



CROSS CURRENTS INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

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Our dear Prayer Supporter,

The hour was well after midnight. Several complexities that accompany the multiple outreach ministries of CCIM had occupied our minds and sleep was evasive. On such occasions Dorothy and I sometimes listen to a ministry tape. At other times we unitedly pray for various people and situations—you also are included with thanksgiving. Then at other times we just reminisce and laugh heartily.

However, early this morning the shrill ring of the telephone jolted us into the world of present reality. The news was from England. At age ninety two Aubrey Nokes, a life-long friend, had just been joyfully welcomed into the presence of His dearly loved Lord.

Aubrey knew how to cultivate my friendship and admiration when I was a young lad. It was in wartime England. Bombings, black-outs, and austere rationing were the order of the day. ARP [Air Raid Precaution] Wardens strolled the streets night after night. Enemy planes flew overhead. At one time, Dorothy's home city of Manchester was ablaze for three days and three nights. This was World War II.

Very few cars were on the roads in those days. Severe limitations of petrol [gas] meant that nearly every family car was permanently in the garage. Aubrey, however, was one of the few who was allocated a meager ration of gas to enable him to continue his oversight of necessary wartime transportation. As a 12 year old lad—whose father never did own a car—imagine my delight when Aubrey threw me his keys for my very first, and very brief, experience behind the wheel! Then there was the layout of a marvelous miniature train set he had assembled in his unfurnished bedroom for the fascination and excitement of a few lads.

During those days of severe travel restriction, on several occasions Aubrey was required to make an emergency journey to Norwich, to Birmingham or to Coventry. Sometimes, in my school holidays, he would unexpectedly call by the house to see if I wanted to join him for a car ride. You bet I did!

Today, I gratefully appreciate how all this, and much much more, was designed by the Lord, through Aubrey, to gain my ready acceptance of his invitation to attend his Sunday afternoon Bible Class for boys. In a room he had rented for that purpose, Aubrey skillfully played the piano and our out-of-tune voices bellowed forth Gospel choruses. Then followed the all-important Bible lesson. During our long walk home he would sometimes share his own conversion experience and the subsequent changes that the Lord Jesus had made in his life.

Yes, the Seed of the Word of God was sown in the lives of several of us lads. Later this Seed would reap an eternal harvest when some of us—all in different circumstances and life styles—came to a personal knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For myself; this happened the first year after the war had concluded. It was at a young people's holiday conference where Stephen Olford was the guest speaker and it was he who led me to the Savior. "Oh blessed day that fixed my choice on Christ my Savior and my God!"

Aubrey is now in heaven, but the Word of God assures us that his testimony lives on here on earth: *And I heard a voice from heaven saying: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord . . . that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them* REVELATION 14:13. I believe that CCIM is one of the "works" that continue to follow Aubrey to this present day. That means that you, dear friend, as part of the spiritual heritage of many generations of forebears which could include Aubrey, are today part of the outreach ministries of CCIM. Yes, your faith and love for the Lord Jesus continues to bless men and women, boys and girls in many places around the world.

All That To Say This!

First: As you read "By the Way," you will realize that though, in the providence of God, the last days of our ministry are based from our adopted and much loved America, our Christian roots and our burden continues for the land of our birth—England. For instance, London alone has a population of some eleven million people out of which over one million are Muslim.

Good News! Dorothy and I have both been invited to minister the Word of God to a gathering of pastors and Christian leaders representing some 30 Calvary Chapels in the UK—Dorothy to the ladies and myself to the united assembly. In accepting this invitation, it was a thrill to hear of the aggressive and fruitful evangelism by some of the students at Calvary Chapel Bible College in York. Recently, at an evangelistic outreach, these young men and women led 89 people to the Lord Jesus. Such fruitful street evangelism is rarely known in the UK today. Again, "By the Way" explains why we were especially encouraged to know what the Lord continues to do through the present generation of young people.

Second: Thank you for praying for "Dorothy's Daily Devotional" to the ladies of Africa from TWR. A listener in Swaziland wrote:

"I am lady of 80 years old. I now know why God has

preserved my life all these years. I have just finished reading the siSwati copy of *Your Quest for God* which you sent me. After all these years I have now met my God. The book and broadcasts have answered a lot of my questions. Before reading the book I did not know God personally, now I can say I have Jesus in my heart and a lot of my questions have been answered. Thank you for giving me a new life at 80 years!" *No dear sister—it's the Lord Himself who gave you His Life!*

But that is not all! Commencing this June, Dorothy will also minister twice daily to the ladies in England through Calvary Chapel Radio over Sky Digital 906. I will introduce her "Daily Devotional," with a free offer of either *Your Quest*

for God or Food for Faith. This program can also be heard over the Internet.

And so it is that, before Dorothy and I ever met, the very Gospel we both proclaimed on the streets in England will now penetrate homes and tenement blocks in ways that, then, we could never have imagined possible. *Delight thyself also in the Lord, and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart* PSALM 37:4.

Thank you for your continued prayers and faithful support. In His resurrection victory,



By The Way

It was during her RN training that Dorothy was converted to Christ. Upon accepting an invitation to hear evangelist Joe Blinco she left the meeting thinking: "How dare he call me a sinner?" However, later that night her resentment melted when the conviction of the Holy Spirit impelled her to kneel beside her bed and humbly pray: "Lord Jesus I confess that my religion, my morality, and even my training to be a missionary can never merit salvation. So now, at the Cross where You died for my sin, I yield myself to You. Lord Jesus, be merciful to me a sinner and come into my life."

A year or two later, after having completed her RN degree and when undertaking further study for a post graduate degree in obstetrics, Dorothy was in a London Hospital. Money was scarce! Though she supported her mother who lived in another city, she also purchased scores of Gospel tracts. These purchases were only made possible because Dorothy frequently denied herself the cost of a meal. So, with a nursing companion (both dressed in 1950's nursing coats and armed with Bibles and Gospel tracts) they would head out to the dangerous red-light districts in the East End of London.

At that time Dorothy's friend, who was soft-spoken but who had more Bible knowledge than she, suggested that, when they were speaking in the open air, Dorothy should be the spokesperson. In this way, the two of them resembling Salvation Army lasses, redeemed their spare time by evangelistic outreach from home to home; on the streets, and by open-air ministries. Space forbids the sharing of some of the wonderful things the Lord did through these two young ladies. As I write, I am reminded of the words of my Bible College President who, as part of our training for the ministry, exhorted us to evangelize on the streets and said: "If you can't attract a crowd in the open air then one day you will bore a captive audience in a church!"

For myself, when I lived in Kings Lynn, a few young converts were burdened to reach people with the Gospel message—particularly those people who would never darken the door of a church. There was a venue in our town called "The Walks." This was a popular place for young people to stroll and socialize. However after 10 p.m., when the public houses were legally

compelled to disgorge their drinking clientele, sometimes "The Walks" would become a rowdy venue. It was at that time and in that place that we set up our soap-box and conducted our own open air meetings.

From this self-appointed pulpit we would preach by mingling a few Bible verses with our respective testimonies. Sadly, however, our sincere efforts attracted only a few temporary listeners. In an effort to attract more people someone suggested that one of us should play the role of a heckler. Then, when the speaker was given a hard time other people gathered around the soapbox. They too interjected their own comments. Some sided with the "poor man on the box" while others vented their own skeptical opinions as they fired supercilious questions.

In those distant days of open air evangelism on "The Walks" in Kings Lynn, the evening often concluded with serious conversations which sometimes led to a profession of conversion. One or two such people were attracted to our Monday night verse-by-verse Bible Studies. As Henry Drummond said: "I would rather discipline an enthusiast than I would entuse a disciplinarian!"

I also remember reading of an open-air speaker at Tower Hill in London. One of his loud-mouthed listeners shouted: "Christianity has been in the world for two thousand years and just look at the state of the world today. It doesn't work." To this arrogant interjection, Dr. Donald Soper quickly retorted, "Water has been in the world since the day of creation, but just look at the state of the back of your neck!" He then added, "Christianity has not been tried and found wanting, it has been found difficult and not tried."

Today, we know that living the Christian life is not difficult—it is impossible! Impossible, that is, to anybody other than the sinless, spotless Son of God. Thankfully, as an act of incredible grace, the Lord Jesus has taken up His residence within the humanity of every born again believer. As we become available to His indwelling Life, He, and He alone, will do in us and through us the very things that we could never ever do for Him. For, *He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also give life to your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you* ROMANS 8:11.