# **Christian Light Publications**

# When Your Time Has Come



ave you ever been accused of something you didn't do?

I remember a time in junior high when my friend and I were practicing parts in a small room when he scribbled on a wall with his pen. Later our teacher came to check on us, noticed the marks and asked, "Did you boys do that?"

Turning to me, my friend said, "Bobby, what did you do!"

I was so stunned; I just sat in silence. My red face must have spoken guilt because the only words I heard from the teacher were: "Meet me after class."

When I stepped into his office, my teacher shook his head. "I can't believe you did that." I froze when he pulled out his paddle. My thoughts whirled. This didn't make sense. I was one of his favorite students, known for good behavior, eager to sing. This should not happen to me! For some reason I kept silent, accepted the punishment, and left his room in shame.

So you may be wondering, why didn't I speak up? Why accept punishment for something I didn't do? To be honest, I think I know why. Because deep down I knew that I deserved a spanking.

After years of being regarded as a good student, my behavior had been in decline. I was tired of being an outsider and sometimes adjusted my behavior to fit in. My "scribbler" friend was a new acquisition, but at the cost of a clear conscience. So while my mind

said I was innocent, my conscience said I was guilty. My conscience knew I deserved chastening.

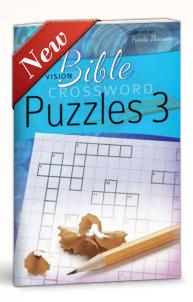
Chastening. We know it's good for us, but it can be hard to accept. Because it touches reputation and ego, we want justice to be perfectly accurate. But does this attitude always line up with God? Think of Jesus. When His time for crucifixion had come, He was falsely accused and our Father allowed it to happen, not because God didn't care about the truth, but because God's objective was crucifixion.

When our time has come for chastening, God may see something in our life that He wants crucified. Whether it's pride, covetousness, anger, or lust, He is more concerned about our cleansing than our reputation. At those moments, no amount of reason, logic, or discussion will ease the pain because that is not God's objective. His goal is our chastening, and He knows what is best.

"Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty." Job 5:17

When we are chastened, we can reject it and be resentful, or we can accept it and be happy.

In junior high, I had lost my joy. But chastening opened my eyes to the character of my "scribbler" friends and I withdrew from them. I put more effort into my schoolwork, showed more respect toward my teachers, and became a happier person.



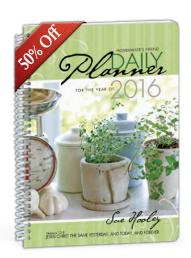
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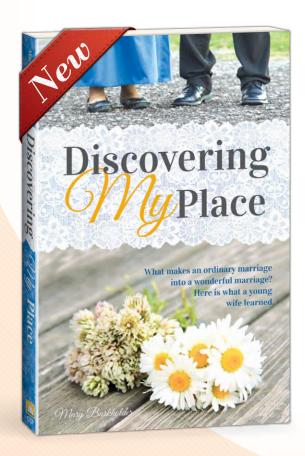
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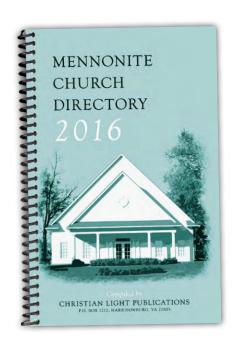
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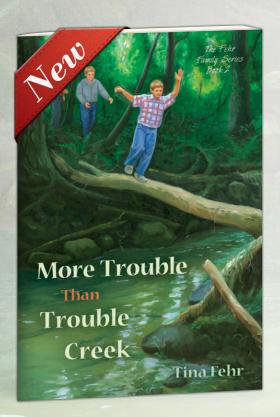
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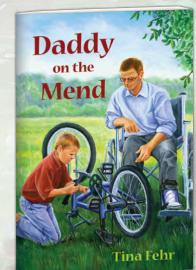
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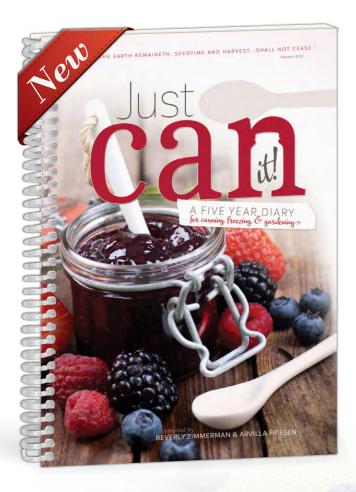
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# Just Can It!

#### compiled by

Beverly Zimmerman & Arvilla Friesen

Spring and summer months fly by in a blur. Planting, tending, weeding, picking, and processing keep gardeners hopping.

Just Can It! is a tool that enables busy gardeners and homemakers to capture the results of their hard work on paper for future reference and planning. In addition to useful canning charts, Just Can It! includes templates for recording the following information:

- Canning and freezing
- Flower bed records
- records
- Pictures
- Recipes

Good records make for a satisfied feeling at the end of the season and aid in good planning for the year ahead.

270045 **\$16.95** 256 pages, Vision Publishers