**Lynn Pendleton**

One of the great memories I have as a pastor's son was the time in our church in Banning when several members of the church decided to gather on Saturday nights and pray all night for the salvation of some in contact with the church who had expressed no desire to find Christ as their own Savior or to become a part of the church. I remember sleeping on the floor in a bedroom of one of the houses while hearing many loud prayers all night in the living room. I was not a Christian at the time and thought that this whole effort was a waste of time.

After about four months, I came to church one Sunday morning after one of these “all night of prayer meetings” and was sitting in the back of the church as usual when we started singing the first hymn. Amazingly, Lynn Pendleton—one of the ones who had been prayed for, came to the altar from the left side of the church, and Ralph Trout, another one who had been prayed for, came to the altar on the right. There may have been more that day, but these are the ones I recall. Both men had wives and children who attended regularly, but I don't remember them coming to church on special occasions such as Easter and Christmas.

There was joy in the church and a feeling of excitement for many weeks. Lynn Pendleton started coming to church on Wednesdays for Bible study and choir practice. It was about the second week, when I came in the back after our youth meeting, and the adult session was over, that Lynn came back to me and said, “Forrest, come up into the choir with me, and I will teach you how to sing tenor!” I was thrilled to be invited, and I look back to that whole episode of Lynn finding Christ and inviting me into the choir to be the beginning of my development of singing and music in the church that has been so meaningful to me and many others. **The point of this is: Salvation is not just for the individual but is also for the strengthening of the church. New believers add so much to the life of God's people, and many things that we cannot foresee “hang in the balance” of whether we pay the price that is needed to be “Fishers of men” as God told us to be.**