WHAT DOES IT TAKE?

by William Standish Reed, M.D., M.S., Founder and President of CMF

Poet Edgar A. Guest once wrote, "It takes a heap a living to make a house a home." Doubtless, many have written statements about "it takes." It takes quite a man to win ten gold medals at the Olympics. It takes quite a woman (John Wesley's mother) to have 20 children, one a preacher and one a poet. It takes a real hero to survive the jungles of Vietnam and the subsequent desecration of his patriotism. It takes quite an American (Billy Graham) to lead tens of thousands of his followers to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

President Clinton's wife has informed America that "It takes a village to raise a child." Senator Dole has countered with "It takes a family to raise a child." Certainly the local or the global village has no record of the production of any great men or women. There is the requirement in the main of a loving, caring, praying mother. The ideal is to have a strong and able father in the picture, but somehow father is not as important as mother.

The making of great human beings often involves the presence of a discerning, helpful school teacher. It was thus with me, along with God's gift of a happy family. Most of those of my generation, now fading into the prospects of the life to come, were products of the American home, the American public school, and the American church. Look around and see what the first and second generations of the twentieth century have produced. It has been quite a century.

It took the Christian churches in America to build most of its universities and hospitals. It took physicians and researchers educated in a Christian society to develop thoracic and cardiovascular surgery. It took the great pulpits and the great expounders of God's Word to form the foundation of true hope throughout the century.

Now we must look to a new expression: "It will take." It will take a rediscovery of The Faith once given to the saints to save the republic. It will take a rebirth of Americanism and a cessation of globalism to shore up our faltering society. It will take a consecration of imagination to put the factories of northeastern America back to work. It will take compassion, strength, and the agape love of God and fellowman to rid the Nation of violence and animalism. In Hawaii, I learned, "The land is preserved in righteousness." "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." (Proverbs 14:34) In the 1832 Methodist-Episcopal "Discipline", it is written that the object of the church, since 1769 in America, was to "proclaim holiness and to save souls across the land." It will take a re-institution of these kinds of American life principles to allow America to safely end this century.

At Christian Medical Foundation, never have there been so many invitations to proclaim Jesus Christ in American Medicine. Never have there been so many physicians, residents, and medical students, as nurses, seeking God and Holy Spirit power. Never have the opportunities been so great, not only in America but across the world. We are accepting the challenges. We are proclaiming the cause of Christ as never before. We are also looking for the coming of the Messiah.

For those who have been lukewarm or on the fence, the time has come to join in the great company who will lead America, Canada, and God's people across the world into the new century. It will take courage, prayerful meditation and divine guidance, the power of the Holy Spirit, a people with the gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit in their lives, holiness and righteousness, humility, and love. Beyond all of this, it will take self-sacrifice, generosity, a spirit of giving, and a recapturing of enthusiasm and of the great vision first seen as our ancestors stepped forth on Plymouth Rock to begin this great experiment of divine love. "America, America, God shed His grace on thee..."

William Standish Reed

PLEASE NOTE: This is a personal plea from Doctor Bill Reed simply asking you who can to give a generous tax-deductible gift to CMF immediately. Your check sacrificially given now will help tremendously to assuage an emergency need of the Foundation. Please pray and ask Jesus what He would have you do. God bless you. If you cannot give—please pray.
Dear Friends of the Littlest Angel,

Christmas in September has arrived at the Littlest Angel with our annual Doctors Conference just around the corner. It is a time each year when the shop comes alive with exciting new merchandise including wonderful books for the entire family. We are trimming our Christmas tree with its magical, beautiful ornaments and angels. The Seraphim Collection from Roman is a favorite again this year featuring "Gabriel" as one of the newest additions to the Collection and the Holy Family.

Bob and Wolfgang have completed the "outside face-lift" of the shop and grounds. Thanks to the many friends of the Littlest Angel who helped us with the renovation and with your gifts of love.

As you know, the Sun Ray Angel was the original angel of the shop. It was my joy to send to each one who helped us a Sun Ray Angel in thanks, and a reminder to pray for the work of CMF as we reach out to the Medical world with the Gospel of our precious Lord in these threatening days of uncertainty. God bless you all.

Ephesians 3:20

Kay

P.S. If Bob or I can help you with gift selections, please call (813) 930-0714 or 932-3688. It would be our pleasure to assist you.

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Address Correction Requested

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