfish?

A. Selfishness is a common human trait. We can understand how this problem in others frustrates you. (Of course, sometimes it is not selfish, but wise not to loan things. See "Is Borrowing Stealing From Your Friendships?" in the March-April Youth 83.)

While you cannot open people up and remove bad traits from inside them, there is a way that can encourage them to be more giving. Jesus Christ summarized the proper approach when He said: "Give, and it will be given to you . . . with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you" (Luke 6:38).

This means that you must make the first move and be generous in some way. No one can promise that others will pay you back by specifically sharing their typewriters, but you will be given good things in return for your giving. In the long run, the gain and satisfaction that come from this approach will far exceed anything you could possibly want. □

We welcome your questions and will excerpt as many as possible. Sorry we can't answer them all. Answers are prepared by Bernard W. Schnippert, a minister of the Worldwide Church of God. Address your questions to "Dear Youth 84," 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, Calif., 91129.



Was Sex Necessary?

(Continued from page 4)

brings enjoyable, pleasurable sensations that are uplifting, constructive, beneficial — not only to the self, but to others. The *wrong* and sinful use of the senses also may produce pleasurable sensations, but these wrong uses are psychologically, spiritually and physically destructive and harmful — not only to the self,

That WAY always is THE WAY of LOVE — the way of *unselfish, outgoing concern*, the way of sharing what is enjoyable.

SIN is the transgression of THAT WAY! Sin travels in the direction of vanity, greed — inflowing selfish gratification, hostility toward God and man. It wants to *be served*, not to serve. To *be helped*, not to help. To *get*, not to give.

The WHOLE LAW OF GOD is summed up in one word — LOVE! And it requires love expressed in action to fulfill the law (Romans 13:8, 10).

But this law-principle of LOVE is subdivided into the two great commandments — LOVE toward God, and love toward neighbor. The first four of the Ten Commandments define love toward GOD. The last six tell us how to love neighbor. Love toward neighbor is *not altogether* outgoing concern. It is also a *sharing with* neighbor — “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” Of course that is a lot of love!

It is human to love your own self. That requires no effort — no character. But what is *not* human nature is to love your neighbor EQUALLY! That requires recognition by an intelligent mind of the TRUE VALUES — and it requires the exercise of WILL and self-discipline and CHARACTER!

Now we are approaching the real ANSWER to the BIG question of this article.

The love man doesn't have

Consider! The law allows you to love yourself equally with your neighbor. But NOT GOD! It requires you to love GOD with ALL your heart, mind, soul and strength!

How, then, may a person LOVE GOD?

Actually, the natural unconverted man CANNOT! Take, at random, any man — any woman — you might meet on a busy street — or out on a country lane. Has he the ability to love GOD far

more than SELF — with ALL his heart, mind, soul and strength? DOES the average person love God that much?

What's the answer?

God's Word answers, “We love him, because he first loved us” (I John 4:19). The *we* here is addressed to converted Christians.

A human can only really and truly love God with *the very love* that we first must receive from Him! This is the spiritual divine love God GIVES us by the Holy Spirit! But we must first REPENT — surrender unconditionally to live GOD'S WAY — turn from our former contrary way — and truly BELIEVE in Christ, accepting Him as personal Savior.

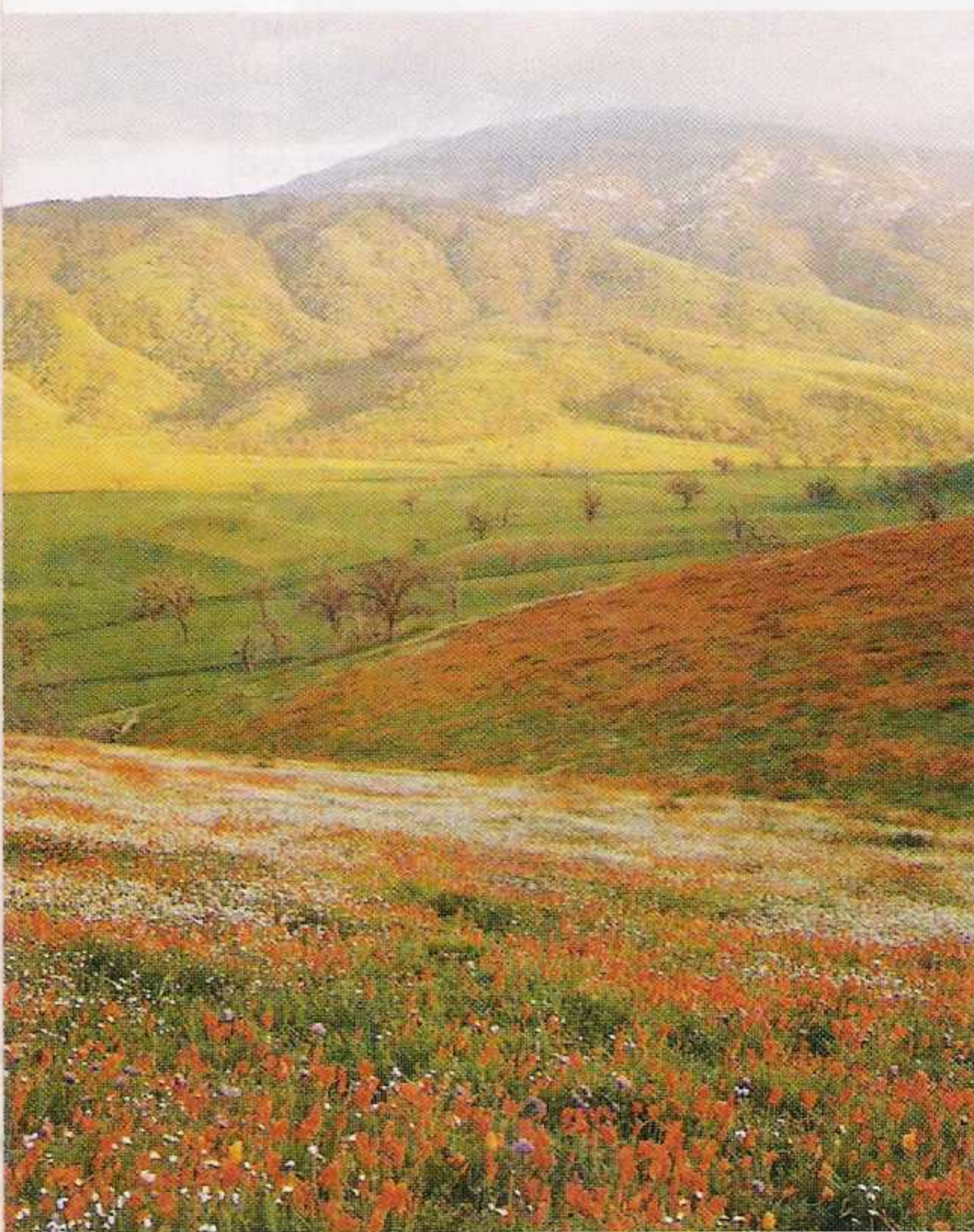
When we love GOD, it is merely HIS OWN LOVE, on a return circuit, flowing on back to Him again! GOD'S SPIRIT is active — flowing!

So the first great commandment — to be kept in its complete and true spiritual sense — requires a love MAN SIMPLY DOESN'T HAVE! Of course, God longs to GIVE every man that love, and fill him with it! But very few are willing!

Now consider TWO EXTREMES:

1) Love toward your NEIGHBOR *furthest* from any natural affection — a recognized enemy. Here is Jesus' teaching of fulfilling the law toward him: “Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for [not against] them which spitefully use you, and persecute you” (Matthew 5:44). Does the natural, unconverted man have *that* kind of love? The world doesn't consider *that* teaching of Jesus very practical — because the world is empty of *that kind* of love.

2) At the other extreme, two categories of neighbor *closest* to you are singled out in the New Testament for SPECIAL LOVE. One of these categories is one's neighbors *closest* to him *spiritually* — his *brethren in Christ*. Many scriptures put emphasis on a SPECIAL LOVE for these. Here again, a love is required that is



Enjoying a beautiful nature scene and smelling the fragrance of wild flowers are positive uses of the senses.

but often also to others.

It is a matter of RIGHT or WRONG direction.

It is a matter of *attitude!*

How may we humans *know* which use is right, and which is wrong?

BY THE LAW of God!

Right use of senses

God's law is A WAY of life. It guides actions and uses in a definite direction — always constructive, upbuilding, beneficial.

totally absent in unregenerate man. But, in that case, they are not brethren in Christ UNLESS both are IN Christ — have received God's Holy Spirit! Otherwise they are *none of His!* (Romans 8:9).

The other of these, singled out in the New Testament for *special love* is the neighbor *closest* to you *physically* — your *husband or wife!*

And right here is the BIG POINT, vitally important, that probably never before entered your mind!

Four categories have just been cited — *love to GOD*, and (of love to neighbor) *your enemy*, your true *fellow Christians* and your *marital mate*.

Man simply is not born with — does not have — the divine SPIRITUAL love required for the first three of those four categories! — to love God, enemy and fellow Christian SPIRITUALLY, in the manner the law requires!

But when we come to the fourth category — MARRIAGE — we find an altogether different situation!

Even here, when, in the New Testament, the command is given to those IN THE CHURCH, "Husbands, love your wives," the word "love" in the original Greek in which the apostle Paul wrote it, is not *eros*, but is *agape*, which is the divine love that emanates from God!

The true Christian husband loves his wife, not only in the physical and natural sense possible for a natural, yet unconverted, person — but *also* with a special *spiritual* love!

But God well knew that an infinitesimal percentage of humans, from Adam and Eve to now, would *be called* by God and yield themselves to receive that divine love of God. And, even so, it is *then* mingled with the physical love God has made possible through sex!

Now we are ready for the ANSWER to this article's big QUESTION. We need, now, to understand some of the FACTS OF LIFE that few ever grasp!

GOD is a Spirit. But God *did*

not create humans out of spirit! To have done so would have defeated God's whole grand PURPOSE! So MAN is physical *flesh* — made from matter — the dust of the ground!

Marital LOVE

Of the three kinds of love, expressed by the three Greek words *agape*, *philia* and *eros*, the natural man is capable of expressing only the last two types of love. There is a certain selfish element in the *philia* love — love for children, parents or family. We may have this love for those of "our club," "our team," "our group." That is actually, to coin a phrase, love of the "empirical self." That often is a factional-type love — one of the "works of the flesh" of Galatians 5:19-21 (see especially Moffatt translation).

WHY did not God design things so that married humans would love each other with God's SPIRITUAL LOVE — *without* the *physical* love of SEX? Simply because God deemed it necessary to make MAN, for now, of physical matter.

In His divine wisdom, God knew that His supreme PURPOSE required that man be made, first, on the material level — a physical being!

Being physical, we were made with the five physical SENSES.

It was God's PURPOSE that humans, unlike animals, angels or any other living beings, enjoy the blessings of MARRIAGE and FAMILY relationships — actual *God-plane* relationships. The marriage relationship, as explained, had to be a LOVE relationship. But human, fleshly man is not born with *spiritual love*. Man's comprehension of MIND — his expression of LOVE — is confined, naturally, to the physical level, through the senses. Unconverted man can express only *physical* love — and, in marriage, through sex. The first man, Adam, was created — and we were all born — with one "human" spirit that imparts physical intellect to the brain. But man was made to need another spirit — the Holy Spirit

of God. Yet only the few specially and individually called by God, have God's Spirit — and with it the *agape* love.

Man is given a CHOICE! So he has full ability to turn physical sex love in the *wrong direction* of LUST. God equipped him with MIND. He has capability to discern — to CHOOSE — and what he sows he shall reap!

Making man a physical being, it was still God's design to make possible our greatest HAPPINESS.

Of all the truly ENJOYABLE experiences received through the five senses, perhaps the most intense and supremely gratifying — the very pinnacle of sheer exhilaration — is that received in the sex act of expressing LOVE for the one who is dearest of all people on earth, and to whom one has been joined in blessed and holy wedlock by GOD HIMSELF!

I remember when I was a young unmarried man, some of us young men had a good argument for resisting fornication. *IF*, we reasoned, a man might experience a momentary sensual thrill out of an act of fornication, *how much greater* would be the satisfaction of waiting, to share that act with the one sweetest, dearest, loveliest wife in all the world — *giving* LOVE — not receiving LUST — with a clean conscience. With a harlot or a girl loose and immoral enough to permit fornication, it could not be real LOVE — and, besides, it involved a guilty conscience (it did 70 years ago) — and it could involve premarital pregnancy or venereal disease. (Remember, conditions and attitudes of teenagers were quite different then — some 70 years ago.)

Best — for US

Even in carnality, we realized it was better — BETTER FOR US — to *wait* for marriage.

The believer in today's "New Morality" could argue, "Why not enjoy *both*?" But he misses the whole point. The supreme enjoyment and happiness of marital LOVE springs from the very *exclusiveness* of the true marriage relationship — sacred to

just the two — unshared with any other. Fornication prior to marriage robs the marriage of something very precious and eminently worth the premarital self-denial.

God made us so that we may really ENJOY the taste of delicious food — the sound of beautiful music — the sight of a beautiful landscape or flower garden — the fragrance of lovely roses. The RIGHT exercise of our senses is RIGHT. God *intended* this pleasure and enjoyment. God is LOVE, and God expressed His love toward us by making these delights possible. Yet, probably the most intensely delightful of all physical joys God's love has made possible, is that of sexual LOVE between husband and wife.

It was intended to endear each to the other, bind them closer to each other.

It was GOD who created these five senses, and set them in such dynamic action, with their various stimuli. And God beheld everything that He had made, and pronounced it VERY GOOD!

God wants us to ENJOY living! God made us so we can find true happiness, here and now — we can simply *radiate* HAPPINESS AND JOY! His LAW is the guide to the RIGHT USE of these powers that can produce joyous blessings, or terrible curses. *And He gave us the CHOICE!*

God gave us the blessed MARRIAGE relationship, and the *God-plane* FAMILY relationship!

LOVE is God's WAY. But natural man can express it only *physically*.

But if the physical *love* relationship in marriage brings joys and delights, *how much more* the SPIRITUAL LOVE RELATIONSHIP expressed in marriage where both husband and wife are filled also with this *second* Spirit — the HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD! So, since humans can express naturally only a human and physical love, we come to the answer of the question of this article:

THE CREATOR, IN HIS WISDOM, KNEW THAT SEX WAS NECESSARY TO PRESERVE THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY RELATIONSHIP, IN REAL LOVE!

God knew what He was doing!

GOD's answer to those unhappy early religious "fathers" in their "chaste severity" is: "WOE unto him that striveth with his Maker! . . . Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou?" (Isaiah 45:9).

And again: "Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?" (Isaiah 29:16).

SEX was created, in God's loving wisdom, to make possible these sacred God-plane institutions of marriage, home and family!

Sex was created to stimulate pure romantic attraction and love between a man and a woman properly mated for marriage; to inspire them with desire to share their lives, their problems, their trials and troubles, their hopes and successes TOGETHER; to enjoy the planning and building together of a happy HOME; and to rear a happy FAMILY.

God designed SEX to produce pure, righteous, clean, holy and rich BLESSINGS! He made it to be the loving BOND that not only would inspire a properly mated couple to marry, but that would PRESERVE that marriage in love. Sex should be the energizing magnet to draw constantly closer and closer together with increasing LOVE a husband and wife — to heal over those little irritations, disturbances or misunderstandings that do occur.

Yet, this very bond that should bind the marriage tightly together is also the cord that, misused and perverted, *severs* more marriages than all other causes combined. *Misused*, it can bring nightmarish divorces, wreck homes and lives, leave children without parents, spawn juvenile delinquents!

Let's save sex for MARRIAGE. Let's turn to the WAY of all the blissful joys and blessings God made possible, and intended! □

(To be continued)

Golden Dream

(Continued from page 13)

winning an Olympic medal.

But wait, in what is considered the most dramatic upset of the 1948 Olympics and one of the most incredible feats in Olympic history, Dillard, not Ewell, was the gold medal winner according to a photo of the finish! In the process Dillard had tied the Olympic record held by his friend Jesse Owens of 10.3 seconds.

Dillard went on to win a gold medal on the 400-meter relay team not only in 1948, but also in 1952. In 1952 he did qualify for the hurdles and smashed the Olympic record. Harrison Dillard had won four gold medals and thus followed in the footsteps of his good friend Jesse Owens.

How about you?

All of us face hurdles as we try to achieve our goals, even as Harrison Dillard did. When he had failed to qualify for the hurdles, all his years of hard work, preparation and dedication seemed to go down the drain.

Dillard, however, refused to permit defeat and disappointment to blind him to possible success in other fields. It would be an uphill fight all the way. He accepted the challenge as the price for his goal. He fought back, hung on and didn't give up as he continued pursuing his goal.

Just as he had applied himself wholeheartedly to the hurdles, he applied himself to the 100 meters. He took it one step at a time, qualifying heat after qualifying heat, and made it to the finals.

With the sheer talent and competition Dillard faced, the odds of him achieving his goal appeared insurmountable. He indeed was an underdog. But, as we've seen, a situation like that can bring out the best in people, if they don't give up.

As long as a chance exists to succeed, we too must not give up. When faced with life's hurdles, think of Harrison Dillard's story. You too can reach your dream! □

NUCLEAR WAR

(Continued from page 10)

tion also chronicles the incredible world that will follow! Catch this glimpse of what you will soon see: "The wilderness and the wasteland . . . and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose . . . Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

"Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb [those today unable to speak] sing . . . They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Isaiah 35:1, 5-6, 10).

This article only touches the tip of understanding about why things have gotten so bad. For more information about this age and what God has in store for people living on this planet, request our free booklet, *Never*

Before Understood — Why Humanity Cannot Solve Its Evils. And for a refreshing and comforting look at what lies beyond the coming terrible nuclear war, write for the free book, *The Wonderful World Tomorrow — What It Will Be Like*. (See the inside front cover for addresses and toll-free phone numbers.)

There is hope for this war-weary world yet. God help you to understand! □

Why Does God Allow War?

For centuries people have wondered: If God does exist and is all-powerful, why doesn't He step in now and stop warfare and injustice?

The answer to this seeming paradox also explains why God will permit humans to begin to wage nuclear war.

Few understand that God has allowed a period of 6,000 years for humans to experiment with their own governments, their own religious institutions and family life apart from God.

Fewer still have understood what the Bible reveals when it states that another being is "the god of this age" (II Corinthians 4:4).

They apparently don't understand that this same spiritual being — Satan, the devil — now "deceives the whole world" (Revelation 12:9).

This explains why we have so much turmoil and confusion. God is not now actively intervening in the affairs of humanity! Through the collective choice of a deceived humanity, Satan's way of life temporarily reigns supreme. Humanity, on the whole, doesn't want God to be involved in human affairs!

It started when the original

humans rejected God and God's way of life and instead embraced Satan's way, setting a trend that has been followed by the overwhelming majority of mankind since!

There are two overall ways of life. One we call, for simplicity, the way of give. This involves serving and sharing with your fellowman. It's also the way of God. The other we call the way of get — of taking, hurting and striving against one another. This is the most common way of life today.

Few understand that God explained these two ways of life to the two original humans. He offered them the choice. And which did they take? Tragically, they chose the way of get — they rejected God and God's way of life and instead embraced Satan's — the "god" of this world.

That's why you have such madness today!

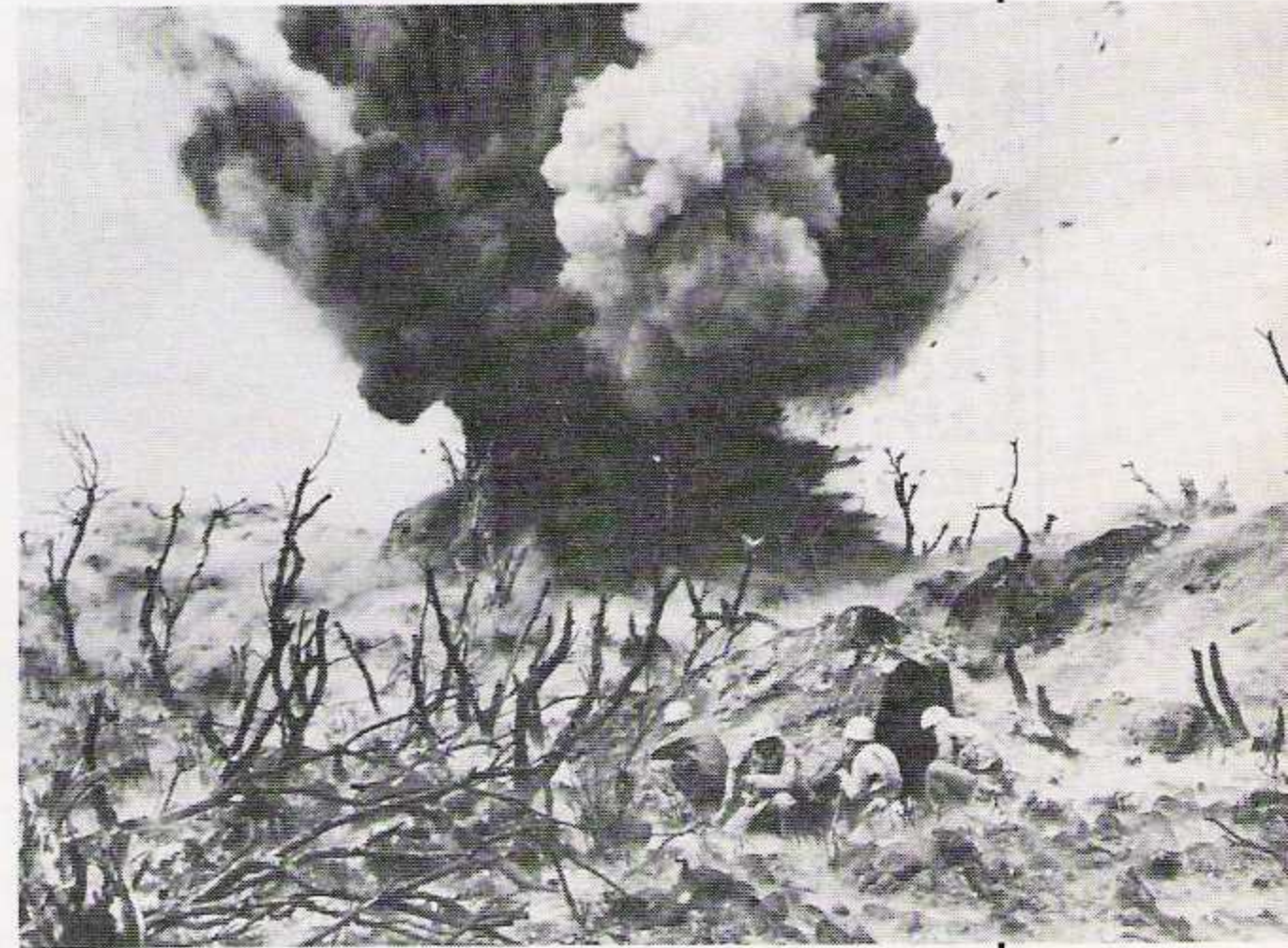
Even now God continues to offer humanity the two ways of life — one that leads to life, the other to death.

It is the continued collective wrong choice that the Bible

declares will lead humanity into nuclear war!

By allowing humanity free will — the ability to choose either the give or get ways of life — God permits crime, ignorance, poverty, hypocrisy and, eventually, destructive nuclear war. It's not God's choice that will bring a radioactive holocaust. But God will allow mankind to see how unfit he is to properly govern himself.

Yet God will not allow humanity to blunder into extinction. Peace will come, but in a



way humanity doesn't now suspect.

For a look at how peace will finally be established, request a free copy of our booklet, *World Peace — How It Will Come*. God has great things in store for all of mankind! — *By Michael Snyder* □

Self-Defense

(Continued from page 6)

“... because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight” (I John 3:22).

Of course, though God says He will protect us, we shouldn't tempt Him by taking unnecessary risks. God won't always intervene on our behalf if we're careless and behave foolishly. We should take

the precautions that we can. Ask your parents for their advice on what precautions you should take.

But we don't need to worry about self-defense. We should do our part to avoid being a victim of violence, and then obey and trust God to do the rest, just as Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego did.

And that's the most important lesson in self-defense that we could possibly learn. □

Listening

(Continued from page 29)

down, but don't look through him or around him.

Have you ever been irritated by seeing the person you are talking to look over his or her shoulder, wave at somebody else and generally give the impression that you are boring, boring, boring? Develop the art of making your parents and friends feel that, while they're talking, they are the only people in your world.

- Listen actively. Listen with your ears, your brain and your heart in gear. You'll find plenty of opportunities to practice this daily.

Learn to be patient with people who have difficulty expressing themselves. Concentrate on what is being said. Occasionally nod your head, to indicate that you hear and understand. Ask questions if something is unclear, but do not interrupt until the individual has finished making his or her point.

Make sure you understand what the speaker wants you to know. If you do not, ask him or her to repeat the key points.

Giving feedback

Perhaps the easiest way to prove to ourselves and our parents and friends that we understand what they're saying is to practice some form of feedback.

Feedback simply means repeating what another has said to you. To prod myself, I frequently say: “Now let's see if I've got the facts straight” or “You're saying...” Be sure you are on the same wavelength as the person speaking.

When we actively listen to others, they're more likely to listen to us. Our ideas, opinions and requests have a better chance of being heard and respected. But we must listen first.

As someone has said, “A good listener is not only popular everywhere, but after a while he or she knows something.”

Are you listening? □

READER BY-LINE

Four Days in March

By Aldena Maxey

The following is a true story. It happened only three months before graduation...

March 1

Dear Diary,

I had planned on attending a party in town with M.J. and her cousin Billy tonight. You guessed it — Mom and Dad have spoiled my plans again! I can't understand it. Why are my parents so protective?

Just once I would love to have some *freedom!* I'm always sitting at home while everyone at school has fun on weekends.

M.J. is so lucky. She has life just perfect. What more could anyone want? She's 18, popular, she has a new car and will be graduated in only three months! Talk about enjoying life!

I'm so tired of everyone saying the parties are too “wild,” with “all that drinking.” I'd be with my best friend and Billy would be driving — what more do they want?

Looks as if I'm in for another boring weekend.

March 2

Dear Diary,

I'm in shock! Billy wrecked last night coming home from the party. M.J. is in a coma. I just came home from the hospital — she really has me scared.

Her mom told me to be thankful I didn't go last night.

March 3

Dear Diary,

No improvement today. M.J. is still in a coma. Mom and Dad have held my hand all through this nightmare. I couldn't have

made it this far without them.

March 4

Dear Diary,

It really hurts. M.J. died today. □

Editor's note: The author, age 17, is from Spanishburg, W.Va. If you would like to submit an article for the “Reader By-line” section, send it to: “Reader By-line,” Youth 84, 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, Calif., 91129.





BY THE WAY...

Believe me, that kind of listening takes real effort.

Most of us were taught to read, write and to express our ideas and feelings. But too few were trained in the skill that accounts for about 50 percent of our waking day — really listening to others.

Studies show that the average person listens at only about 25 percent of his or her ability. That means most of us are running on only one cylinder as far as actually comprehending what we hear. Think of the incalculable amount of waste, mistakes, inefficiency and even failed relationships that are the result.

When we are so self-centered that we aren't concerned about what our friends have to say, but only want to talk about ourselves, we won't have many friends for long.

Listening more than hearing

There are several things you can do to become a good listener and, therefore, a much more interesting person to be around. When your parents, friends and teachers speak to you:

- Stop what you're doing. If you're reading, put the book down. If you're watching TV, turn it off. Little things can drive people crazy, so don't pace the floor or scowl and don't continue to work while someone is talking to you. ("Go ahead, I can work and listen." Sound familiar?)

Even if others interrupt an important activity, don't return rudeness by only half listening.

- Look the other person in the eye. I don't mean stare him

(Continued on page 28)

Illustration by Bruce Hedges

'Are You Listening to Me?'

By Dexter H. Faulkner

The little plaque in the store caught my eye. It read: "I know you believe you understand what you think I said . . . But I'm not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant!" You may want to read that again. It illustrates a common pitfall of communication.

When my son was a toddler, he touched a hot stove and burned his fingers. His concerned mother told him, "If you had *listened* to me, you wouldn't have gotten burned."

What did she mean by, "If you had listened . . ."? Of course he heard his mom tell him not to touch the stove. But it was obvious the words he "heard" simply didn't register. The burn quickly taught him the importance of listening to,

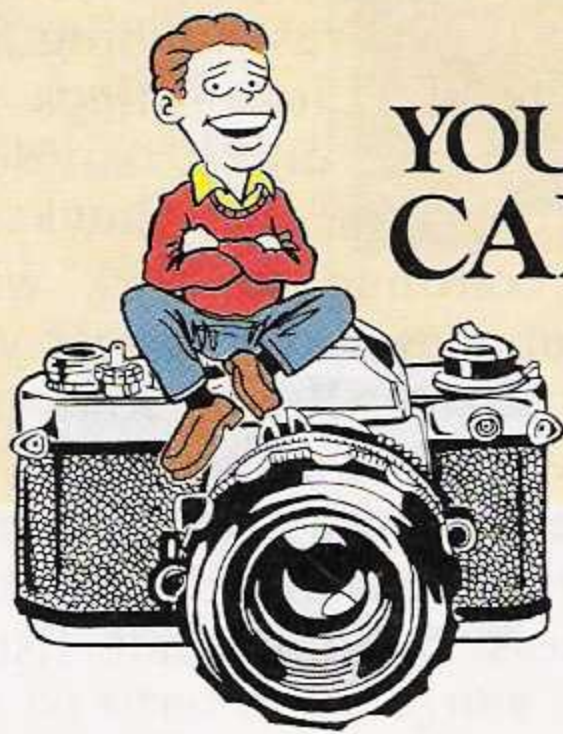
and heeding, Mother's warnings.

"If only you'd listened . . ."

Have you ever heard your parents say, "If only you'd listened to me, your grades wouldn't be so horrible." Or (the one that I used to hate to hear) ". . . you wouldn't be in this mess." While in high school, I often experienced the shaking effect of vocal airwaves from my parents. But too many times I didn't respond to what I heard. And, much to my regret. How about you?

Listening, then, is more than hearing what the other person says. It's understanding it and responding to it in such a way that the speaker knows he or she was heard and understood.

Photographer — Richard Landis
Age 17
Carbondale, Kan.



**YOUTH ON
CAMERA**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Pasadena, Calif.
Permit No. 703

751020-2924 42 Y034
MICHAEL ANTHONY STEPHENS
PO BOX 1039
JAMESTOWN TN 38556