

WEEK OF: FEBRUARY 3, 1991

## GIVER OF LIFE—SUSTAIN YOUR CREATION!

➤ READ —PSALM 24; ROMANS 8:18-27; 12:1-2

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### ▼ MEDITATION ▼

During these days in Canberra, Australia, hundreds of Christians from all over the world have gathered and are praying together and discussing the prayer: Giver of Life'Sustain Your Creation! Our planet is in crisis. We live in a world out of focus. Humans have taken over from God ownership of the planet and, to our own ends, are abusing the very earth that gives us life. How can we put life and creation back into focus? That is the question at the heart of our dialogue in Canberra.

In your town, in your church, in your youth group, in your school, in your home how do you answer this question? What are the issues involved? (See the 1990 Annual Conference paper on the environment.)

We are painfully aware that in the United States we have a small percentage of the world's population, but we use a much larger percentage of the world's resources. How can we put that situation more in balance? Many injustices occur all over the world so that we in the developed countries can maintain our affluent lifestyles. What lifestyle would God choose for us?

We hear much emphasis today on recycling, but what about pre-cycling (deciding what its effects are **before** we buy or use something)? How much of what I consume do I really need in the first place? How many trips in my car do I really need to make this week? How much water do I need to use for my shower? Can I carry my own mug to youth meetings so I don't have to contribute more styrofoam or paper to landfills? You name your own questions.

We are the caretakers of God's marvelous creation. What an awesome responsibility! How do you and I score on this assignment of life?

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### ▼ WORSHIP RESPONSE ▼

O Wondrous Creator, thank you for giving life to me. Also, give me the desire, the determination, and the resourcefulness to be a partner in sustaining your creation.

*Peggy Reiff Miller  
Sharpsburg, MD*