



Christian Coffee House Ministry, Inc.

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APRIL, 1977

THE OVERFLOW

The Board of Directors of The Overflowing Cup has unanimously adopted a resolution designating April, 1977 as MIRACLE MONTH. Now, we are not miracle workers but we do know that God is still in the miracle business and wants to bless His children. We also know that He can work a miracle any ol' time He so desires, but we are believing for great things during the next month in particular. So, if you have your own personal miracle in motion, why not join us and believe God to bring it about this month.

Of course, on April 10th, we will observe Easter Sunday in remembrance of the greatest miracle ever - The Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour. The Cup will also celebrate its third anniversary with free anniversary cake on April 15th and 16th and you can believe it when we tell you that the past three years have been one fantastic miracle after another! It's so exciting to watch all of our needs being met and lives that were in desperate need of a miracle being changed right before our eyes. Everytime we look around at what God has given us in our new facilities, we thank Him for the miracle of His Grace, Mercy, Goodness and Blessings.

Now, as we are getting ready to start on Phase Two of His project, we can begin to thank Him for the miracle of faith to believe for the materials and funds we will need to get the second floor sleeping rooms in shape and ready for occupancy. Someone has described the faith life as living in the midst of a miracle on the brink of disaster. But, praise His Wonderful Name!! There are no disasters when God is in control.

Jesus said in *Luke 6:38*: "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal (use in measuring anything) it shall be measured to you again." We believe Jesus meant it when He said that. We also believe He means we should give of our time, efforts and energy as well as our money. We know that as we are obedient to His voice and do what we are supposed to be doing the way He wants us to do it, He will speak to each of you about our needs. That's how miracles happen!

That's the really neat thing about our Heavenly Father. As we give to Him, He gives back to us. As we minister to Him in worship, praise and thanksgiving, He in turn ministers to us with love, joy and peace. But, it's those two hidden little words - in turn - that throw us a curve sometimes. We always want to take our turn first. We say, "Bless me, Lord, and then I'll give to your work. When I have everything I want, I'll give you something if there's anything left over." But, that's not the way God works. Jesus said, "Seek ye first the Kingdome of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." When you give to God, you can give until you can't give anymore and you still can't outgive Him.

Speaking of giving---those of you who have overdue library books and tapes, please see what you can do about giving them back to our library. Incidentally, the library is back into operation with many new books and tapes available for you to devour. Our inventory continues to increase daily but at last count, we had something like 1,000 books and nearly 500 teaching tapes on a wide variety of subjects for your spiritual growth. We encourage you to take advantage of our library facilities which are presently open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. (We hope to be able to have it open during the daytime hours soon.) We would ask that you help us be good stewards of the materials God has given us by returning them on time and taking good care of them while they are in your possession. We have written numerous cards and letters trying to retrieve some of the books and tapes that have been checked out, some for as long as 2-1/2 years. At the present time, there are at least 40 people with overdue books and/or tapes which in dollars and cents adds up to over \$100 of the Lord's money that cannot be productive. If these items were being used, we wouldn't mind a bit. Unfortunately, most of the missing books and tapes are laying in a corner or the back seat of a car or got lost "somehow" and all of the good intentions in the world don't seem to cause them to find their way back to us so that someone else can have access to them. PLEASE! We don't want to nag, but won't you either make a sincere effort to find these items or replace them for us? We don't have addresses for some of you so we'll just have to ask the Lord to remind those who are guilty. So keep your eyes open when you're doing the spring housecleaning. You might just come across some items that belong to the Cup.

Ah! Spring housecleaning. Now, there's a chore. It's getting to be that time again, too. Say, ladies! Have you ever gotten bogged down with the housework and threatened to hire a cleaning lady. I heard about a lady who had to clean house the day before her cleaning lady was scheduled to come because she didn't want her to know what a lousy housekeeper she was. That's not as bad as trying to wait until the day before Jesus comes back to set your Spiritual house in order. That's a little risky, *"For in such an hour as ye think no, the Son of man cometh."* Matt. 24:44.

Suppose you hired someone to do your Spring housecleaning and then told her, "Oh, you can't go in that room (the one with the jealousy windows)." Or, "Don't bother cleaning the den of criticism and just leave the closets full of resentment and bitterness. I'll do them later." Or, "Don't pay any attention to the attic. I've had some hang-ups and second-hand attitudes stored away up there for generations that I'm not ready to part with yet. Just clean the rooms we use (the ones people see) and wash the windows and paint the outside. Maybe a nice Spiritual Pride Pink or Envy Green with Hypocrisy Yellow trim would be nice. That should make my house look as good as the one next door. Oh, and don't forget to whitewash the grudge fence and get rid of those filthy righteousness rags under the steps." Do you get the picture? That kind of house cleaning wouldn't be worth paying for, would it? It would look O.K. on the outside, on the surface. Funny, but that's the way it is with some Christians. They are all spruced up on the surface but they never did a very thorough house cleaning on the inside where it really matters. In fact, a lot of them could use a complete remodeling job, tearing down walls that have been in the way for years. Time out for a commercial.

Jesus is the best Carpenter you could get for the job, large or small. He's been constructing new lives out of old wrecks for a long time now. His helper, the Holy Spirit, can do a complete re-wiring job at no extra charge.

When you get all that done, why not haul anything that's left to God's dump down at the Corner of Liberty Avenue and Freedom Street. Then mosey on down to God's Warehouse Furniture Sale and furnish your new house with some of the new manager's

fantastic bargains. He has a genuine antique dining room table that dates back to the time of the Apostles and it comes complete with a set of fine china in the obedience pattern. I'll guarantee you it will do a lot to improve property, and it'll be worth a whole lot more than when you started! No monthly payments to make and no interest to pay either. In fact the bill has already been paid and as an extra bonus for shopping early you can choose from a selection of free gifts --- eternal life, healing (physical, emotional and spiritual), and a fruit basket centerpiece containing love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance.

Don't wait too long. We don't know for sure how long this offer will be in effect.

AND NOW, A WORD ABOUT PEST CONTROL.....! I'm talking about those pesty Christians. You know the variety, the ones that are so fanatical about such things as getting saved, going to church and all that jazz. And you're right, they sure can be pests! They're so thrilled with the new life they've found, the peace of mind and feeling of security about their purpose for being here and the future that they sometimes get a little carried away in sharing it. Getting rid of them can really be a problem sometimes but it sure sound appealing to someone with no interest in Christ.

But wait a minute. You don't have to bother! They'll soon be gone anyway. Any day now the Bible says every last pesky one of them will vanish from the earth. *"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye"* (I Cor. 15:52) these fanatics will be removed from the world's population. A wife disappears from her husband's bed, an employee is whisked off the job and the fellow sitting next to you at lunch - suddenly GONE! Then you'll be left with your own ideas about what it takes to get along in the life - AND THE NEXT. Sure, churches and religions will be doing business as usual for only the truly, born-again believers in Christ will vanish like this. But they're the bothersome ones, they've experienced the real thing. That's what makes them so pesky about helping you find it too.

Now, you may not like the idea of hell, either. Then why be so fanatical about going there? Maybe you didn't realize you were. Mark how vigorously you resist the Gospel - that can be fanatical too. If you don't want to end up there, stop resisting heaven's invitation. Join those who've tasted God's forgiveness. Not only does that silence their insistence, it guarantees you the coming thrill of that "Instant-exodus" into the Lord's presence!

So, what can you do about it and how do you do it? It's as simple as opening a door. *"Behold I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in!"* Rev. 3:20. Just as you'd open your home to a friend's knock, open your heart to Jesus. Pray... Come into my heart and take control of my life. Make heaven real to me. Then you'll know your sins are forgiven and you are ready to meet God. Why should you remain a fanatic. . . About going to Hell! (Gospel Tract Society)

JUST ONE OF THE MIRACLES THAT IS TAKING PLACE IN MIRACLE MONTH ...

Two brothers are moving into the second floor of the Overflowing Cup this month... as soon as the plumbing in one of the restrooms is completed. A shower is the main thing needed. There is a shower on the second floor, but a water heater and other basic plumbing must be there before we move in ... Unless the Lord lays it on someone's heart to let us use their shower for a couple of weeks.

You see, we live in Rockford, Illinois and we know the Lord is calling us to Beloit to the Overflowing Cup. We are like two missionaries going to another land to build a refuge. Only we are going to a huge building with four floors plus a lower level. The 3rd and 4th floors were left for pigeons to habitate for 6 or 7 years because of one broken window. Dead pigeons and pigeon dung cover the rooms, floors and walls. The second floor is not that bad - pigeons never got in there - but all the paint (which is peeling off in sheets) needs to be scraped, and plaster has fallen in many places. Yet the building is more than sound - built better than many new buildings.

Anyway, the first floor which is the floor the public sees, is almost complete with the exception of the gym. The basement or lower lever which contains the pool and a large room which was once a cafeteria and many other rooms need much cleaning and work. All toilets were removed from the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floors many years ago and we really could use people who have plumbing experience who could donate some time. Maybe we will be plumbers by the time we are finished.

We know that the Lord has called us to work on this building full time for the next few months. We are trusting God to meet our needs through additional small or part-time jobs by stretching paychecks, which God can and does do.

Many of you out there don't realize the work the Overflowing Cup needs - both physical construction work and workers in the Coffee House Friday and Saturday nights.

We ask for your prayers for we are in a spiritual warfare because Satan doesn't want to see the Overflowing Cup progress; because, we will move out to overcome the work of the Devil.

If there is any way you can help, get in touch with the Overflowing Cup. We welcome you all. God bless you.

Love in Jesus,

Dean and Jerry

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