

## Our Class History (Class of 1962)

On a brisk, but clear fall day, we, the class of 1962, began what has proved to be a completely new way of life. Passing through the gates of this, the Free Gospel Bible Institute of Export, PA, we could feel the warmth and friendliness of God's people.

As the commencement of the study of God's Word on September 28, 1959 began, we soon saw that there was much to be learned. God's divine presence was sensed in our living quarters, our worship services, classes, and in our meetings of prayer. During this time, we felt the need of an "around the clock" prayer chain, and through it, God marvelously began to answer, and we experienced a greater assurance in His promises to usward.

Two months following the opening of school, officers were elected, and a dedication service was held as we sought to have the approval of God on all our official dealings.

However, Bible School is not all classroom study; many times we were called upon to perform various deeds: those of mercy – assisting a motorist out of the snow; those of kindness – aiding a student with a problem; those of duty which were assigned by the deans, and those of sacrifice for our school.

Our very first banquet which carried out the theme, "Harbored in Jesus," was a time of feasting and fellowship. This terminated our freshman year.

Our summer endeavors for the Lord hardly began until it was time to begin our second year of study. We returned with great expectations, and a renewed zeal to "Burn out for the Master," the phrase which we selected as our class motto.

This New Year was one in which newer and greater truths of God's Word were revealed to us, and once again the reality of how much there was to be learned in order to successfully present the Gospel by God's power.

As the Holy Spirit led us, we had times of prayer and fasting to seek the will of God for our lives. Many times when the way seemed dark and conditions impossible, God helped us conquer our Jericho. It was only through His mercy and love that the walls of finance, lack of water, necessities, opposition, etc., came tumbling down as we gained victory through Jesus Christ. Once, when it seemed that the school would be taken away, God miraculously met the need. The greatest lesson we experienced here was to trust Him completely for He is "El Shaddai," –the Almighty. He is our God and in Him will we trust.

In addition to other activities during this year, we began active work in the outside ministry with weekly trips to the Free Gospel Church in Liberty Boro and other opportunities to work in His service.

Once again as summer vacation began, members of the class set out to put into practice that which they had learned throughout their freshman and Junior years.

October 28, 1961, was the final registration for the now presently seniors. As we returned with a steadfast determination, we found a change in our faculty due to an increased staff and the resignation of the school president, Arnold F. Waring.

Since we have begun as seniors, much progress has developed: dangerous boardwalks have been replaced with new concrete sidewalks; improved living quarters for two faculty members and their wives; a new bell system; and plastering of the furnace room and dining area ceilings. All made possible as God's people have sacrificed their time, talent and money.

We are remembering, as the "Torchbearers" goes to press, what God has done, and are trusting Him for the same in the coming days as we go forth with the sole determination within our hearts, to "burn out for the Master."