- P: It's a complex question; it requires a kind of complex answer. I'll try to give a simple answer. First of all, I believe that for a fellow to go out consistently and successfully to win souls to Christ on a cold turkey sort of method, requires a special kind of gift. I think that was the main reason that a lot of guys didn't succeed at this. The reason they would be discouraged is because it was stressed that it wasn't so much a gift, but that anybody could do it, if they just set their mind to it. So if they didn't do it, they would assume it was just because they had not worked hard enough, or just didn't have it, or just had failed. So if they were discouraged, it was because they felt that they had failed.
- JG: Do you think that any of these people had gifts in other areas that they could have exercised but were not really encouraged to exercise? Did they drop out of the ministry, or drop out of serving the Lord, when they could have done a job in some other area?
- P: Well, the answer to that would be most definitely. I remember having felt that all the way along, but never really being able to put my finger on it. Now in retrospect, I have a very firm conviction that that was the case. I just praise the Lord that God's grace is sufficient to reinstate a lot of these fellows in Christian service. I know most of them are no longer in this church, but I know that many of them are in other churches. They have made a comeback and gotten over the discouragement. They are going on for the Lord and finding their niches in the body of Christ. There are a couple that as far as I've heard never really made a comeback. But most of them have.
- JG: Was there any system of accountability or evaluation other than simply how many souls a person had won?
- P: Yes, the primary way that was done, John, was through weekly report sheets. These sheets had Monday through Sunday down the left side, and across the top there would be morning, afternoon, and evening. Each day would be broken down into these three parts. We were required to catalog every little thing we did. It was required to be very, very detailed. We were even to color code it; if time was spent in study, we would color it in blue; if time was spent in administration, it was outlined in green; evangelism in red, and so forth. If we were doing work among church people that was put in orange because that was discipleship as opposed to evangelism. Then on the back of the sheet, we listed the last name of every single family or person that we called on during the week, and put a little two or three line description of how that call went. There was a list of about five totals on the back; how many people had made professions of faith; how many had been