

new wine magazine presents . . .

# new wine news



## BRINGING YOU UP TO DATE:

We're sending this summer newsletter to bring you up to date with recent events concerning New Wine and to keep in touch with you during the time left vacant by our combined July/August issue.

In our last newsletter we informed you of many of the details of the actual move to Mobile. In the months since, New Wine has been steadily "settling in" as a part of the Mobile community, and we have completed most of the adjustments prompted by our move, getting back on schedule in most phases of our work. We appreciate the patience and support that all of you have given us during these transitional months.

## RESPONSE:

We also appreciate the many comments we have received in response to the latest issues of New Wine. The request for additional copies of the February issue on "Secular Humanism" was so great that we've reprinted the February issue, and it is now available for a contribution of \$1.00 per issue. (Increased cost is due to the reduced quantity printed in this special press run. See page 7 to order.)

We received many enthusiastic comments about our April issue, "The Healthy Christian"—especially Shari Gundlach's excellent article, "You Can Lead a Kid to Bean Sprouts, But You Can't Make Him Eat." Also, we were privileged for that issue to interview Dr. Kenneth Cooper, author of Aerobics and director of The Aerobics Center in Dallas, Texas. Not only is he an expert in the field of fitness, but also a dedicated Christian. It was a joy to listen to him share how God was using him to help people, not only physically but spiritually.

Our May issue on "Cults" generated much positive and appreciative response. However, there were a number of letters questioning our listing in the article "Cults: Dungeons of Deception," The Manifested Sons of God, headed by the late Rev. Sam Fife, as a "semi-Christian cultic group." May we simply respond by saying we recognize there are many faithful Christians in this group. Our defining the group as "cultic" was not meant as an indictment on any individual's Christian faith or trust in the Lord Jesus Christ; rather the whole article is intended as a warning that even sincere Christians can unwittingly become involved with groups which propagate a large measure of error. For those with further questions about this particular group, we recommend a booklet by Rev. Ken Sumrall entitled The Manifestation of the Sons of God . . . Truth and Error. The booklet is available from Liberty Bible College, P.O. Box 3138, Pensacola, FL 32506 at \$.75 each (plus postage).

Many of you wrote us to tell how encouraged you were by the June issue—so we're grateful that issue accomplished what we had intended. Response to the July/August issue on communication is just now beginning to come in at the writing of this newsletter.

## A MINI-MESSAGE:

As an extra feature to "tide you over" until our September issue reaches you, Don Basham has written a short article for this newsletter entitled "What God Is After." It's a summary of the various stages through which God takes us in our Christian growth. Don shared this message at a recent meeting with a number of the New Wine staff and it was extremely helpful to us. You too may find yourself at any one of the stages that Don describes, so as a supplement to the article, we are offering material for further study on the various phases listed in the article. (See pages 6 and 7).



## STAFF REPORT:



THE NEW WINE STAFF

We have been gradually adding new staff since our arrival in Mobile, and since you may have seen some unfamiliar names recently in the magazine or in our correspondence, we wanted to take this opportunity to introduce these new people and also give you a report on the regular staff at New Wine.

### Editorial Department:

Don Basham, Editor and President of New Wine Magazine, gives oversight to the entire operation, and also continues his personal speaking and counseling ministry to the Body of Christ at large. His

editorial expertise as well as the wisdom he has gained from years in God's service continually strengthen the impact of New Wine. In recent months, his speaking engagements have been in Raleigh, North Carolina, St. Cloud, Minnesota and here in Mobile at the Covenant Life Conference.

Dick Leggatt, Managing Editor, who has been with New Wine for 4½ years, is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh. He and his wife Cindi have three sons.

Alan Wallace, Assistant Managing Editor, a graduate of Auburn University, has been with New Wine for three years. He and his wife Sandy just recently had their first child, a baby boy.

Nita Steffanic, our new Editorial Assistant, is originally from San Francisco, California where she was an executive secretary for the vice-president of public affairs for the Bank of America.

### Administration:

George Gundlach became Administrator of New Wine upon our move to Mobile, and has been doing an excellent job coordinating and overseeing the various departments of New Wine. A graduate of the University of Florida, he has been with New Wine for 3½ years. He and his wife Shari have two sons.

George's secretary, Brenda Ayres, is a new staff member who recently moved here from San Francisco. Brenda also oversees the New Wine Tape of the Month accounts.

### Accounting/Purchasing:

John Putnam, who moved to Mobile from San Marcos, Texas last summer, spent two months in Ft. Lauderdale with New Wine prior to our move and is now head of the accounting and purchasing department. A graduate of the University of Missouri, he and his wife Merre, have two children and another on the way.

Joy Murray, one of John's assistants, has been with New Wine for four years. Bill Turk, another assistant in the accounting department is a graduate of Oral Roberts University and just joined the staff after recently moving from Santa Ynez, California with his wife Holly.

### Data Department:

Without a doubt, the people who have worked the longest and hardest since our arrival in Mobile are the staff of the Data Department.

Jack Bigger, the Data Department head, has been with New Wine since 1969. He and his wife Cora have three daughters. Jeannie, the oldest, works in Data as a visual entry operator (data key punching).

Bill Jones has been with New Wine for seven months and is Jack's assistant in charge of programming. He came to Mobile from Pittsburgh where he graduated from Carnegie-Mellon University. Bill's wife Betsy is also a visual entry operator. Bill and Betsy are expecting their first child in November.

The other member of the Data staff is Selena Evans. She moved to Mobile from San Francisco in February and works as a visual entry operator.



### Mailroom:

The mailroom staff consists of three women who are veteran New Wine employees.

Elsie Sparks has been with us since 1971. Elsie is originally from Alabama and is enjoying being back in her home state.

Natalie Vaughan came to New Wine in 1977. She and her husband Bob live in Mobile with their son, Bobby.

The third member of our Mailroom staff is Dot Bouldry. Dot and her husband Gus, who works in Shipping as a volunteer, have worked with New Wine from its earliest days in 1969. (Gus just recently celebrated his 80th birthday, and he and Dot have been married for 56 years.)

### Shipping:

The Shipping Department operates under the watchful eye of department head Talley O'Neal. Talley joined our staff shortly before the move to Mobile. Since coming to Alabama, Talley has married the former Lisa Basham, who serves as New Wine's receptionist.

Working with Talley in Shipping is Tim LeBlanc. Tim is formerly from San Marcos, Texas and has been with us for 5 months.

### Production Department:

Dave Thomas, who oversees the production and typesetting of New Wine, joined the staff in January. He and his wife Ruth Ann and their three boys moved to Mobile from Wilmington, North Carolina, where Dave had served several years as pastor of Azalea Coast Fellowship.

The other member of the Production staff is Mark Pié, our artist. Mark graduated from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh in 1973 and came to work for New Wine in December, 1977. Mark and his wife Karen have one son and are expecting their second child in January.

### COMPUTER UPDATE:

In our last newsletter, we mentioned problems we had been experiencing with our computer. We're happy to report that most of those problems have been cleared up as a result of many hours of overtime put in by our Data staff—particularly Jack Bigger and Bill Jones. These men have often had to work long into the night to make sure that mailing lists were printed and ready, so as not to delay New Wine's arrival at your home, and so that important information could be ready for use by the rest of the staff.

However there is one problem we have not yet totally corrected. Normally, when we receive a letter, order, or contribution from you, our computer automatically updates your name on the mailing list so that you will receive the magazine for at least another six months. Then if we don't hear from you within about four months we routinely send a card that says, "We've missed hearing from you—Do you still want to receive New Wine?" When you check "yes", and return the envelope (with or without a contribution), we record it by computer and continue sending the magazine. This way we determine who genuinely wants to receive the magazine, and avoid sending New Wine to those who don't want it. We feel it's good stewardship to use this system.

But because we're still slightly behind schedule in our Data Department, a few readers continue to receive inquiries after they have written or contributed. We know it's disturbing to get a letter from us saying we haven't heard from you when you know you have sent a recent letter or a con-

(CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)

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**SECULAR HUMANISM, Part 1** The February 1979 issue of *New Wine* is now available once again. Featuring such authors as:

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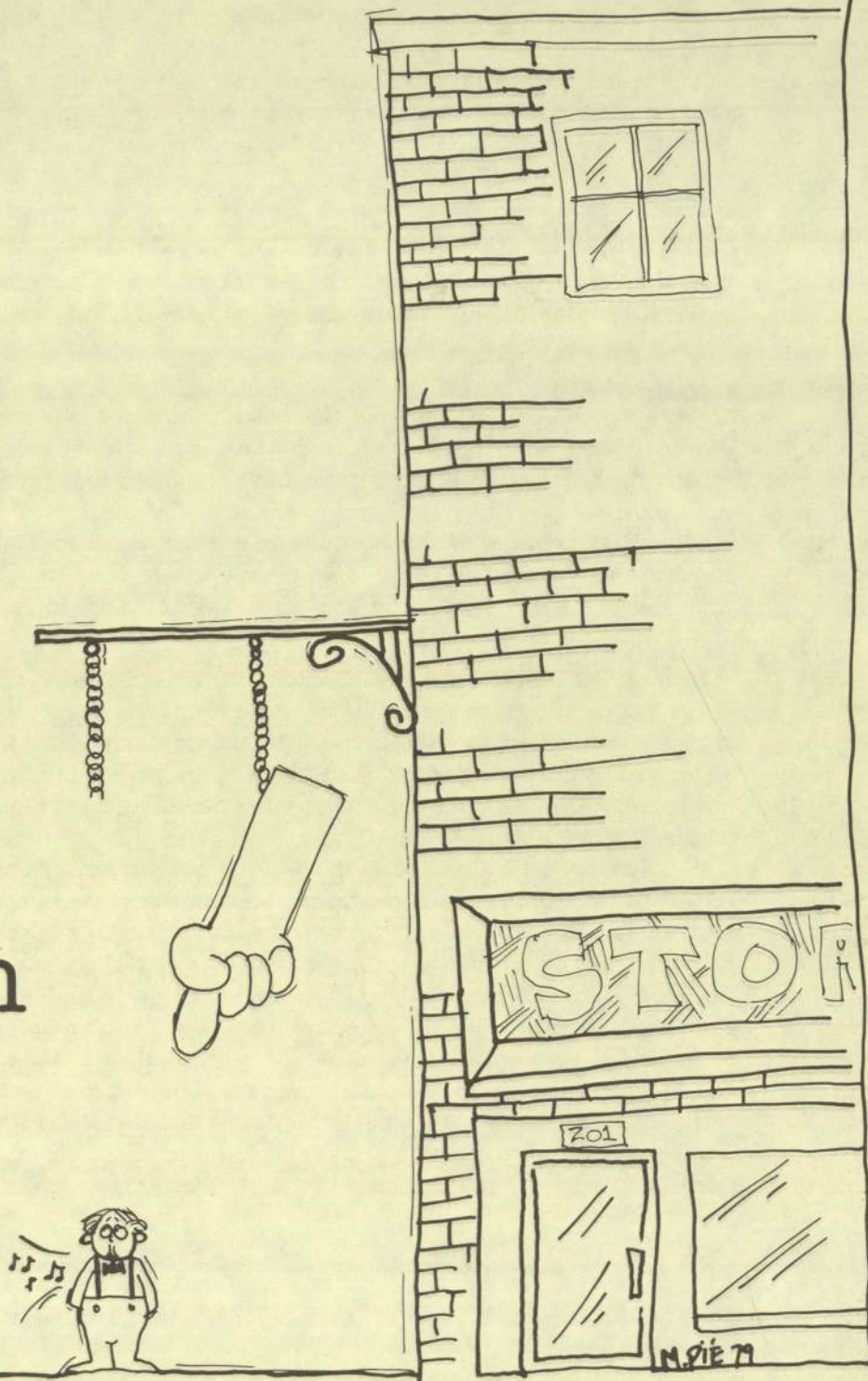
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# what GOD is after

by  
don  
basham



I believe God has two primary objectives in the earth: 1) To establish a Kingdom which will live forever, and 2) To prepare the people of God to be fit subjects in that Kingdom. John the Baptist, the forerunner of J  sus, came striding out of the wilderness thundering, "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Mt. 3:2). After John the Baptist was imprisoned, Jesus took up the same exhortation. Mark's Gospel says it this way: "Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God."



Now the term "the Kingdom of God" clearly signifies two things. It includes both our inheritance from God and our relationships—i.e., learning to live with and share with one another. In light of those two emphases I want to list nine separate steps involved in God's preparing us for life in the Kingdom.

### **Step 1 God Calls Us**

Jesus said, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you . . ." (Jn. 15:16). Paul tells us God has "chosen us in him before the foundation of the world . . ." (Eph. 1:4). The initiative for our recruitment into the Kingdom of God always rests with God Himself. It should be an encouragement and comfort to us—especially in times of trial and stress—to be reminded that we are "the chosen of God," and therefore that God's concern and desire for our success in the Kingdom is greater than our own.

### **Steps 2 and 3 God Redeems Us and Empowers Us**

God's total salvation for man's total need means not only our assurance of sins being forgiven and of being born again into the Body of Christ, but it also means the provision of the miraculous gifts and ministries that become available to the believer through the baptism in the Holy Spirit. "Repent and be baptized," Peter said to the crowd gathered on the Day of Pentecost (that's the promise of salvation), " . . . and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (that's the baptism in the Holy Spirit).

These first three steps, then—1) God calls us, 2) God saves us, and 3) God empowers us—all speak of our inheritance in the Kingdom of God. The remaining six steps refer to the way God prepares us for life in the Kingdom in terms of our relationships to one another.

### **Step 4 God Places Us**

This placement by God includes our function in a particular role in the Body of Christ. "But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him" (1 Cor. 12:18). It also refers to placement in the geographic sense. Placement is related both to function and location.

### **Step 5 God Trains Us**

As citizens in the Kingdom of God, we are disciples. Disciples are "learners," or those in training. Of course, training implies the need for a "trainer" or teacher, one who has been given the right to instruct or disciple.

### **Step 6 God Tests Us**

God allows us to be tested, knowing that we'll pass some tests and some we'll fail. And sometimes our failures are more important than our successes.

### **Step 7 God Uses Us**

Along with our discipling or training, God begins to use us as He sees fit. We begin to find ourselves in ministry. But remember, we don't earn the right to be used: God acts sovereignly in this matter. Actually, God doesn't have any really worthy people to work through since all of us are sinners saved by grace. "We have this treasure in earthen vessels," Paul reminded the Corinthians, "that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us" (2 Cor. 4:7).

### **Step 8 God Matures Us**

Maturity is a major goal for the Christian life. Most believers remain spiritual adolescents all their lives. There are a number of marks of maturity: when wisdom replaces zeal, when suffering is embraced as a part of God's purpose, when we let go of our goals for God's, when we are willing to lay down our own ministry to invest in others.

### **Step 9 God Makes Us Holy**

The Charismatic Renewal has said little and taught less about *holiness*. But we are learning that it is more important to have the character of Jesus Christ formed *in* us than it is to have the power of Jesus Christ flowing *through* us. Signs, wonders and miracles are temporary—the beauty of holiness is eternal.

Finally, we should be mindful that no matter in which one of these nine steps we may find ourselves, God is with us to encourage and help us on our way, to see to it that we don't fall short of the mark.

I think this is what Paul had in mind when he said, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you . . . being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil. 1:3,6). ♥



# What God Is After

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tribution. If this has happened to you, we apologize for this error and ask that you please bear with us until we get this one area up to date. If you receive one of these inquiries after already writing to us, simply check the "yes" box, and send it back to us.

FUTURE ISSUE:

We hope you are looking forward to the September issue entitled Who Owns Your Child? It will be challenging reading, not only for Christian parents, but for all who are concerned about the increase of secular humanism's intrusion into our society.

WE APPRECIATE YOU:

Most of all, this newsletter is a means of saying "Thank you" for your faithful communication with us (whether compliment or constructive criticism), and also for your generous support which allows us to continue sending New Wine each month. We regularly pray for all the New Wine readers in our staff meetings, and we want you to know that we appreciate you. Have a good August—and we'll see you next month with our regular September issue.

In Jesus,

THE NEW WINE STAFF