

What Sort of Persons Ought You to Be?

¹ A time of accounting draws near for all mankind. The Bible calls it "the day of Jehovah." It is the time when divine judgment will be executed against the wicked; it is also a time of deliverance for the righteous. All persons then alive will be called to account for the way they have used their lives. With that in mind, Peter raises a probing question: "What sort of persons ought you to be?" He stresses the importance of 'holy acts of conduct, deeds of godly devotion, and keeping close in mind Jehovah's day,' as well as the need to be 'spotless, unblemished, and in peace.'—2 Pet. 3:11-14.

² **Holy Acts of Conduct and Deeds of Godly Devotion:** Holy conduct includes exemplary works that show respect for Bible principles. (Titus 2:7, 8) A Christian must avoid worldly conduct that is motivated by selfish, fleshly desires.—Rom. 13:11, 14.

³ "Godly devotion" is described as "a personal attachment to God, springing from a heart stirred by a deep appreciation for his appealing qualities." Our

zeal in the ministry is an outstanding way that we manifest this quality. Our motive in preaching goes beyond a mere sense of duty; it springs from a deep-seated love for Jehovah. (Mark 12:29, 30) Being motivated by such love, we view our ministry as a meaningful expression of our godly devotion. Since our devotion must be constant, our share in the preaching work should be consistent. It should be an integral part of our weekly schedule of activity.—Heb. 13:15.

⁴ Keeping Jehovah's day "close in mind" means keeping it foremost in our daily thoughts, never relegating it to a place of insignificance in the background. It means keeping Kingdom interests first in our lives.—Matt. 6:33.

⁵ **Spotless, Unblemished, and in Peace:** As part of the great crowd, we have 'washed our robes and made them white in the Lamb's blood.' (Rev. 7:14) Being "spotless" means, then, that we must steadfastly guard against our clean, dedicated lives being sprinkled with impurities from the world. We keep

ourselves "unblemished" by refusing to let ungodly, materialistic pursuits disfigure our Christian personality. (Jas. 1:27; 1 John 2:15-17) We demonstrate that we are living "in peace" by reflecting "the peace of God" in all our dealings with others.—Phil. 4:7; Rom. 12:18; 14:19.

⁶ If we successfully guard against worldly contamination, we will never be "fashioned after this system of things," which has been condemned by Jehovah. Rather, our fine works will help others see the distinction "between one serving God and one who has not served him."—Rom. 12:2; Mal. 3:18.

⁷ Most of us have attended the "Joyful Praisers" District Convention, and the refreshing spiritual food has undoubtedly intensified our desire to demonstrate our godly devotion. Many new ones share this desire. We can be a blessing by helping them to participate in field service during August.

⁸ Jehovah's name is magnified, the congregation is strengthened, and others are benefited when we conscientiously maintain "fine works." (1 Pet. 2:12) May we always be that sort of person.

Christian Conduct in School

¹ If you are a Christian youth still in school, you need strong faith to keep your integrity. You are being exposed to bad associates and to situations that can test your faith. It is important that you apply Peter's counsel to "maintain your conduct fine among the nations, that . . . they may as a result of your fine works of which they are eyewitnesses glorify God." (1 Pet. 2:12) You need courage and determination to meet this challenge.

² In or out of school, you are bombarded by the contaminating influences of premarital sex, obscene language, tobacco, and abuse of drugs. Every day, you encounter temptations that threaten to corrupt your record of good conduct. Like adults, you must "put up a hard fight for the faith" if you are to endure such trials.—Jude 3; see July 15, 1991, *Watchtower*, pages 23-6.

³ At school, there are patriotic ceremonies and worldly holidays. Do you know what national and religious holidays are promoted in your school? If a

challenging situation arises, could you "hold a good conscience, so that . . . they may get ashamed who are speaking slightly of your good conduct?"—1 Pet. 3:16.

⁴ You may be tempted by the lure of school sports activities or social gatherings. You must be alert to recognize how these seemingly enjoyable activities can compromise your faith. There is a need to choose associates with whom you can enjoy "an interchange of encouragement," each one being built up through the other's faith.—Rom. 1:12.

⁵ **You Can Endure, With Jehovah's Help:** Satan is constantly testing your faith. The trials you must endure can be severe, but the rewards make it all worthwhile. (1 Pet. 1:6, 7) You cannot successfully endure on your own; you must look to Jehovah for help. Jesus urged his disciples: "Keep on the watch and pray continually, that you may not enter into temptation." (Matt. 26:41) Discipline and self-control are vital.—1 Cor. 9:27.

⁶ Always remember that you are accountable to Jehovah for your conduct. (Eccl. 11:9) Even though what you do may not be observed by others, Jehovah is aware of what you do and will render judgment. (Heb. 4:13) A sincere desire to please him should move you to 'work out your salvation with fear and trembling.' (Phil. 2:12) Reading God's Word daily is a great help. It is filled with excellent counsel and fine examples to imitate.—Heb. 12:1-3.

⁷ Parents, you play a vital role. You need to supervise your children, be aware of problems they face, and provide help when it is needed. Do you have a good rapport with your children? Have you inculcated in them an appreciative understanding of God's laws and principles? When faced with pressures or temptations, are your children strong, or do they give up easily? Do they get discouraged because they have to be different from their peers? As parents, you have the responsibility to help them. (Deut. 6:6, 7) If you do your job well, you can help them be victorious in the fight for the faith.—Prov. 22:6.

SERVICE MEETINGS FOR AUGUST

Week Starting August 7

Song 118

10 min: Local announcements. Selected Announcements from *Our Kingdom Ministry*. Point out articles in current issues of the magazines that might be featured in presentations.

15 min: "What Sort of Persons Ought You to Be?" Questions and answers.

20 min: "Be Teachers of God's Word—Using Brochures." Brother assigned this part will discuss with two or three other publishers various features of the brochures. They will then practice their presentations with one another. Song 137 and concluding prayer.

Week Starting August 14

Song 124

5 min: Local announcements. Accounts report.

10 min: Make the Best Use of School. Elder demonstrates how a parent might talk to teenage son or daughter about selecting study courses in school. Discuss need to choose subjects that will help in pursuing a

career in the ministry.—See November 1, 1992, *Watchtower*, pages 16-18, paragraphs 3-11.

15 min: "Parents Who Rejoice!" Talk by elder. Include comments from August 15, 1987, *Watchtower*, pages 13-15, paragraphs 14-23.

15 min: "Christian Conduct in School." Questions and answers. Encourage parents to review the July 15, 1991, *Watchtower*, pages 23-6, with their children, especially the portions dealing with issues the children are likely to encounter.

Song 157 and concluding prayer.

Week Starting August 21

Song 148

10 min: Local announcements. "New Special Assembly Day Program." If it is known, announce date of next assembly. Encourage all to attend.

15 min: "Offering Ourselves Willingly for Every Good Work." Enthusiastic talk by elder on paragraphs 1-9.

20 min: "Offering Ourselves Willingly for Every Good Work." Question-and-answer coverage of paragraphs 10-15.

Point out local needs and ways that all can provide assistance.

Song 156 and concluding prayer.

Week Starting August 28

Song 173

10 min: Local announcements. Announce special field service arrangements for September 4.

15 min: "Successful Return Visits Require Effective Teaching." Review main points and have one or two brief demonstrations.

20 min: Offer the *Live Forever Book* During September. Explain how this book plays an important role in delivering Jehovah's judgment message. (See the April 1, 1988, *Watchtower*, pages 25-6, paragraphs 17-18.) Relate experience in paragraphs 3-4 on page 15 of the April 1, 1992, *Watchtower*. Call attention to striking illustrations appearing on pages 3, 11-13, and 156-8 of the book. Discuss ways these illustrations can be used to initiate conversations. Have a capable publisher demonstrate a brief presentation using one of the Scripture texts featured on pages 156-8. Emphasize the goal of trying to start Bible studies. Remind all to pick up copies for use this weekend.

Song 178 and concluding prayer.

Parents Who Rejoice!

¹ If you are a young person living in a Christian home, there is a special way you can make your parents happy. If you pursue a righteous course, "your father and your mother will rejoice." (Prov. 23:22-25) Your parents naturally want the best for you. Nothing could please them more than to see you make the truth your own and dedicate your life to Jehovah.

² You can be thankful to have parents who are in the truth. From your birth, they have fed, clothed, and housed you as well as nursed you through times of sickness. Even more important, they have endeavored to teach you about Jehovah and his righteous ways; this is training that can ensure your everlasting life. (Eph. 6:1-4) How can you show your appreciation?

³ **Make the Truth Your Own:** Your parents have tried to teach you to take the truth seriously, make spiritual progress, and keep close to Jehovah's organization. You can show appreciation by taking an interest in the family study without having to be

coerced. Demonstrate a desire to attend meetings, taking the initiative on your own to get ready so that the family can arrive on time. Sit with your parents during the meetings, and pay close attention by following along in the publications being studied. Reach out for a share in the meetings by commenting. Show yourself to be a willing student in the Theocratic Ministry School, accepting assignments and doing your best to fulfill them. Volunteer to help care for tasks around the Kingdom Hall, where your assistance would be useful. Involvement in such activities can keep your heart focused on what is good for you spiritually.

⁴ **Set Progressive Goals:** Reach out for a meaningful share in field service, showing a desire to qualify as a publisher. Keep up with the weekly Bible reading or, even better yet, read the entire Bible on your own. Make up your mind that you are going to meet the requirements for dedication and baptism. Your parents can help you to plan your curriculum in school carefully, with a view toward acquiring training that will

equip you for a full share in Jehovah's service. Concentrate on developing the kind of reputation that will prompt others to recommend you for special privileges such as pioneering or Bethel service. (Acts 16:1, 2) Achieving goals can help you "make sure of the more important things, so that you may be . . . filled with righteous fruit."—Phil. 1:10, 11.

⁵ Youth is a time to learn, to gain experience, and to acquire skills in dealing with others. It is a time when you can enjoy life without all of the pressures and responsibilities that come with adulthood. Solomon said: "Rejoice, young man, in your youth, and let your heart do you good in the days of your young manhood." (Eccl. 11:9) If you set your heart on serving Jehovah in your youth, you will reap blessings that will last forever.—1 Chron. 28:9.

⁶ If you "pursue righteousness" instead of "the desires incidental to youth," you will relieve your parents of a heavy burden of anxiety and heartache. (2 Tim. 2:22) You will give your own heart cause to rejoice. (Prov. 12:25) Most of all, you will bring joy to your Creator, Jehovah God.—Prov. 27:11.

Offering Ourselves Willingly for Every Good Work

¹ A worldly publication made reference to Jehovah's Witnesses, saying: "It would be difficult to find members of any other group who work as hard at their religion as do the Witnesses." Why do Jehovah's Witnesses work so hard and with such a willing spirit?

² One reason is that they are imbued with a sense of urgency. Jesus recognized that he had a limited time in which to finish his work on earth. (John 9:4) While the glorified Son of God goes subduing in the midst of his enemies today, Jehovah's people realize that they have a limited time to do their work. Therefore, they keep offering themselves willingly for sacred service. (Ps. 110: 1-3) With more workers needed to bring in the harvest, there can be no letup in their efforts. (Matt. 9:37, 38) Hence, they endeavor to imitate Jesus, who set a perfect example of willingness and diligence in his work.—John 5:17.

³ Another reason Jehovah's Witnesses work wholeheartedly as to Jehovah is that their worldwide organization is different from all other groups. Worldly religious organizations typically require only a minimum of time and effort from their adherents. What they believe has little or no effect on their daily lives, their dealings with others, or their pursuits in life. Lacking the motivating power of true faith, they have insisted that their shepherds "speak to them smooth things," assuring them that their token effort is sufficient. (Isa. 30:10) Their clergy have obliged by "tickling their ears," instilling a spirit of apathy and spiritual laziness.—2 Tim. 4:3.

⁴ What a contrast among Jehovah's people! Everything about our worship involves effort, exertion, and work. Every day and in everything we do, we practice what we believe. While the truth brings us much joy, it involves "a great deal of struggling" for us to fulfill what it requires. (Compare 1 Thessalonians 2:2.) Just caring for the responsibilities of daily living is enough to keep most people busy. However, we do not allow these concerns to prevent us from putting Kingdom interests first.—Matt. 6:33.

⁵ What we are given to do in Jehovah's service is so beneficial and urgent that we are moved to 'buy out' time from other pursuits and use it more profitably on spiritual matters. (Eph. 5:16) Knowing that our godly devotion and willing spirit please Jehovah, we have the greatest incentive to keep on with our hard work. With the rich blessings we receive now and prospects of the life to come, our determination is to continue "working hard and exerting ourselves" in behalf of Kingdom interests.—1 Tim. 4:10.

⁶ **Devotion and the Spirit of Self-Sacrifice:** Most people today give material needs and interests priority over everything else. They feel fully justified in focusing attention on what they will eat, drink, or wear. (Matt. 6:31) Not being content with necessities, they are motivated by the goal of enjoying good living to the full now and 'having many good things laid up for many years, so they can take their ease, eat, drink, and enjoy themselves.' (Luke 12:19) The typical churchgoer feels that

any personal effort required by his religion is an encroachment upon his rights. The idea of abandoning or even curtailing some materialistic pursuit or giving up a pleasurable interest is repugnant. With his thinking centered upon himself, cultivating a spirit of self-sacrifice is unreal, impractical.

⁷ We view this matter differently. God's Word has elevated our thinking so that we think God's thoughts instead of those of men. (Isa. 55:8, 9) We have goals in life that transcend fleshly pursuits. The vindication of Jehovah's sovereignty and the sanctification of his name are the most important issues in the entire universe. The magnitude of these issues is so great that, in comparison, all the nations "are as something nonexistent in front of him." (Isa. 40:17) Any attempt to live our lives in a way that ignores God's will must be viewed as foolishness.—1 Cor. 3:19.

⁸ So while some material things are needed and others are useful in carrying on our Kingdom activities, we perceive that these are not really "the more important things." (Phil. 1:10) We adhere to the spirit of 1 Timothy 6:8 in limiting our pursuit of material interests and wisely endeavoring to keep our hearts focused on 'the things unseen that are everlasting.'—2 Cor. 4:18.

⁹ The more we think God's thoughts, the less anxiety we have about material things. When we contemplate what Jehovah has done for us already and the marvelous blessings he has promised for the future, we are willing to make any sacrifice he asks of us. (Mark 10:29, 30) We owe our very existence to him. Were it not for his mercy and love, we would have no enjoyment of life now and no future whatever. We feel obliged to give of ourselves, since everything we are doing in his service 'is what we *ought* to be doing.' (Luke 17:10) Anything we are asked to give back to Jehovah, we part with cheerfully, knowing that we will "reap bountifully."—2 Cor. 9:6, 7.

¹⁰ **Willing Workers Are Needed Now:** From its very beginning, the Christian congregation entered into a period of intense activity. A thorough witness had to be given before the overthrow of Jerusalem in 70 C.E. During that time Jesus' disciples were "intensely occupied with the word." (Acts 18:5) Rapid expansion made it necessary to train more evangelizers and skilled shepherds and to enlist their help. Men with experience in dealing with secular authorities as well as capable ones able to supervise the collection and distribution of material things were needed. (Acts 6:1-6; Eph. 4:11) While a few served prominently, most remained in the background. But all of them 'exerted themselves vigorously,' working together wholeheartedly to get the work done.—Luke 13:24.

¹¹ Although there was relatively little need for vigorous activity on a worldwide scale during the many centuries that followed, a great revival of Kingdom activity began when Jesus took his Kingdom power in 1914. At first, few realized that the need for workers in behalf of Kingdom interests would become so great, requiring

the help of millions of willing ones in lands all around the globe.

¹² Today the organization is deeply involved in a great variety of projects that have taxed our resources to their limits. Kingdom activity is moving ahead on a grand scale. The urgency of our times moves us to exert ourselves and to use every asset at our disposal to accomplish the work at hand. With the end of the entire wicked system of things drawing so near, we anticipate even more intense activity in the days ahead. Every dedicated servant of Jehovah is being called upon to offer himself willingly in the urgent ingathering work.

¹³ **What Needs to Be Done?** We can truthfully say that there is "plenty to do in the work of the Lord." (1 Cor. 15:58) In many territories the harvest is ripe, but the workers are few. We are invited to do our part not only in being more thorough in witnessing throughout our own territory but also in meeting the challenge of serving where there is a greater need.

¹⁴ It is commendable to see how Witnesses in all parts of the world offer themselves willingly for other activities. These may range from volunteering in the construction of places of worship, serving at conventions, and assisting with relief efforts in times of disaster to cleaning the local Kingdom Hall on a regular basis. In connection with the latter activity, there is the matter of always making sure the Kingdom Hall is left in a clean and orderly condition after each meeting. Completing tasks that may be considered menial demonstrates a proper understanding of Jesus' words at Luke 16:10: "The person faithful in what is least is faithful also in much, and the person unrighteous in what is least is unrighteous also in much."

■ Giving Support to the Activities of the Congregation: While each congregation functions as part of the overall organization and receives direction from "the faithful and discreet slave," it is made up of individual Kingdom publishers. (Matt. 24:45) Its accomplishments depend largely on how much each Witness is willing and able to do. The congregation focuses on getting the good news preached in its territory, making new disciples, and then strengthening them spiritually. Each one of us can contribute toward this work. We can also set goals for ourselves in personal study, meaningful participation in the meetings, and assistance to others in need within the congregation. These activities offer many fine opportunities for us to demonstrate our willingness.

■ Taking the Lead in Positions of Oversight: Jehovah has entrusted the supervision of each congregation to its appointed elders. (Acts 20:28) These are men who have reached out in order to qualify for this privilege. (1 Tim. 3:1) Virtually every brother in the congregation has some potential for qualifying for greater responsibilities. Many brothers are developing spiritually and need to keep growing under the guidance and loving assistance of the congregation elders. These men should be diligent students of the Bible and our publications. They can demonstrate their willingness by being submissive to the spirit-appointed elders, imitating their faith, and cultivating the qualities looked for in overseers.—Heb. 13:7, 17.

■ Taking Up the Full-Time Service: The congregation functions primarily to preach the good news. (Matt. 24:14) What a blessing when zealous ones intensify their efforts by enrolling as pioneers! This usually involves making adjustments in their personal life. Additional adjustments may be required for them to continue in this special field of service. But those who hold on to this privilege instead of giving up after a year or so because of some temporary discouragement are sure to experience Jehovah's rich blessing. Loving elders and other mature ones can contribute to the success of the pioneers, encouraging them by word and deed. What a fine spirit is demonstrated by young people who go directly into the pioneer work upon finishing school! The same is true of adults who enroll as regular pioneers as soon as their secular obligations are reduced. What satisfaction it brings to a dedicated Christian when he thus cooperates with Jehovah's speeding up of the ingathering work!—Isa. 60:22.

■ Sharing in the Construction and Maintenance of Meeting Places: Literally hundreds of modern Kingdom Halls as well as many Assembly Halls have been constructed. Amazingly, almost all the work has been done by our brothers and sisters who have willingly volunteered their time and skills. (1 Chron. 28:21) Thousands of willing workers keep these facilities in good repair by performing whatever tasks may be required. (2 Chron. 34:8) Since this work is one aspect of sacred service, those assisting offer themselves willingly, not asking to be reimbursed for their service in this regard, any more than they would ask to be paid to preach from house to house, give public talks in the congregation, or help with assembly or convention work. These volunteers freely offer their services in planning and constructing places of worship to Jehovah's praise. They eagerly assist with such things as completing legal documents, keeping records of accounts, making purchasing contacts, and calculating the amount of materials needed. These loyal servants of Jehovah do not add some type of overhead charge or in any way seek to profit materially either directly or indirectly from services they render, since all their talents and resources are dedicated to Jehovah. (See February 1992 *Our Kingdom Ministry*, page 4, paragraph 10.) This activity requires diligent workers who perform their services "whole-souled as to Jehovah."—Col. 3:23.

¹⁵ What is it, then, that makes the willingness of Jehovah's people unique? It is the spirit of *giving*. Their generous giving involves more than money or material things—they "offer themselves willingly." (Ps. 110:3) This is the essence of our dedication to Jehovah. We are rewarded in a special way. We experience "more happiness" and we "reap bountifully" because what we do is appreciated by others, who give to us in return. (Acts 20:35; 2 Cor. 9:6; Luke 6:38) Our greatest Benefactor is our heavenly Father, Jehovah, who "loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9:7) He will repay us a hundredfold, with blessings that will last forever. (Mal. 3:10; Rom. 6:23) So when privileges in Jehovah's service are made available to you, will you volunteer yourself willingly and answer as did Isaiah: "Here I am! Send me?"—Isa. 6:8.

Closed-book review on material covered in Theocratic Ministry School assignments for the weeks of May 1 to August 21, 1995. Use a separate sheet of paper to write down answers to as many of the questions as you can in the time allotted.

[Note: During the written review, only the Bible may be used to answer any question. References that follow the questions are for your personal research. Page and paragraph numbers may not appear on all references to *The Watchtower*.]

Answer each of the following statements True or False:

1. Worship of God is a personal matter and does not depend in any way on our relationship with others. (1 John 4:20) [*uw* p. 134 par. 7]
2. The governing body's counsel to Gentile Christians that they abstain from idolatry, blood, and fornication was based on the Mosaic Law. (Acts 15: 28, 29) [*uw* p. 149 par. 8]
3. Originally, the Law of Moses was to be binding on all mankind. (Ps. 147: 19, 20) [*uw* p. 147 par. 5]
4. Chapter 53 of Isaiah, written some 700 years before the birth of Christ, is like a vivid eyewitness account describing Jesus Christ and the way that he was treated. [*si* p. 119 par. 8]
5. Brother Russell expressed deep disappointment that he was not taken to heaven in 1914. [*ju* p. 62 par. 3]
6. There is no worldly source that can equal the sound advice that the Bible gives on family matters. [*uw* p. 144 par. 11]
7. The book of Proverbs gets to the heart of our problems in counseling that we put our complete trust in God. [*si* p. 111 par. 35]
8. At a convention held in Washington, D.C., in 1935, it was pointed out clearly that the modern-day Jonadabs did not have to show the same degree of faithfulness to Jehovah as do the anointed. [*ju* p. 83 par. 5, p. 84 par. 1]
9. When problems arise in marriage, a true Christian will not seize on his mate's shortcomings as an excuse for

sidestepping his own responsibilities. [*uw* pp. 140-1 pars. 4, 5]

10. Solomon's declaration in the book of Ecclesiastes that all is vanity applies to everything without exception. [*si* p. 114 par. 15]

Answer the following questions:

11. What bold educational venture did Brother Russell and his associates embark on in 1912? [*ju* p. 59 par. 5, p. 60 footnote]
12. What did the tests that came upon the Bible Students from 1914 to 1918 reveal? [*ju* p. 61 par. 1]
13. What highly significant milestone was reached at a convention held in Columbus, Ohio, in 1931? (Isa. 43:12) [*ju* p. 79 par. 4, p. 82 par. 2]
14. What Scriptural insight was revealed in 1942 in the talk "Peace—Can It Last?," and why was the title of this talk so thought provoking? [*ju* p. 93 par. 2]
15. In 1943, congregations were urged to start what new school, leading to what result? [*ju* p. 94 pars. 2, 3]
16. In addition to blood transfusion, name three other ways that a person could become bloodguilty before God. [*uw* pp. 155-6 pars. 3-6]
17. In harmony with Proverbs 1:2-4, what does the book of Proverbs highlight? [*si* p. 109 par. 19]
18. Name two sound-transmitting mediums that the Society used extensively in the 1920's and 1930's to get the good news preached. [*ju* pp. 80-1, 87]
19. When did the first Kingdom Ministry

School class begin, and what was its purpose? [*jv* p. 102 par. 3]

20. What practical lessons are taught in the beautiful Song of Solomon? [*si* p. 117 par. 16]

Provide the word(s) or phrase needed to complete each of the following statements:

21. Brother Russell finished his earthly course October 31, 1916, and _____ became the next president of the Society. [*jv* p. 63 par. 3, p. 65 par. 2]
22. In 1917 and 1918, the Bible Students energetically distributed the book _____, and because of clergy-inspired opposition, Brother Rutherford and seven associates found themselves in the _____ in Atlanta, Georgia. [*jv* p. 69 par. 3, p. 70 par. 1]
23. In a letter that was read to the brothers assembled for the annual meeting of the Watch Tower Society in 1919, Brother Rutherford wrote from prison that "Satan's chief weapons are _____, _____, and _____." [*jv* p. 72 par. 3, p. 73 par. 7]
24. In 1922 at the international convention at Cedar Point, Ohio, Brother Rutherford declared: "The world must know that Jehovah is God and that Jesus Christ is King of kings . . . Therefore _____, _____, _____, the _____ and his _____." [*jv* p. 72 par. 1]
25. Brother Rutherford finished his earthly course on January 8, 1942, and five days later, Brother _____ became president of the Society. [*jv* p. 89 par. 3, p. 90 par. 3]

Select the correct answer in each of the following statements:

26. Gilead school for missionaries was established in (1919; 1935; 1943). [*jv* p. 95 par. 2]
27. The *New World Translation of the Christian Greek Scriptures* was first released in (1946; 1950; 1953), and in it the divine name, Jehovah, was restored

a total of (154; 193; 237) times. [*jv* p. 99 par. 2]

28. Evidence that Solomon was the writer of Ecclesiastes can be seen in that (his name occurs throughout the book; writers of other Bible books name him as its writer; the book itself establishes Solomon as the writer without naming him). [*si* p. 112 par. 4]
29. In 1932 it was explained that Jehonadab (Jonadab), King Jehu's associate, prefigured a class of people who would (compose a secondary heavenly class; enjoy everlasting life on earth; not take a firm stand for the truth). [*jv* p. 83 par. 3]
30. The Song of Solomon highlights (Solomon's role as king; Solomon's great riches; a country girl's faithfulness to a shepherd boy). [*si* p. 115 par. 2]

Match the following scriptures to the statements listed below:

Prov. 22:3; Eccl. 7:21, 22; Isa. 13:19, 20; Matt. 5:23, 24; Col. 3:18-20, 23, 24

31. Though Jehovah does not automatically protect his people from accidents, civil strife, or crime, the exercising of Bible-based practical wisdom can be of value. [Weekly Bible reading; see *w*92 1/1 p. 17 par. 23.]
32. There is good reason never to doubt the fulfillment of inspired prophecy. [Weekly Bible reading; see *w*93 5/15 p. 6.]
33. A true Christian goes out of his way to promote peaceful relations with his brothers. [*uw* p. 135 par. 10]
34. Progress in family relations comes, not by each one waiting for the other person to do something, but by each one doing his own part well, thus showing that he personally practices godly devotion at home. [*uw* p. 143 par. 10]
35. Do not unrealistically expect perfection of yourself or of your relationships with other imperfect humans. [Weekly Bible reading; see *w*90 3/1 p. 8.]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ Literature to be used during **August**: Any of the following 32-page brochures may be used: *Does God Really Care About Us?*, *Enjoy Life on Earth Forever!*, *"Look! I Am Making All Things New," Should You Believe in the Trinity?*, *The Divine Name That Will Endure Forever*, *The Government That Will Bring Paradise*, *What Is the Purpose of Life—How Can You Find It?*, and *When Someone You Love Dies*. **September**: The *Live Forever* book will be used. Efforts should be made to start home Bible studies. **October**: Subscriptions for either *Awake!* or *The Watchtower*. Make special effort to place copies of the magazines. Subscriptions may be offered on return visits. **November**: Offer the *New World Translation* with the book *The Bible—God's Word or Man's?* NOTE: Congregations that have not yet requested the above-mentioned campaign items should do so on their next monthly Literature Request Form (S-14).

■ An adequate supply of forms for use during the 1996 service year is being sent to each congregation. These forms should not be wasted. They should be used only for their intended purpose.

■ Each congregation will receive three Literature Inventory forms (S(d)-18).

The congregation secretary should meet with the literature servant early in August and set a date for taking inventory of the congregation's stock of literature at the end of the month. An actual count must be made of all literature in stock, and the totals are to be entered on the Literature Inventory form. The total number of magazines on hand can be obtained from the magazine servant. Please mail the original to the Society no later than September 6. Keep a carbon copy for your files. The third copy may be used as a work sheet. The inventory should be supervised by the secretary, and the completed form should be checked by the presiding overseer. The secretary and the presiding overseer will sign the form.

■ Congregations should begin requesting the 1996 *Calendar of Jehovah's Witnesses* with their September literature request. The calendars will be available in Chinese, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, and Ukrainian.

■ From August 29, 1995, to September 1, 1995, the Society will be taking an inventory of all literature on hand in Brooklyn. Because of this inventory, no

congregation literature requests will be processed for shipment or for pickup during those days.

■ New Publications Available:
Revelation—Its Grand Climax At Hand! —Ukrainian

United in Worship of the Only True God —Chinese (Simplified)

Watch Tower Publications Index 1991-1993 —Spanish

Watch Tower Publications Index 1991-1994 —English

What Hope for Dead Loved Ones? (Tract No. 16) —Indonesian

What Is the Purpose of Life—How Can You Find It? —Macedonian

Why Should We Worship God in Love and Truth? (for Hindus) —Punjabi

Will There Ever Be a World Without War? (for Jews) —Italian, Portuguese

■ New Audiocassettes Available:
Doing What Is Right in Jehovah's Eyes —Japanese

Genesis (set of four audiocassettes) —Swedish

The Second to the Corinthians, To the Galatians (single audiocassette) —Portuguese

■ New Videocassettes Available:
The Bible—Accurate History, Reliable Prophecy —Japanese

New Special Assembly Day Program

¹ Why should we declare the good news without letup? What are the requirements for being a preacher of the good news? How can even shy or timid ones take the initiative in sharing the good news with others? These and other thought-provoking questions will be answered in the special assembly day program starting in September, with the theme "Qualified as Ministers of the Good News." —Compare 2 Corinthians 3:5.

² As Jehovah's people, we must be circumspect about our behavior. Encouraging experiences will be given by young people who will relate how they have resisted peer pressure. Parents will be provided with loving encouragement regarding the need to train their children as ministers of God. All of us will be helped to appreciate the necessity to preach and the blessings that accrue both to ourselves and to those who listen to us. —1 Tim. 4:16.

³ Surely the baptism will be a highlight of the day. Prior to this event, a

Bible-based talk will be directed specifically to newly dedicated persons. Of course, all present will want to pay careful attention as the subject of baptism is discussed and its meaning made clear. Any who desire to be baptized at the special assembly day should make this known to the presiding overseer well in advance so that he will have sufficient time to arrange for elders to review the designated questions with baptismal candidates.

⁴ Another highlight will be the principal talk delivered by a guest speaker. It is entitled "Qualified and Equipped as God's Ministers." Four main provisions that equip us as ministers will be discussed, and the talk will include faith-building experiences.

⁵ Plan now to be in attendance for the entire program. Be sure to invite interested persons and Bible students so that they too can benefit from this day of theocratic education. In this way we can make sure that we are "adequately qualified" as ministers of the good news.

CONGREGATION BOOK STUDY

Schedule for congregation studies in the book *Revelation—Its Grand Climax At Hand!*

	From:	To:
August 7:	p. 167, ¶ 19	p. 171, ¶ 29
August 14:	p. 171, ¶ 1	p. 175, ¶ 11
August 21:	p. 175, ¶ 12	p. 178, ¶ 6
August 28:	p. 178, ¶ 7	p. 182, ¶ 20

MAY SERVICE REPORT

Number of:	Av. Hrs.	Av. Mags.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bt.St.	
Sp'l Pios.	189	125.3	53.7	47.6	5.0
Pios.	71,313	82.3	24.6	22.4	2.5
Aux. Pios.	46,719	59.1	15.9	12.3	1.1
Pubs.	812,008	11.4	4.1	3.4	0.4
TOTAL	930,229	Baptized: 2,280			

Jehovah has richly blessed our united efforts in presenting *Kingdom News* No. 34. Our diligent efforts have resulted in congregation publishers averaging 11.4 hours in the ministry. We pray Jehovah's continued blessing on our work of following up the interest shown by those contacted during the campaign.

Be Teachers of God's Word —Using Brochures

¹ Every dedicated servant of Jehovah has a responsibility to share in the work of teaching the Word of God to others. The seriousness of this responsibility becomes clear when we appreciate that it is the one with all authority in heaven and on the earth who has given us the commission to "make disciples of people of all the nations, . . . teaching them." (Matt. 28:18-20) So, sharing in the preaching of the good news requires that we become teachers!—2 Tim. 2:2.

² During August we can use our teaching skills when offering brochures. We can pick out some interesting Scriptural thoughts in them and prepare a few comments that will help us get a conversation started.

³ *When offering the brochure "Does God Really Care About Us?" you could say:*

■ "We have called on many of your neighbors and found that they are concerned about the sharp increase in crime, terrorism, and violence. In your

opinion, why has this become such a problem? [Allow for response.] It is of special interest to us that the Bible predicted this would happen. [Read 2 Timothy 3:1-3.] Note that this is to take place in 'the last days.' This implies that something is about to come to an end. What do you think it is?" Allow for response. Turn to page 22, point out the illustration, and discuss one or two scriptures quoted on that page. Make arrangements to return later to explain why we believe these blessings are near at hand.

⁴ *You might like to use this approach when offering the brochure "What Is the Purpose of Life—How Can You Find It?":*

■ "Many people experience difficulty in trying to find a real purpose in living. While a few enjoy some limited happiness, most live lives that are filled with disappointment and suffering. Do you think this is the way God intended for us to live? [Allow for response.] The Bible

shows that God wants us to live in a world like this." Point to the illustration on page 21, and then turn to pages 25 and 26, paragraphs 4-6, and explain what he has promised. Raise this question for discussion when you return: "How can we be sure that God will fulfill his promises?"

⁵ *You might offer the brochure "Enjoy Life on Earth Forever!" by displaying the full picture on the front and back covers and asking:*

■ "Would you like to live in a world full of happy people like this? [Allow for response.] The Bible tells us that God loves people and wants them to live forever in happiness on this earth." Turn to picture number 49, and read one of the cited Scripture texts. Then, point to picture number 50, and explain what we must do if we want to live in this Paradise. Offer to return and discuss why faith in Jesus Christ is so important.

⁶ Jehovah is pleased when we make our 'advancement manifest by paying attention to our teaching.' (1 Tim. 4:15, 16) Our brochures can be a real help to us in our efforts to assist those who yearn to hear "good news of something better."—Isa. 52:7.

Successful Return Visits Require Effective Teaching

¹ Return visits are an important and joyful part of our field ministry. Why should we be diligent to call back on interested ones? Jehovah's name is made known and is honored by this disciple-making work, and God-fearing ones are helped to find the way to life. (2 Cor. 2:17-3:3) Recognizing that both the sanctification of Jehovah's name and the lives of others are involved should move us to prepare well before going back.

² A good teacher will help the student build on the foundation already laid. Just as a schoolteacher builds on the knowledge students gain from day to day, we should usually follow up our initial call with further comments on the same subject. This makes for continuity of thought and for progressive thinking.

³ *When you return after placing the brochure "Does God Really Care About Us?" you may find this effective:*

■ "On my previous visit, we were discussing 'the last days' mentioned in the

Bible and what that means for us. You may wonder how we know that we are living in the last days. (2 Tim. 3:1) Jesus' disciples were anxious to get the answer to that question. [Read Matthew 24:3.] In his reply, Jesus described conditions that we see about us today. These include distress and violence as never seen before." Point out the feature of the sign discussed in paragraphs 3 and 4 on page 19. If the response is good, point out other features of the sign in paragraphs 5 to 8 on page 20. Offer to return and answer the questions raised on the front of the brochure.

⁴ *To follow up interest in the brochure "What Is the Purpose of Life—How Can You Find It?" you might say:*

■ "I have been anxious to resume our conversation about our purpose in living. I think we both agree that God intended for us to live on this earth in happy and peaceful conditions rather than in the turmoil we experience today. Do you think he will fulfill his promise?" Al-

low for response. Read Isaiah 55:11, and then discuss the thoughts in paragraphs 25 to 27 on page 30. Recommend a personal Bible study as the best way to find a worthwhile purpose in life.

⁵ *To follow up previous interest shown in the brochure "Enjoy Life on Earth Forever!" you could display it again and say:*

■ "We talked about the beautiful world depicted on the cover of this brochure. I want to tell you why faith in Jesus Christ is so important to people who want to live there." Turn to picture 41, and read Isaiah 9:6. Refer to picture 62, and read John 3:16, stressing the need for obedience. Explain that Jehovah's Witnesses are helping people learn how to exercise faith by studying the Bible and trying to live by its counsel.

⁶ After each return visit, analyze it with a view to improving your effectiveness. Ask yourself: Did I have something definite in mind to say? Did I keep attention focused on the Bible? Did I build on the foundation laid on the initial call? Was my presentation designed to lead into a Bible study? Positive answers give assurance that you are striving to be a good teacher of God's Word.