

The Oklahoma Journal



The Paper
That Tells
Both Sides

Visitor Says Sooners Seek Personal Religion

International radio broadcaster Vern Bennom Grimsley from Berkeley, Calif., answered student questions at Oklahoma City University this week.

Grimsley, whose tape-recorded, question-and-answer sessions with students have been called "the most interesting religious radio programs on the air," is heard locally on KOMA at 7:15 Sunday mornings and on KBYE at 1:15 Saturday afternoons.

"I found Oklahoma students to be more interested in personal religion than institutional religion," Grimsley said. "I told them, better a religion without an organization than an organization without a religion."

"The shoebox is not the shoe and the plate is not the food. Neither is the structure of religion equivalent to the content of religion. The experience of God can take place either inside or outside of traditional denominations," he said.

Grimsley found a deep interest in world peace among Oklahoma students, "but a peaceful world depends on peaceful people," he said. "Only transformed individuals

can create a transformed world. Only good people can create a good society."

"The religion of the future will consist simply of the love of God and the love of people. Most high school and college young people want to see religion simplified," Grimsley said. "Jesus condensed the old Jewish teachings from 613 laws to the two commandments of loving God and loving man. Two thousand years later, the complexities of Christianity itself must be simplified to the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man."

Modern youth are returning to the simpler things: simple food, dress and lifestyle. And they want a simple religion, too. Loving God and loving people is just that — the religion of Jesus, contrasted to the many religions about Jesus, he said.

The religion of the future will envision the entire planet as one global family, the Family of God. In honor of that ideal, Grimsley has titled his work "The Family of God Foundation."

Grimsley is also director of the Spiritual Renaissance Institute in Berkeley. A Phi Beta Kappa with a university degree in philosophy, Grimsley is a former psychological researcher for the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C. His daily radio broadcasts are widely heard across the U.S. as well as in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and Canada.

As director of the institute, Grimsley has been the subject of nationwide CBS Newsfeature interviews and powerful Radio Free Europe has beamed his commentary on the future of religion behind the Iron Curtain in six languages.

"Oklahoma students were wonderfully honest, open and direct in their religious questions," Grimsley said.

One pre-medical student at OCU said that he felt continually plagued by a feeling of religious guilt. Grimsley told him, "Psychiatry tells you to master your feelings of guilt; religion tells you to master the very thoughts and actions which create

your feelings of guilt. If you become different, you will feel different. The Father of the universe loves you and forgives you. Now you must forgive yourself. Accept the fact that you are accepted, that you are an infinitely valuable child of God, with a spark of infinity within you. That faith will transform your life."

"I can believe that," the student replied. "I'll try it."



He's Helping Find God on Berkeley Campus

By FRED GARDNER
Gazette Staff Writer

Finding God on the Berkeley campus of the University of California may sound like a tough game of hide and seek, but Vern Grimsley is helping young people do it.

Grimsley, the young president of The Family of God Foundation, provides short radio programs daily, originating from the Telegraph-Bancroft entrance to the campus, in which young people learn and tell about their experiences in finding God.

THE PROGRAMS are aired 60 to 70 times a week on stations nationwide, and are heard daily in the Bay Area on KFOX at 4:30 p.m. and Sundays on KPAT at 8:05 p.m. And the Armed Forces Network will soon be carrying the series, Grimsley said.

Grimsley, who visits the campus almost daily, is not among the soothsayers of doom who view the young generation as the de-generation. Rather he sees a religious renaissance.

"Future history will view

events of the later 20th century not as the era of war, crisis and ecological disaster, but the time when spiritual awareness was dawning on people, he prophesied.

BUT HE NOTES with irony that while Karl Marx said religion was the opiate of the masses, in Berkeley, "opium (drugs) has become the religion of the young."

"From what I have seen on campus, people on hard drugs have only been able to kick it (for long) through a strong religious belief."

If this sounds like an endorsement of the Jesus freaks, he quickly adds: "The Jesus movement is only the periscope of the submarine. Something much more profound is taking place. We are witnessing the formation of the religion of the future."

"I believe it will be centered in the ideal of this planet as one global family — the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. This basic family analogy has come out in my talks with thousands of young people.

The family metaphor is what the world should be, and the crossing of theological lines is an exhilarating thing for them."

THE CHANGE that would take place if such a concept



VERN GRIMSLEY
... family analogy ...

were realized, Grimsley said, "would be done through the transformation of the individual. Only transformed individuals can form a transformed world."

Grimsley sees the difficulties that many young people have, the emotional mix-ups and the descent into the drug world happens "because the

self-esteem of young people is very low.

PARENTS HAVE told them for years they are no good, awkward and worse. "But, when a person is told he or she is the son or daughter of the infinite and is extremely valuable, it does remarkable things," he said.

"My conviction has come to be that the majority of psychological problems are religious problems, in the broadest sense," he added

Grimsley started the foundation in 1967, he said, after study at the University of Kansas in philosophy and psychology where he was Phi Beta Kappa, and at the Pacific School of Religion.

After attending PSR in 1963 and 1964 he decided to be neither graduated nor ordained, deciding that the orthodox church was not for him.

AFTER "ASKING God what to do with my next 60 years," he said he determined

to start the foundation. It is non-denominational and supported by donations received as a result of the radio programs although funds are not publicly solicited.

Berkeley DAILY GAZETTE



Tacoma News Tribune



Youth's spirit liked by radio preacher

Young people are seeking a more personal relationship with God, in the opinion of a religious broadcaster.

Vern Grimsley, president of the Family of God, was at UPS Thursday, taping for his radio broadcasts. He feels that young people are rejecting some of the traditions which have always been associated with religion, and taking a new look at their relationship with God and the universe.

"I believe in the theory of evolution, and I think many young people reject the idea of the instantaneous creation of man. I think God uses evolution as one of his tools."

Grimsley said his radio programs "avoid the organ music and Bible reading, and take the audience right to the college campus. The program has a kind of discussion-debate format, with all kinds of differing views encouraged.

"I don't buy the idea that

religion is dying. Seventy per cent of the mail we receive is from young people, and most of it is favorable. We are carried by many of the rock-and-roll stations around the country, instead of the conservative country stations you usually think of as carrying religious programs."

OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES

Waning interest in institutions cited

Youths want 'people change'

Collegian interest in institutional religion is declining, while student concern about personal religion is growing, a young California broadcaster specializing in campus ministry says.

Vern Bennom Grimsley, director of the Spiritual Renaissance Institute in Berkeley, was in Oklahoma City this week to interview about 40 Oklahoma City University students for his radio show broadcast weekly by stations throughout the nation.

During interviews with more than 11,000 students on campuses of about 50 colleges and universities across the country, Grimsley said he feels the ma-

ior trend is the decreasing interest in religion as an institution and increasing interest in religion as a personal thing.

"In the 60s, students were predominantly concerned with changing social and political structures. There has come on the campuses a disillusionment about changing the structure without changing the people," Grimsley said.

"They feel even if we could create an ideal political structure, it would be torn down if people hated each other. You can't make a good omelet with bad eggs — you can't make a good society with bad people," he said.

Grimsley, 34, said he has gathered from his interviews that students are realizing there must be a change of the inner attitude before the social system can work.

"Many more are open too — gaining positive attitudes toward the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. This is one of the particular things I found at OCU."

"Students are deeply chagrined that most of the wars that have been fought have been religious wars. They find inter-religious conflicts repugnant . . . they want a religion that will unify rather than disrupt."

Grimsley said he talked with an OCU political science major who told him he couldn't love other people until he achieved a sense of self-worth and esteem.

"He said he couldn't see them as children of God until he saw himself as a child of God. This is typical of the struggle many are going through . . . this generation is so deeply interested in examining life."

Another student told him he never thought about religion, but instead asked himself who he was, where he was going and why he was here.

What the student called the "post-Watergate consciousness" is leading people to the realization "that will touch the Genesis (starting) point — that only changed people can create a changed world."

Grimsley, a Phi Beta Kappa from Kansas with a degree in philosophy, is a former psychological researcher for the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C.

He travels the nation's campuses searching for the mainstream of religious opinion from persons of all backgrounds, he said.

Traveling Religionist Teaches God's Love

Religion News Service

BOULDER, Colo. — A spiritual renaissance is coming, according to Vern Bennon Grimsley, president of the Family of God Foundation, Berkeley, Calif.

That doesn't mean the world will be filled with peace and joy by next year, he says. But he expects the gradual acceptance of God in everyday lives of individuals to slowly produce a bigger change on the planet than any war or invention produced.

Grimsley, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate in philosophy and psychology from the University of Kansas, tours campuses and broadcasts on 55 radio stations throughout the world. He proclaims his message of "the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man."

The renaissance will come, he says, when people agree on the two basic tenets in Deuteronomy and Leviticus: "I am the Lord thy God," and "Love thy neighbor as thyself." "It really changes your day to walk down the street thinking you're a child of God and the people you see are your brothers and sisters," Grimsley said.

No radical religious freak, Grimsley, 32, speaks quietly and unhesitatingly, quoting his own poetry and writings, welcoming questions that "nail me to the wall." He is dressed in tie, shoes and straight pants and a leather jacket whose snaps jingle with his occasional gestures. His short, blond hair obeys the order imposed by a comb.

"We all contain a spark of spirit, a spark of the infinite, between our haircuts and our toenails," Grimsley said. To acknowledge that spark, to recognize guidance from God is "an audacious faith," he said. "To feel infinitely loved by God and valuable is a resolution of what Eric Erikson calls 'the identity crisis' in the highest conceivable way."

Grimsley's role as a "truth teacher," as he calls it, was arrived at after "voracious reading" in religion and philosophy and study under a grant from the National Science Foundation. "Anybody can ask God what to do and get guidance," he explained. His calling was to be a spiritual teacher.

In his studies he followed a "three-fold approach to reality," science, philosophy and religion. Science and religion, he says, are not contradictory: the former uses experiments, the latter experience, to reach truth.

He added, "most religion is in a chrysalis stage: it has not yet emerged."

Traditionally, he feels, religion has blocked change, or as he put it "thrown holy water on the status quo." But the great spiritual teachers spoke of growth and spiritual living! "Any religious institution could be of assistance to the world by following its original teachers."

Religions have to go beyond the spiritual chauvinism that has caused most of the planet's wars, he said. "If we can have wars over religion, there could be a magnificent peace over religion," he said.

The key, he said, is understanding God's love for all people and then the details will work themselves out. Instead, organized religions often lose themselves in the details, he said. Respecting one's self as a child of God is like buttoning a shirt correctly, he said: if you get the top button in the right slot, all the other buttons will line themselves up right, too.

Love of God to some people is like loving Pi-R-squared, Grimsley laughed. But, he added, it can be a vital, daily companionship.

This feature article on Vern was syndicated by wire service and appeared in newspapers across the U. S.

Palo Alto Times

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER



VERN GRIMSLEY

Broadcaster sets speech for Stanford

Vern Bennon Grimsley, an international broadcaster and director of the Spiritual Renaissance Institute in Berkeley, will speak at noon Tuesday at White Plaza on the Stanford University campus.

Grimsley will speak on "Religious Questions University Students Ask."

He also is president of the Family of God Foundation and has broadcast his religious commentary on Radio Free Europe.



Spencer Pendergrass

Vern Grimsley, director of the Spiritual Renaissance Institute in Berkeley spoke

before a small crowd Wednesday at CSUF. His talk was taped for his international religious broadcast,

"On Campus." Grimsley regularly makes campus appearances nationwide.

Religious program taped at CSUF

By PAULINE REPARD
DT Staff Writer

"Spiritual renaissance will make more difference in the world than any conflict, war, political, economic or social upheaval since the beginning of man," Vern Bennom Grimsley, director of the Spiritual Renaissance Institute in Berkeley, said.

Grimsley, who broadcasts the international religious program "On Campus," did a live taping at CSUF last Wednesday before an audience of about 40 people.

"When I first began the radio show at UC Berkeley 10 years ago, I not only saw riots, bombings and suicides, but also the dawning of an awakened spiritual interest," Grimsley said.

"Only transformed individuals can create a transformed world. Many students are trying to find self-realization. A survey at UC Berkeley showed 86 per cent of the freshmen were entering college in a quest for life's meaning," he continued.

"As they ask about life and their own identities, they should discover their potential for tremendous energy. Human potential is spiritual as well as physical and emotional."

Grimsley said one need not intellectually understand spirituality to accept it. Just knowing we have a place in

the universe, and that God loves us, he said, will bring spirituality.

Recalling some of the questions he has been asked by students over the years, Grimsley said one question dealt with how religion can be good when so much evil has been done in its name.

"Because wrongs have been done in the name of Christianity does not mean that the principles behind it are bad," Grimsley explained. "Present day doctors are not held accountable for wrongs done by members of their profession in years past. The same should hold true for Christians.

He emphasized that many people do not like religion because of misconceptions that are generally accepted.

"I've been asked how Jesus could whip people to get them out of the temple when he supposedly stands for love and peace. But nowhere in the New Testament does it say that he used the whip on anyone. And only one of the four accounts of the incident even mentions a whip at all," Grimsley said.

According to Grimsley, some students look at a few scriptures and come to the conclusion that Jesus used fear to convert people. But, he pointed out, what these students don't read is Jesus' teaching of the new commandment to love one's neighbor as one's self.

"There's no such thing as a stranger, really. He's just a brother you haven't met yet," he added.

"One student told me that religion should be studied intellectually, in a classroom, and that's all. When one studies politics, or nutrition, is the knowledge left in the class? Absurd! Things that are learned are meant to be applied to life. Religion and philosophy at their best are the most delightful experiences a person can have. You don't see God, you experience Him," Grimsley said.

He said there are many complaints about the institution of religion, but felt that the 'container,' or institution, isn't necessarily identical to the truth contained. Religion can expand horizons and fill human needs, he said.

"We can discover the source of our spirituality. Most people don't even explore it, let alone discover it, but anyone can transform the self. Until people are transformed though, the world can never be," Grimsley claimed.

He said that, while at UC Berkeley, a student told him he could never believe there was a God who loved him "Unless 2,000 angels came to him with thunder and lightning, and playing the music to '2001'."

"I asked if he would believe if only 1,000 angels came, and he said yes. I finally got him down to one angel with no music or noise, and he still said yes, then he would believe.

"So it wasn't a matter of the number of angels. It was his own willingness to believe that was the issue," Grimsley said.

Austin Statesman



Staff Photo

VERN GRIMSLEY
"Man of peace"

By **LASH LASHBROOK**
Staff Writer

Grimsley, the president of The Family of God Foundation, Inc., a non-profit, non-denominational non-sectarian religious organization has appeared twice on the University of Texas campus for rap-sessions with students and hopes to complete negotiations with at least one local radio station to air his 15-minute daily program, "Family of God," as a public affairs broadcast.

The organization, which was started in 1967 with his wife, Nancy, is an outgrowth of his soap-box orations started in 1968 on the University of California campus at Berkeley.

In his rap-sessions with students, Grimsley brings "the simple message of love for our brothers."

He believes in the "Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

"This basic family analogy has come out in my talks with thousands of young people," he said.

Grimsley was on the UC campus during the height of the disturbances several years ago and as he debated religion and philosophy with the students he took on adversaries and hecklers in a "no holds barred" verbal arena.

Over the years he has met with thousands of students and non-students alike in discussion situations and in personal counseling.

He has put together many tapes of these meetings and today domestic radio stations carry his "Family of God" programs throughout the country. In addition, it is beamed to members of the armed forces overseas. It is carried in England, Scotland and Wales and also into India, Malaysia, Bangladesh and Ceylon.

The 15-minute program has received enthusiastic comments from listeners all over the globe. Comments like, "It's exciting radio." "The most fascinating and unusual religious broadcast I've ever heard." . . . "It grabs your interest and doesn't let go." and "I like it."

Grimsley said that 70 per cent of the comments come from people under 30.

Today, Grimsley and his wife are aided by seven others who help put the show on the road and on the air.

As Bill Fenderson, a columnist for the Culver City Evening Star-News, remarked, "Believe me he is no sissy, he is a man of peace."

EVERETT HERALD

THE NORTHWEST'S MOST COLORFUL NEWSPAPER

Campus preacher sees trend toward personal religion

While on a recent tour of our state which included a visit to Everett Community College, international broadcaster Vern Bennom Grimsley of Berkeley, Calif., said he found students preoccupied with personal rather than institutional religion.

"Youth are centering on lives of prayer and meditation," he said. "This seems far more important to them than an authoritarian type of organized religion." He said he is seeing increased interest in religion — a sort of "spiritual renaissance."

The campus preacher who spoke hundreds of times at the University of California at Berkeley during the years of campus rioting recorded a series of radio programs at EvCC dealing with students' religious questions. "They are realizing that only a

changed people can create a changed world," he said.

"We've had an industrial revolution and we've had a scientific revolution," says Grimsley. "What the planet needs now is a spiritual revolution," says Grimsley. "What the planet needs now is a spiritual renaiss-

sance, and this spiritual resurgence will be a more widespread and powerful force for change than any preceding movement.

He came to Everett after speaking at the University of Washington. The 32-year-old Grimsley has spoken to 10,000 people in the last two

years while touring.

While in the Northwest, he added seven Oregon and Washington radio stations to the list of those who carry his daily radio broadcasts from the San Francisco Bay area. He is on the number one rock station in Los Angeles and re-

ports that 70 per cent of the mail he receives comes from people under 30.

During his radio taping session with students at EvCC, Grimsley emphasized the twin concepts of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man as

fundamental to the creation of a new world order — the planetary family of God. He distinguished between the many religions "about" Jesus and the authentic religion "of" Jesus, the simple love of God and man.



EVERETT, WASHINGTON

CAMPUS PREACHER VERN BENNOM GRIMSLEY

... tapes radio programs at EvCC



HACK'S DIGEST

BY

BILL FENDERSON

Man of Peace

From the heart of one of America's areas of unrest — the Berkeley campus — the voice of a man of peace is being heard.

It is the clear, strong, self-assured voice of a man who has dedicated his life to the spiritual welfare of his fellowmen.

The man is Vern Grimsley — a handsome, blonde-haired, husky, six-foot Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Kansas.

Vern and his lovely wife, Nancy, are frequent and welcome guests in our home.

Vern calls himself a preacher, but he is non-denominational in his approach. For the past five years he has broadcast his "Family of God" program over Station KFAX, Berkeley, in addition to radiocasts of his tapes over numerous stations in the midwest. It is hoped that his program will soon be heard in Los Angeles.

His "Family of God" broadcast is based on the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. His source of information is unimpeachable.

We have heard many of his tapes and have heard him speak in person. Never does he resort to the negative approach or cloud his message with dire predictions. He is not critical or biased. He is not anti-anything in the sense of a crusading revolutionist.

On the contrary, his message is based on the ageless truth of man's relation to God — the simple message of love for our brothers as we love the Father and as the Father loves us.

No one, regardless of his denomination, can find fault with this message of love so clearly expounded by this young man of peace, as he has been called on the Berkeley campus. We have some tapes of his interviews with militants recorded during recent disturbances, and they are examples of his living faith — a faith that those with whom he talked could not belittle or question. Believe me, he is no sissy!

In this trying period in our history, men are searching and Vern is answering. His is a practical, livable approach, but it takes courage. It is the religion OF Jesus, not a religion "about" Jesus. In the face of hatred and fear and violence, it demands that all things be cast out except the desire to do the will of the Father and to emulate the selfless love the Master lived upon this planet.

Still in his 20s, and with Nancy always by his side, Vern Grimsley faces a world of challenge.

His prayer is that his message will find its way into the hearts of more and more of those who are searching and that they will awaken to know they truly are members of "The Family of God."

Spokane Daily Chronicle

Religion Said "Personal"

Most of the young people he meets find religion a "personal thing," rather than an institutional one.

In his talks with more than



Vern B. Grimsley

10,000 college youth in the last 10 years, Vern Bennom Grimsley of Berkeley, Calif., finds a changing picture.

"Ten years ago most young

people would have felt the way to change the world was to change the social, economic and political structures of the world," he said in an interview in Spokane.

"But 10 years of political disillusionment have led young people to feel that, in order to create a transformed world, it will at first be necessary to create a transformed people."

Grimsley, who contacts college youth in many parts of the nation for his radio programs dealing with students and religion, was in Spokane to talk with students at Spokane Falls Community College and Fort Wright College.

Grimsley, a Phi Beta Kappa with a university degree in Washington, D.C. He is president of the nondenominational

Family of God Foundation, Berkeley, Calif.

philosophy, is a former psychological researcher for the National Science Foundation,

Capital Journal

SALEM, OREGON

Preacher graduates from Berkeley barbs to radio pulpit

A radio preacher with a knack for reaching young people with his message will be heard every Sunday night over KSLM radio beginning Oct. 14.

Touring broadcaster Vern Bennom Grimsley was in Salem Tuesday to make the arrangements for the weekly radio program and tape a session with Chemeketa Community College students.

He is on a tour of the three Pacific Coast states promoting his radio broadcasts and spreading his message of the "Fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man."

"I found a profound interest in spiritual issues among Oregon youth," Grimsley said before he headed off for more stops in Portland and Washington State. He sees this perked-up concern as part of a spiritual renaissance which will one day "make more differences in this planet than any war, any battle, any government, political, social or economic upheaval in all of human history."

Comments like that are grandiose coming from a young man who doesn't have a divinity degree under his belt. But Grimsley has stu-

died theology in Berkeley, Calif., and he was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate in philosophy from the University of Kansas. He also has been a psychological researcher for the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C.

For ten years Grimsley has been keeping his ear to the ground in Berkeley, one of the meccas of the youthful counterculture. At one time he broadcast daily radio programs from the Berkeley campus of the University of California while it was being torn

apart by student disturbances.

Grimsley studied at the



VERN GRIMSLEY
Reaches youth

Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, but he decided that ordination in the orthodox church was not for him.

Instead, he created the Family of God Foundation, a nonprofit organization which sponsors his radio broadcasts through unsolicited private donations.

Grimsley is the foundation's president and chief spokesman. His 15-minute radio programs, "On Campus," are heard over seven San Francisco Bay area radio stations regularly in addition to other domestic and foreign outlets including Radio Free Europe.

The attraction for the radio stations goes beyond the fact that the "On Campus" tapes are provided free of charge. KFRC in San Francisco has been airing the programs for three years and has had excellent listener response. In a letter to

Grimsley, the station's public service director said, "Your topics are timely, important and most interesting."

Rival station KFAX praised the foundation's integrity and dedication and contributed \$500 to help

sponsor the foundation's work.

"On Campus" will be heard over KSLM at 6:30 p.m. each Sunday.

... NEWS RELEASE

What leading professional broadcasters say about ON CAMPUS

an "all-actuality"

Public Affairs/Religious program
with VERN BENNOM GRIMSLEY



ABC Network Head of Radio Programming, William McCallum: "I think it's excellent. ON CAMPUS is very well produced--better than many other network shows."

CBS Network Vice President Frank Miller, Programming Head of CBS Radio: "ON CAMPUS is well produced and it's in line with what radio is doing today. The material is good. From a production standpoint the fact that it's all 'actuality' is especially valuable. ON CAMPUS would fit into the format of any contemporary station."

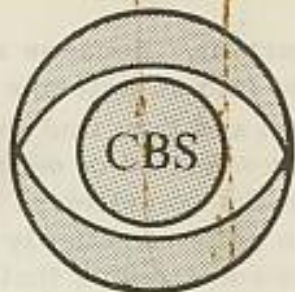
NBC Network Radio Programming Executive Jim Hill: "ON CAMPUS is a well done program. There's humor in it; it's 'cute' in the best sense."

MUTUAL Broadcasting Network Radio Programming Executive Hal Wagner: "ON CAMPUS is a very contemporary approach to religion. You handle the program very well."

WNBC AM and FM, New York City; Jerri Warrick, Programming Department: "ON CAMPUS is just the kind of thing we like to put on the air at WNBC. The production is excellent--very professional. It is an excellent, innovative new concept in religious programming. I like it a lot." ***** **KGBS AM and FM, Los Angeles;** Ron Martin, Radio Director: "We hardly ever receive any strong public response to religious programs carried by KGBS--that is, we didn't until we began running ON CAMPUS. We suddenly began getting very positive feedback from the audience, both by telephone and by mail. Listener response has been astonishingly strong and quite favorable. ON CAMPUS is the most interesting public affairs/religion program we've ever put on the air." ***** **KIMN, Denver;** Nick St. John, Public Affairs Programming Director: "My compliments on a fine program... the most thought-provoking contemporary religious feature we at KIMN have ever heard. Response has been very favorable and it is a positive component of our Public Service Programming. We are running the show as a half-hour segment which means we must put two programs back to back... Thanks again for an excellent show." ***** **WERE, Cleveland, Ohio;** John Webster, Programming and Operations Manager: "It is, indeed, a great program." ***** **WJJD, Chicago;** Al Kurman, Public Affairs Director: "A very entertaining program. I heartily recommend the broadcast to other stations." (Al Kurman is the former Manager of WBBM, Chicago.)

KFAX, San Francisco; Dave Crosatto, Operations Manager: "There's been nothing like ON CAMPUS in the history of religious broadcasting. It's unique--a superb program. It represents the best way I know of reaching young people with a spiritual message. I highly recommend it to stations everywhere. We've been carrying Vern's programs for several years, and they are excellent. And from the FCC standpoint, ON CAMPUS is a 'must' for a religious-format station." ***** WABC AM and FM, New York City; Glenn R. Morgan, Program Director: "ON CAMPUS is a good program, a well done program and an interesting program. It is well produced. It lets people speak for themselves about religion; there are many different viewpoints expressed on ON CAMPUS, and that's very good, too." ***** Aerial Communications, Inc., New York City; (Syndicator of Hugh Downs, Bill Cullin, Betsy Palmer, Boris Karloff, Claude Raines, Basil Rathbone, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Helen Hayes...) Frank B. Reeves, President: "ON CAMPUS is quite good and 'with it.' It is an enterprising contemporary approach to religion." ***** WITY, Danville, Illinois; Frank Baum, Program Manager: "This is a very interesting program. ON CAMPUS deals with the thoughts and problems of modern youth better than any program I've heard." ***** WCSH, Portland, Maine; Herb Crosby, Manager: "ON CAMPUS is quite good." ***** KCOK / KWSM, Tulare, California; Robert R. Staley, Manager: "Let me commend you on your program. It is well produced, professional, and very interesting." ***** CKGF, Grand Forks, British Columbia; Mike Shainline, Program Manager: "ON CAMPUS is a very good broadcast; the material is excellent, and we are glad to carry it." ***** Meredith Corporation, New York City; E. C. Stiker, President, Broadcasting Division: "I liked it very much." (Meredith Corporation Stations: WHEN radio and TV, Syracuse, NY; WNEM TV, Bay City, Michigan; WOW radio and TV, Omaha, Nebraska; KPHO TV, Phoenix, Arizona; KCMO radio and TV, Kansas City, Missouri.) ***** WWOL, Buffalo, New York; Robert W. Knight, Program Director: "An excellent program." ***** KEST, San Francisco; Alan P. Shultz, Vice President and General Manager: "Not only interesting, but it answers many of the questions young people are asking regarding religion... It is well engineered and is a welcome addition to our programming lineup." ***** WPIT, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Andrew F. Hoffman, Manager: "You handle the program very well, and I'm pleased with the technical quality... the sound clarity is excellent, particularly considering that the broadcast is made outdoors on campus." ***** WMCA, New York City; S. J. Hemphill, Programming Department: "Your package is well executed and put together." ***** WWDC, Washington, D.C.; Bob Canada, Program Director: "A very good program." ***** KASA, Phoenix, Arizona; Betty Mogk, Programming Department: "You're right! It is a good program!" ***** WOW radio, Omaha, Nebraska; Steve Shannon, Vice President and General Manager: "Format and execution are obviously extraordinary." ***** KGAY, Salem, Oregon; Randy Smith, Program Director: "I think you have a good program. The topics and questions are relevant and you handle your comments well." ***** KFRC, San Francisco; Jan Yanehiro, Public Service Director: "An outstanding show--we have received excellent listener response. Your topics are timely, important, and most interesting." ***** WBRJ, Marietta, Ohio; Larry Hall, Public Service Director: "Very good content." ***** WACE, Chicopee, Massachusetts; Bill Bates, Program Manager: "It's a very professionally done program, and 14 minutes is a good duration for it." ***** WCSG, Grand Rapids, Michigan; George R. Mackay, General Manager: "After listening to ON CAMPUS I have to agree with others that it is a well produced program."

To order: Contact Vern Bennom Grimsley, Box 347, Berkeley, California 94701, USA.



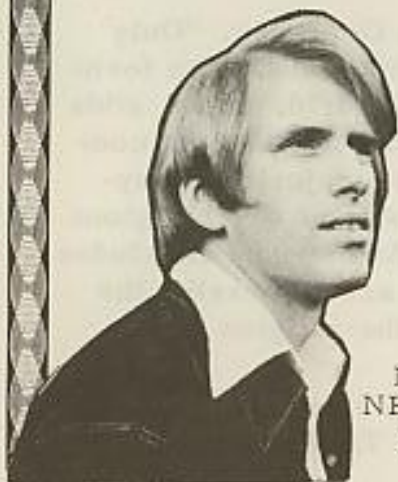
RADIO NETWORK

features

THE FAMILY OF GOD FOUNDATION

ON THE PEABODY
AWARD-WINNING SERIES

"Man and His Religion"



THREE
NATIONWIDE
NEWSFEATURE
INTERVIEWS
WITH

Vern Bennom Grimsley

INTERVIEW I

CBS Announcer: Next a look at Man and His Religion. Here's George McMannis:

Vern Grimsley is a handsome six-foot preacher from the University of Kansas. The non-denominational preacher is heard on more than a dozen radio stations across the country. And now he is based at Berkeley, where he almost daily preaches to students at the University of California. I asked the husky young man what kind of reaction he gets while aloft his campus soap box.

"Some people give me a hard time when I'm doing street preaching. For example, yesterday I was preaching in Union Square and had some alcoholics attempting to inflict some physical violence and had another evangelist threatening to knock me into the bushes and things like that--but the majority of people are really responsive, and it's true on the Berkeley campus as well. I've had some violence. We were taping one time, and I had a student try to wrap (actually not a student--one of the street people) try to wrap the microphone chord around my throat. And another time I had the equipment physically taken away...beer and milk and

wine poured into our tape recorder. But generally we have very good relations with them. And it's because there is that underlying spiritual quest; there is a God-hunger--there is an unsatiated yearning for spiritual meaning in a person's life. And it will not go away. And on some level of consciousness, everyone is really interested in talking about God."

Vern Grimsley is one of the youth generation's truly optimistic religionists. Says Grimsley:

Future history will view the events of the later twentieth century not as an era of war, crisis, and ecological disaster, but rather, he says, as the time when spiritual awareness was dawning.

INTERVIEW II

Just about any day of the week students and visitors to Berkeley's University of California can see a good-looking young man preaching about God and the needs of man's society. Vern Grimsley tapes his loud-speaker sermons and then re-plays them on about 15 radio stations in the United States. I asked the broadcast minister if he has a standard doomsday message that the world is taking its last gasp..."

"If it's a gasp, it's a gasp preparatory to another inhalation. I think that we are not about to expire. I think that there is tremendous hope for the world; that a spiritual renaissance is dawning and that crucially mankind needs to begin to see this world not as a battlefield but as a brotherhood-- as the family of God--all human beings as sons and daughters of God. And this kind of concept... I think it is a psychological truism that people live out their concepts; they tend to fulfill, to move toward what their ideal of reality, of themselves, of mankind is. And if people hold that vision that mankind is a family, the family of God, then in my conviction we will move toward the actualization of that."

You have quite a few of the folks over at Berkeley and around there who call themselves the 'Jesus Freaks.' What's your opinion about them?

"In my conviction, the Jesus movement runs the entire gamut from disturbed psychological fanaticism to that which is going to be part of a really profound spiritual renaissance. The Jesus movement I think is impossible to characterize with one single descriptive word. It's a whole spectrum. In one sense I'm part

of the Jesus movement. At the point at which the Jesus movement is anti-intellectual I disagree with it immensely, because Jesus himself said, 'Love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.' He emphasized this intellectual aspect."

Campus preacher Vern Grimsley, who feels the youth generation is not a degeneration.

INTERVIEW III

A young, up-and-coming radio preacher is a tall, blond-haired man named Vern Grimsley. The articulate Grimsley tape records sermons to students nearly every day at the Berkeley, University of California campus. As a matter of fact, Grimsley was on campus as a peace maker during the worst of the rioting in the 1960's. Several times he found himself caught in clouds of tear gas in the middle of violence. Grimsley feels a new religious intensity, which grew out of unrest, has finally made itself felt on American campuses.

"I think that what is happening on a spiritual level in the midst of the Jesus revolution is extremely important. I think what is happening on the theological level is

less important. Because some people get into an extreme fundamentalism and then find themselves, in a period of only two or three months sometimes, finding this to be so intellectually inconsistent at some points that they reject that, and yet still have a craving to cling to some of the spiritual experiences. I believe a person's intellectual theology can be in transition. I have met some godly people with god-awful theologies-- I mean with really poor thought, intellectual comprehensions of what kind of a God they're talking about and what kind of spiritual experience. But the experience of finding and knowing God even in the midst of all these other intellectual transitions is an enduring and a sustaining and an abiding experience. And that is what is changing young people's lives."

Says Vern Grimsley, "Only transformed individuals can form a transformed world." And adds Grimsley, "I've come to the conviction that the majority of psychological problems are religious problems." And now he concludes, "I believe we are witnessing the formation of the religion of the future."

And that's this report on Man and His Religion. This is George McMannis.