## THE FAMILY OF GOD FOUNDATION AN INTRODUCTION by Marvin Gawryn

The Family of God Foundation is an organization dedicated to proclaiming the essential truths of Jesus: that God is our perfect and loving spiritual Father, that we can experience this life-transforming truth through the decisions and actions of our personal faith, that all the people of our planet are brothers and sisters in the Father's spiritual family, that God has a specific will which is the greatest good for our lives, and He has sent a fragment of Himself to live within us, that if we choose to seek the divine will there lies before us an eternal adventure of striving to attain the supreme values of truth, beauty and goodness, and that the ultimate goal of our existence is to reach forth for the perfection of the Father in heaven. Those who work with this non-denominational, non-profit Foundation and its educational subsidiary, the Spiritual Renaissance Institute, are dedicated to fostering a worldwide awakening to spiritual truth, a dawning spiritual renaissance.

A major set of activities of the Family of God Foundation centers around its radio broadcasts, which are heard on more than 1,000 stations around the world. Some of these programs consist of spontaneous question and answer sessions originating outdoors on university campuses, while others are discourses on the dawning spiritual renaissance by Foundation President, Vern Bennom Grimsley. The broadcasts are edited to specified lengths, duplicated, and sent to the Mail Room where they are inventoried and distributed to stations. Hundreds of tapes are shipped and received weekly in a systematic mailing procedure. Listeners from around the world write to the Family of God Foundation requesting literature and counsel concerning their personal spiritual questions. Workers in the Correspondence Counselling Department answer each request with a personal letter, and respond to thousands of such inquiries each year. Personnel in the Media Relations Department keep client stations informed about listener response and other aspects of the development of the broadcast. This group is also responsible for the promotional efforts which have added scores of new stations to the broadcasting log in past months.

The Foundation crew gathers for work purposes several nights a week. Individuals work additionally on departmental projects as their schedules permit. In addition, Foundation associates participate in weekly classes and seminars on religion, philosophy and personal ministry. Other activities include personal work with students on campus, production of multi-media presentations by Cosmic Pilgrim Productions (a subsidiary of the Foundation), creation of spiritually oriented musical performances, preparation of publications, and speaking to campus and community groups around the country.

## TAMILY OF GOD NDATION CREW











OB BLACKSTOCT





























## THE FAMILY OF FOUNDATION C































As of January 1976, there are approximately thirty people working with the Family of God Foundation, most of whom live in the Berkeley or East San Francisco Bay Area. Vern Grimsley is the President of the Foundation and Director of the Spiritual Renaissance Institute. He airs the radio broadcasts, and is responsible for the purposeful and co-ordinated functioning of the Foundation. Nancy Grimsley, Vern's wife, is Secretary-Treasurer, and David Gray is Vice-President of the organization. Sixteen co-workers, who have made full and long-term commitments to the Foundation's work, share in planning for its growth, and bear chief administrative responsibilities in reaching its goals. There are from ten to fifteen other volunteers in attendance at most work sessions. In addition to the people working in Berkeley, the organization has a representative in Los Angeles, Julia Fenderson; one in Boulder, Colorado, Mo Siegel; and one in Chicago, Barbara Newsom. Richard Keeler co-ordinates efforts for the Foundation's financial support. And last--but far from least--there are the many supporters around the country whose efforts have been of inestimable value in promoting the goals of the Foundation.

All people involved with the Foundation support themselves and reside independently, and volunteer their time for the spiritual work; no one receives payment for any of the services performed. The Foundation's base of financial support is wide; by far the most frequently received donation is the small contribution from the grateful listener to the broadcast. This remains true despite the deliberate lack of any appeal for funds over the air. However, the organization's major financial support is provided by the less frequent but larger gifts given by dedicated individuals who are vitally interested in the progress of the spiritual renaissance. All money received is channelled toward the overarching goal of reaching increasing numbers of people around the planet with the soul-satisfying truth of the Universal Father's love for all of his spiritual children.

The growth of the Foundation's outreach since its chartering in 1967 has been steady and rapid. A 1967 prospectus projected two broadcasting goals: radio coverage in all fifty of the United States by the end of 1975, and global coverage by 1980. These goals were ambitious; but the first has now been realized with over 200 radio stations carrying the broadcast in North America. The second goal-global outreach--is being approached well ahead of schedule, with the broadcast already being beamed from 890 additional radio outlets around the planet. The third goal outlined in the prospectus involves the intensive training of teachers and leaders, and the beginnings of a planet-wide spiritual re-awakening by the turn of the century.

The growth continues. The Family of God Foundation is dedicated, with all the faith and energy of its participants, to the inauguration of the global spiritual renaissance: all men, women and children living together in peace and love as members in one worldwide family of God.

THE FAMILY OF GOD FOUNDATION, Box 347, Berkeley, California 94701 U.S.A.