

## EDITOR'S NOTES

**John A. Battle**

Last August we began a two-part series on “Discipline and Discipleship.” In that issue we saw that we are to be disciples of Jesus Christ first of all in our own hearts. Then, on September 11 came the great terrorist attack on the United States. People all over the world were riveted by those tragic events and their aftermath. So we interrupted our series in order to bring you a special issue of the *Journal*, “Questions After Terrorism.” Now we are resuming our study of discipline and discipleship.

In this issue Doug Sukhia completes his practical call from Jesus, “Make Disciples.” He shows us how the church must resemble a family in the way we develop each member as a disciple of Christ. The Exegesis section begins with an article by Chris Lensch showing how in the Old Testament the family structure related to the work of the church, and how the families of today must take primary responsibility for discipling and disciplining their own children. My article shows how the New Testament particularly teaches the necessity of church discipline, and the authority that the church possesses from its head, Jesus Christ. The Application and Perspective section begins with an analysis by Len Pine of a well thought out article written by Mark Brown on church membership—Does the Bible require that Christians be members of a particular church? Tito Lyro gives helpful advice about the partnership that should operate between the church and the family in the rearing of Christian children. Finally, Tim Hart provides a review of a challenging and inspiring book which encourages a return to the old practice of catechizing our children.

We at WRS hope this issue of the *Journal* will bless you, your family, and your church. We all need the discipline of the Lord in order to be true disciples.