

THIS IS YOUR LIFE  
SALLY McCORKLE

Presented by the  
Lando Church of God  
October 26, 1969

## SALLY FRANCIS McCORKLE

- I. Birth Place – Kershaw County
- II. Date – June 10, 1890
- III. School Attended – She moved to Pineville, N.C. at the age of 4 and attended the Pineville school.
- IV. Sally McCorkle has lived in Lando most of her life. She moved to Lando about the year 1905 with her parents, sisters, and brother.
- V. Wedding Date – In March, 1908, Sally Francis Small was married to John McCorkle.
- VI. Date Husband Passed Away – John McCorkle passed away in 1958 after 51 years of happy marriage.
- VII. Children in Order of Age – To this union was born 6 children. Their names at present are:
  1. Tessie Bailey
  2. Earl McCorkle
  3. Mae Black
  4. Robert McCorkle
  5. Ben McCorkle
  6. Henrietta Hefner
- VIII. Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren
  - 27 Grandchildren
  - 35 Great Grandchildren

## SALLY FRANCIS McCORKLE

Sally Francis Small was born June 10, 1890 in Kershaw County. Her parents were George and Henrietta Small. There were four sisters and two brothers in this family. They moved to Pineville when Sally was four, and she attended school there. As most children did in those days, Sally started work in a cotton mill at the age of eleven. She had to stand on a box to reach her work. One of her old friends stated, “She was a top notch spinner when she came to Lando at the age of fifteen.”

Mrs. McCorkle did not have much formal education, but the knowledge and wisdom she has gained through the years would make many college professors envious of her.

Sally was a very pretty young girl. Her dark hair was teased much as we wear ours today. (They called it tangled.) She wore hers bouffant with a little bit pulled down over one side of her forehead. Sally was very petite and always looked neat in her clothes. The skirts had already started getting shorter—about four inches above the ankle—but Sally was a little daring. She wore hers about two or three inches shorter, which probably made some of the older ladies raise their eyebrows and talk about mini-dresses way back in 1907. They must have wondered what would become of this young generation.

Sally was a very witty young girl with a good personality. She had many lasting friends—two of which are still living near Lando and have been kind enough to share some of their early experiences with us.

Mrs. Small was a very nice woman with a great big heart, much as our own Sally is today. She had one determination, though, and that was to keep Sally too young for any young man to be interested in. This accounts for the fact that Sally

was fifteen when she moved to Lando, and three years later she was still fifteen. This did not fool young John McCorkle for long, and he started meeting this pretty young girl at a friend's house. One night Mrs. Small suspicioned what was going on, so she went visiting the friend's home to tell young John off. He politely walked mama home and before they got home, he had won his prospective mother-in-law's heart. He had her permission to visit her daughter, and she confided she didn't know what he wanted with her, she couldn't even cook a cake of corn bread. Being the diplomat he was, John replied, "I'm glad because I don't like corn bread anyway." Having permission took about half the excitement out of dating, so Sally and John decided to get married. This too had to be sneaky. One nice cool Sunday in March, 1908, Sally and her father were sitting on the porch. He told her when she decided to get married to be sure and let them know. "I will" replied Sally. She went straight to her friend's home where she had carried her wedding dress earlier.

Sally was very pretty in her blue and white dress as she and John, along with a number of teenagers, started the long walk across the trestle and up the railroad track to Preacher Lummus' house. "That was the longest wedding ceremony I've ever heard," said Mrs. Lottie Thorpe. "We kept expecting Mrs. Small to run in any minute and stop the wedding."

The happy couple went to Mineral Springs on their honeymoon. When they came home, the Smalls were very happy with their new son-in-law.

John and Sally moved to several towns in the area after their marriage, but finally in 1923, they settled in Lando for good.

There were six children born to this fine couple. They are Tessie, Earl, Mae, Robert, Ben, and Henrietta. Even though there were the normal problems that go with raising a family of this size, there was the most important thing of all—

unselfish love that only a woman like Sally could have for her children and husband. No sacrifice was too great for them. Her beloved John was king of her home, and as one of her children said, “His wish was her command.” This she did, not because he demanded it, but because she loved doing things for the people she loved.

Her husband passed away in 1958, after 51 years of happy marriage. Sally would have been lost without John had it not been for her children, grandchildren, and many loyal friends. But there was an emptiness that no one could fill, until one day she found another who became king of her life—one whom she could work for and give her undying love to; one who promised to be a father, a mother, a brother or sister to all of us. He has proven this to Sister McCorkle.

I’ll never forget the one afternoon Doris Harrelson, Gladys Hough, Clineth Snell, and Temmer Ramsey went to visit Mrs. McCorkle. As we read the Bible and prayed, Sister Sally dedicated her heart and life completely to God. In her own words as only she can put it, “I thought I was saved all this time, but now I know it. I never did anything against God, but I wasn’t doing anything for him. I was just oozing along. I am so happy.” This became an expression we all loved and looked forward to hearing in all our services.

Since becoming a member of the Church of God in Lando, Sister McCorkle has been faithful to God and her church. She has done more than her share for our Willing Workers, always volunteering to do anything to help. Just to see her in church makes us feel good. Sally always has a smile when she comes to church regardless of the way she feels. One Sunday I remember, she came to church when she could not hear nor could she speak she was so hoarse. Yet she was there filling her place and encouraging her pastor. A group of ladies led her to the prayer room

and asked God to heal her. Before we finished praying, Sister McCorkle said out loud, "I can hear everything you say." Similar things have happened on many occasions as we prayed with her. Her faith in God is so real and child-like.

We don't understand why God did not heal Sister McCorkle's foot; but we do know that all things work together for good to them that love God and to them who are the called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28\*. Someday we will understand. Then Sister McCorkle will say it was worth it all, and she'll say I am so happy!

\*We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him. They are the people he called, because that was his plan. Scripture: Romans 8:28 NCV

NOTE: The information about the early part of Sally McCorkle's life was told to Temmer Ramsey by Lottie Thorpe and Bell Yarborough.

## THE GOOD WIFE

It is hard to find a good wife, because she is worth more than rubies.

Her husband trusts her completely. With her, he has everything he needs.

She does him good and not harm for as long as she lives.

She looks for wool and flax and likes to work with her hands.

She is like a trader's ship, bringing food from far away.

She gets up while it is still dark and prepares food for her family and feeds her servant girls.

She inspects a field and buys it. With money she earned, she plants a vineyard.

She does her work with energy, and her arms are strong.

She knows that what she makes is good. Her lamp burns late into the night.

She makes thread with her hands and weaves her own cloth.

She welcomes the poor and helps the needy.

She does not worry about her family when it snows, because they all have fine clothes to keep them warm.

She makes coverings for herself; her clothes are made of linen and other expensive material.

Her husband is known at the city meetings, where he makes decisions as one of the leaders of the land.

She makes linen clothes and sells them and provides belts to the merchants.

She is strong and is respected by the people. She looks forward to the future with joy.

She speaks wise words and teaches others to be kind.

She watches over her family and never wastes her time.

Her children speak well of her. Her husband also praises her, saying, "There are many fine women, but you are better than all of them."

Charm can fool you, and beauty can trick you, but a woman who respects the LORD should be praised.

Give her the reward she has earned; she should be praised in public for what she has done.

Scripture: Proverbs 31:10-31 NCV

## MY MOTHER'S GARDEN

Her heart is like her garden,  
Old-fashioned, quaint and sweet,  
With here a wealth of blossoms,  
And there a still retreat.  
Sweet violets are hiding,  
We know as we pass by,  
And lilies, pure as angel thoughts,  
Are opening somewhere nigh.

Forget-me-nots there linger,  
To full perfection brought,  
And there bloom purple pansies  
In many a tender thought.  
There love's own roses blossom,  
As from enchanted ground,  
And lavish perfume exquisite  
The whole glad year around.

And in that quiet garden—  
The garden of her heart,  
Songbirds are always singing  
Their songs of cheer apart.  
And from it floats forever,  
O'ercoming sin and strife,  
Sweet as the breath of roses blown,  
The fragrance of her life.

Alice E. Allen



## Comments about Sister McCorkle by her pastor

“Sally McCorkle to me has been a great inspiration in her devotion and in her missionary vision for the church. Her faithfulness in church has been a means of bringing light to other people. Her courage has exemplified the true and courageous person she is. In her sickness, she has always shown cheerfulness. She along with the pastor helped to drive the first stake down for the new addition to the church.”

Howard J. Hanley

IN LOVING MEMORIAM  
OF  
SALLY SMALL McCORKLE

On March 27, 1974, God slowly, silently and mercifully closed the Book of Life for our beloved Sally Small McCorkle. Although no longer present, we, her family and friends, can still reap the rewards of her labors and love. We give thanks to God for all the blessed memories and enduring hope she left behind. Knowing that she dwells in God's Garden of Love, we will always remember her love, charity, many deeds of kindness, but most of all, her love for her God, her church, and her fellow man. With sadness and tenderness, we pause each day to remember the many lessons she taught us. She was ever mindful of the eternal God who walked beside her to bring her safely to the end of life's journey. We have only her memory to treasure, but its sweetness will live on and on as we cherish each thought of one so dear.

Realizing her great love for you, the members of Lando Church of God, we are also aware of the love and respect which you felt for her. We are grateful for the many ways you shared her life, in health and sickness, and finally in death. The many things you did, the visits, cards, food, flowers, and memorials are just a few of the things for which we will always remember each of you.

To your Pastor, you made for yourself a place in our hearts. Your faithfulness, constancy, loyalty, concern, and great love for Sally were a constant source of strength to us. You were a special person to her and so you are to us. You will never know how much your presence in those last days and hours meant to us. God bless, guide and strengthen you to carry on His work.

GOD SAW THE ROAD WAS GETTING ROUGH,  
THE HILLS WERE HARD TO CLIMB.  
HE GENTLY CLOSED HER WEARY EYES  
AND WHISPERED, "PEACE BE THINE."

Margie B. Scott, Granddaughter  
For the Family of  
Sally Small McCorkle