

# The Church Officers' Gazette

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## Church Officers' General Instruction Department

Sabbaths with Special Offerings During 1923  
December 15 . . . . . Annual Offering

### Inspiration of the Word

[Late in the year 1921, while staying at Paradise Valley Sanitarium in Southern California, not being able at that time to do public work in which he had for so many, many years been very active, Elder S. N. Haskell sent in a study upon the subject of the inspiration of the Bible. Believing these thoughts and quotations of Scripture and from the spirit of prophecy may be helpful to workers throughout the field, the study follows. The letter accompanying this article is dated Oct. 24, 1921.—T. E. B.]

IN Psalms 12: 6, 7, the words of God are spoken of as follows: "The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, Thou shalt preserve them ["every one of them," margin] from this generation forever." Psalms 18: 30 says, God's "way is perfect: the word of the Lord is tried ["refined," margin]." Psalms 119: 140 reads: "Thy word is very pure ["refined," margin]." In Proverbs 30: 5, 6, we read: "Every word of God is pure ["purified," margin]: He is a shield unto them that put their trust in Him. Add thou not unto His words, lest He reprove thee, and thou be found a liar." Jesus says in Matthew 4: 4: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." He does not say by many words, or by some particular words, but by "every word." This is quoted from the last part of Deuteronomy 8: 3.

A word is an expressed thought. The ten commandments are ten words. (See Deut. 10: 4, margin.) In every word Jesus spoke while on earth, in every act He performed, there was a purpose of infinite importance. (See "The Desire of Ages," pp. 206, 147, 393, 394, 451, 486, 572.) This is stated seven times, and in a different way each time. These quotations follow:

"A wise purpose underlay every act of Christ's life on earth. Everything He did was important in itself and in its teaching."—Page 206.

"The words, 'Mine hour is not yet come,' point to the fact that every act of Christ's life on earth, was in fulfilment of the plan that had existed from the days of eternity. Before He came to earth, the plan lay out before Him, perfect in all its details. But as He walked among men, He was guided, step by step, by the Father's will. He did not hesitate to act at the appointed time. With the same submission He waited until the time had come."—Page 147.

"Many of the words and acts of Jesus appear mysterious to finite minds, but every word and act had its definite purpose in the work for our redemption; each was calculated to produce its own result. If we were capable of understanding His purposes, all would appear important, complete, and in harmony with His mission."—Page 393.

"While we cannot now comprehend the works and ways of God, we can discern His great love, which underlies all His dealings with men. He who lives near to Jesus will understand much of the mystery of godliness. He will recognize the mercy that administers reproof, that tests the character, and brings to light the purpose of the heart."—Page 394.

"He was accomplishing His work for the fallen race. But He was not to be presumptuous, not to rush into danger, not to hasten a crisis. Each event in His work had its appointed hour. He must wait patiently. He knew that He was to receive the world's hatred; He knew that His work would result in His death; but to prematurely expose Himself would not be the will of His Father."—Page 451.

"But in God's great plan the hour had been appointed for the offering of Himself for the sins of men, and that hour was soon to strike. He would not fail nor falter. His steps are turned toward Jerusalem, where His foes have long plotted to take His life; now He will lay it down. He set His face steadfastly to go to persecution, denial, rejection, condemnation, and death."—Page 486.

"That scene of triumph ["the blind whom He had restored to sight, were leading the way. The dumb whose tongues He had loosed, shouted the loudest hosannas." "Lepers whom He had cleansed, spread their untainted garments in His path." "Lazarus, whose body had seen corruption, . . . led the beast on which the Saviour rode"] was of God's own appointing. . . . Had men failed to carry out His plan, He would have given a voice to the inanimate stones, and they would have hailed His Son with acclamations of praise."—Page 572.

The plan of salvation would have failed if Christ had failed in time or manner in one thing He said or did. Christ's life is the same as His word. John 1: 1, 2, 14. It represents the word, and the word represents His life and character. In "The Desire of Ages," page 799, we read: "It is the voice of Christ that speaks through patriarchs and prophets, from the days of Adam even to the closing scenes of time."

"The union of the divine and the human, manifest in Christ, exists also in the Bible. The truths revealed are all 'given by inspiration of God; yet they are expressed in the words of men, and are adapted to human needs. Thus it may be said of the Book of God, as it was of Christ, that 'the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.'"—"Testimonies," Vol. V, p. 747.

"The scribes of God wrote as they were dictated to by the Holy Spirit, having no control of the work themselves. They penned the literal truth, and stern, forbidding facts are revealed for reasons that our finite minds cannot fully comprehend."—*Id.*, Vol. IV, p. 9.

Concerning her works, Sister White says: "In His providence the Lord has seen fit to teach and warn His people in various ways. By direct command, by the Sacred Writings, and by the spirit of prophecy, has He made known unto them His will. My work has been to speak plainly of the faults and errors of God's people."—*Id.*, pp. 12, 13.

From another standpoint, compare 2 Timothy 3: 16, 17; Romans 15: 4, with Ecclesiastes 1: 9, 10; 3: 14, 15. This is only a small sample of what can be presented.

I view it as a matter of vital importance for every Seventh-day Adventist to believe, without questioning, the Bible and the spirit of prophecy. The New Testament is an un-

folding or magnifying of the Old Testament; the spirit of prophecy is a developing or magnifying of the subjects of the entire Bible. The moment I begin to question them, Satan enters my heart, and perverts my judgment in spiritual things.

Are we to consider differently the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, who were not prophets, and the Gospel by John, who was a prophet?

Did not God illustrate inspiration when He spoke through the dumb ass to Balaam, and in the acknowledgment of Balaam to Balak? Numbers 22 and 23. Did not God, seven hundred years later, remember this? Micah 6: 5. Inspiration is inspiration of God, whether spoken through man or a dumb animal, or whether spoken or shown in vision. Each is God's method of speaking to man.

In "Education," page 73, we read: "Through Christ had been communicated every ray of divine light that had ever reached our fallen world. It was He who had spoken through every one that throughout the ages had declared God's word to man."

An illustration of how different persons may relate the same thing, is found in 2 Samuel 7 and 1 Chronicles 17 in the vision of Nathan the prophet to David. The wording of only one verse is exactly the same, but there is not a single thought changed, left out, or added. There are two chapters in the Bible by the same writer, but recorded in different books, which vary in only forty-eight words. These chapters are 2 Kings 19 and Isaiah 37.

Josiah was a devoted king all his life. (See 2 Kings 23: 24, 25.) Once, and only once, is it recorded that he meddled with God by not heeding the word God sent him, and by it he lost his life. 2 Chron. 35: 21-24.

God has guarded the inspiration of His prophets by Bible testimony and by Bible illustrations, so all may be without excuse if they will study their Bibles with the spirit of prophecy, which He has so graciously given His people in these last days.

Our only safety is to become thoroughly established in the fundamental principles of the message. "We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history."—*"Life Sketches," p. 196.*

We are in the closing work of the message,—eighty-nine years in the last generation, shown by both the Bible and the spirit of prophecy; thirty years in the loud cry of the message. We are facing the time of trouble such as never was, which is described both in the Bible and in the spirit of prophecy. The ending of probation will come on all the world as a thief. Five times it is so stated in the Bible.

"The word of the living God is not merely written, but spoken. The Bible is God's voice speaking to us, just as surely as though we could hear it with our ears."—*"Testimonies," Vol. VI, p. 393.* Every prophet of God is God's mouthpiece to the people in every age of the world. This is shown by more than fifty texts in the Bible.

S. N. HASKELL.

### Church Missionary Secretary

THE duties of the church missionary secretary (or librarian, as this officer was formerly known) are many and important. First, he is the medium of communication between the church and the conference tract society, and between the church and the conference home missionary secretary, keeping the headquarters informed as to the condition of the church in missionary lines, also attending to the business correspondence with the tract society, which includes the orders for supplies and remittance of money on accounts. All members should give their orders for books, papers, etc., to the church missionary secretary, who, in turn, will send them to the tract society.

Second, this officer should encourage members to do missionary work, co-operating closely with the missionary leader, suggesting plans and helping them personally, and assisting other missionary society officers. Collections should be cared for promptly, following up individuals who

have pledged for supplies; and in no case should the account be allowed to get old, or go until a person cannot pay. Prompt, tactful personal effort will facilitate the work greatly. Reports should be obtained from all the workers, and the totals sent to the conference missionary secretary, the same report being presented to the church once a month, with a record of all receipts and expenditures.

The church missionary secretary should see that the tract rack in the church is kept filled, and that all missionary supplies needed are ordered, after proper authorization by the church officers, sending cash with all orders.

In the missionary endeavors of the church, the missionary secretary can greatly assist the leader, as well as others, in his efforts to get every one to doing active missionary work, in keeping full and accurate minutes of the missionary meetings, and keeping the officers informed regarding the amount of funds available for missionary work; also the situation as to the amount of literature on hand or needed.

The conference missionary secretary will greatly appreciate full co-operation on the part of the local church secretary in carrying out the requests sent, either for information desired or plans to be worked out. This office is one of the most important in the church, especially in its relation to real active effort or missionary life in the church, for the church is not measured by her profession, but by the number of her real missionary workers.

M. A. HOLLISTER.

### Selecting Church Officers

NEAR the close of December every church will become interested in the selection of its officers and various departmental leaders to serve the church the ensuing year. Very careful and prayerful consideration should be given the selection of these various officers.

It has been found by experience that the appointing of a nominating committee has proved the wiser method of placing before the church names for consideration. This committee should be chosen early, so that it may have time for its work, and be able to render its report not later than the last Sabbath of the month. This will allow the new or re-elected officers to be ready to take up their work upon the first Sabbath of the new year.

This committee should be a representative one, made up largely from the membership—those not serving as officers. The church board very properly may suggest this committee to the church for its consideration and to vote upon, the church being at liberty to make any changes deemed proper. The person first named should act as chairman. (The pastor or church elder should not under any circumstances officiate as chairman of this nominating committee, nor himself appoint it.)

During the time the nominating committee is at work, any member of the church may advise with it, or pass in to it through any member such suggestions as he may have to offer for consideration by the committee. Thus careful, prayerful consideration may be given each name suggested for the various offices, and its report, when rendered, shall express the mature judgment of the committee.

It should be distinctly understood that the power still rests with the church to accept, revise, or report back to the committee for further study, the names submitted. Usually, however, the report becomes the choice of the entire church, and all heartily join in voting for the persons selected.

Should strife and ambition for preferment be found in the hearts of any, then no matter what the *plan* may be for choosing officers, it will not work satisfactorily. The church is ever to conduct its affairs upon the heavenly rule, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another." Rom. 12: 10. This rule in evidence, there will be no friction or inharmony manifest when persons are chosen to serve the church as its officers. The church officers are to continue their service until reappointed, or until others are elected and appear to enter upon their service.

T. E. B.

# Home Missionary Department

## REWARD OF SERVICE

### Suggestive Program for the First Sabbath Home Missionary Service

(To be held December 1)

OPENING SONG: "Bringing in the Sheaves," No. 583, "Christ in Song."  
 Bible Study: "Final Rewards."  
 Prayer.  
 Report by Church Missionary Secretary.  
 Special Music: "The Ninety and Nine," No. 61, "Christ in Song."  
 Presentation of Theme: "The Reward of Service."  
 Song: "Just a Word for Jesus," No. 73, "Christ in Song."  
 Personal Testimonies.  
 Missionary Offering.  
 Plans and Announcements.  
 Closing Song: "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder," No. 865, "Christ in Song."  
 Benediction.

#### Note to the Leaders

It is suggested that after the Bible study and the reading of the short article on the "Reward of Service," this meeting be concluded by a general prayer and praise service. All through the year a strenuous program has called upon the people to respond in labor in behalf of the various enterprises for the advancement of God's cause. For the willing and whole-hearted response which has been given to these appeals Sabbath after Sabbath, the General Conference Home Missionary Department wishes to have you pass on to your congregation an expression of sincere appreciation and gratitude. The leaders in this department wish it were possible to accompany every church elder into his pulpit on this Sabbath day, and express to the people the joy of service which has been ours during the past year, and the joy which has come as the result of the co-operation of our brethren and sisters, and to hear from the faithful workers the recital of their experiences in personal work. While this is impossible, we do wish to send a personal message of cheer to all our brethren and sisters, and bid them lift up their heads and rejoice, for it is indeed true that on this first Sabbath in December, 1923, our salvation is "nearer than when we believed." Some helpful thoughts for introducing the prayer and praise service may be gleaned from the quotations found under the heading, "The Joy of the Lord."

May the joy of the Lord be yours in rich measure today, and may you accept as a personal message from the servant of God the following comforting assurance: "Be patient, Christian soldier. Yet a little while, and He that shall come, will come. The night of weary waiting and watching and mourning is nearly over. The reward will soon be given; the eternal day will dawn. There is no time to sleep now, no time to indulge in useless regrets. . . . We are granted the blessed privilege of gathering sheaves in the great harvest. . . . Who is eager to lay off the armor, when by pushing the battle a little longer he will achieve new victories and gather new trophies for eternity?"—Mrs. E. G. White, in *Review and Herald*, Oct. 25, 1881.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

#### Final Rewards

- Question.*—1. To how many are rewards to be given?  
*Answer.*—To every one. Rom. 2: 6; 2 Cor. 5: 10.  
*Ques.*—2. What two classes of rewards are mentioned?  
*Ans.*—Glory, honor, and eternal life; tribulation, anguish, and death. Rom. 2: 6-11; 6: 23.  
*Ques.*—3. What further reference is made to the rewards of the righteous?  
*Ans.*—(See Matt. 19: 27-29.)  
*Ques.*—4. What particular feature of the record of the righteous is mentioned in connection with the reward?  
*Ans.*—Unselfish service for fellow men. Matt. 25: 23-40; Dan. 12: 3.  
*Ques.*—5. What is one characteristic of discipleship?  
*Ans.*—Fruit bearing in Christian service. John 15: 8; Gal. 6: 7-9.  
*Ques.*—6. What great accusation is made in connection with the reward of the ungodly?  
*Ans.*—Selfish neglect of the needs of others. Matt. 25: 41-46, 25-30.  
*Ques.*—7. When will the rewards be bestowed?  
*Ans.*—At Christ's coming. Matt. 16: 27; 25: 31-34.

## The Reward of Service

CONCERNING Moses, the divine record states that "when he was come to years, [he] refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward." Heb. 11: 24-26. Through the ages that have passed since Moses' time, God's faithful children have "had respect unto the recompense of the reward" that was theirs, not alone the glorious final reward in the kingdom of God, but the reward in blessings showered upon them in daily service for their chosen King.

The psalmist declares, "A day in Thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness." Ps. 84: 10. "A life in Christ is a life of restfulness. . . . Jesus says, 'Abide in Me.' These words convey the idea of rest, stability, confidence. Again He invites, 'Come unto Me, . . . and I will give you rest.' The words of the psalmist express the same thought: 'Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him.' And Isaiah gives the assurance, 'In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.' This rest is not found in inactivity; for in the Saviour's invitation the promise of rest is united with the call to labor: 'Take My yoke upon you, . . . and ye shall find rest.' The heart that rests most fully upon Christ will be most earnest and active in labor for Him."—*Steps to Christ*, pp. 75, 76.

"The Saviour's life on earth was not a life of ease and devotion to Himself, but He toiled with persistent, earnest, untiring effort for the salvation of lost mankind. From the manger to Calvary He followed the path of self-denial, and sought not to be released from arduous tasks, painful travels, and exhausting care and labor. He said, 'The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.' This was the one great object of His life. Everything else was secondary and subservient. It was His meat and drink to do the will of God and to finish His work. Self and self-interest had no part in His labor."—*Id.*, p. 82.

There can be no greater joy to the Christian than the joy of service for others. It is a foretaste of the reward to be received at the Master's appearing. "These things have I spoken unto you," said Jesus, "that My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." John 15: 11. "Our Saviour's joy was in the uplifting and redemption of fallen men. For this He counted not His life dear unto Himself, but endured the cross, despising the shame. So angels are ever engaged in working for the happiness of others. This is their joy. That which selfish hearts would regard as humiliating service, ministering to those who are wretched and in every way inferior in character and rank, is the work of sinless angels. The spirit of Christ's self-sacrificing love is the spirit that pervades heaven, and is the very essence of its bliss. This is the spirit that Christ's followers will possess, the work that they will do."—*Id.*, p. 81.

Faithfulness in this ministry for others brings with it still other rewards. Natural talents become efficient agencies for the blessing of others, and other essential talents are acquired. "Those who take up their appointed work will not only be a blessing to others, but they will themselves be blessed. The consciousness of duty well done will have a reflex influence upon their own souls. The despondent will forget their despondency, the weak will become strong, the ignorant intelligent, and all will find an unfailing helper in Him who has called them."—*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 148.

The joyful reward of fruit for earnest toil is not always withheld until the time of final awards. Fruitfulness in service is one of the greatest evidences of discipleship, and the great apostle to the Gentiles assures us, "In due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Gal. 6: 9.

Instances too numerous for the time of this service might be cited as fulfillment of these promises, but we can give only a few.

One church in the South is doing a large amount of missionary work by correspondence. Papers, tracts, and other literature are mailed, and a tactful "follow-up" series of letters are written to all to whom the literature is sent. Eighteen persons accepted the truth as the result of the work of this church last year.

A sister in a Central State tells how the Lord helped her to win a woman to the message by using "Brief Bible Readings for Busy People," and how this woman at once secured a supply of these Bible readings and began work for members of her family.

Through interest first aroused by Harvest Ingathering workers, one church has added eighteen new members, and one of these is now a successful Bible worker.

A church in Western Canada, located in a section where most of its missionary work must be done through the mails, has won twenty-nine souls to the message, the *Signs of the Times* being the principal item of literature.

A church in Illinois recently received seven new members as the result of brief house-to-house effort with *Present Truth*.

During the summer, one of our sisters had to wait for a train for a few hours at a junction point. During this time she met a woman to whom she gave a *Watchman Magazine*. As a result, the woman has accepted the truth, and is anxious to give it to others.

Literally hundreds of people are being won to Christ and His truth by faithful lay members around the world. Thus they are sharing in the joy of Him who "endured the cross, despising the shame" (Heb. 12: 2), and in the gathering day, still others will be saved as a result of their godly influence.

It is a part of the divine plan that every professed follower of Christ should share in the toils of service, and consequently in the blessed reward of service faithfully done. But the adversary of souls is determined to prevent every one from doing the heaven-appointed task, and to hinder its accomplishment as far as possible. "The enemy is seeking to divert the minds of our brethren and sisters from the work of preparing a people to stand in these last days."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VIII, p. 296. Success will be won only through earnest, prayerful effort.

"If any man's work abide, . . . he shall receive a reward." 1 Cor. 3: 14. Glorious will be the reward bestowed when the faithful workers gather about the throne of God and of the Lamb. When John in his mortal state beheld the glory of God, he fell as one dead: he was not able to endure the sight. But when the children of God shall have put on immortality, they will "see Him as He is." 1 John 3: 2. They will stand before the throne, accepted in the Beloved. All their sins have been blotted out, all their transgressions borne away. Now they can look upon the undimmed glory of the throne of God. They have been partakers with Christ in His sufferings, they have been workers together with Him in the plan of redemption, and they are partakers with Him in the joy of seeing souls saved in the kingdom of God, there to praise God through all eternity."—*Id.*, Vol. IX, p. 285.

The sentiment of the following poem affords inspiration to Christian workers today, who by faith have "respect unto the recompense of the reward" to be granted when the surging waves of sin are defeated, and the tide of God's glory shall fill the earth "as the waters cover the sea."

"Far on the reef the breakers recoil in shattered foam,  
And still the sea behind them urges its forces home;  
Its song of triumph rises o'er all the thunderous din—  
The waves may break in failure, but the tide is sure to win.

"The reef is strong and cruel. Against its jagged wall  
One wave, a score, a thousand, broken and beaten, fall,  
Not in defeat, but triumph, for the sea comes rushing in—  
Wave after wave is routed, but the tide is sure to win.

"O mighty sea, thy lesson in changing spray is cast;  
In God's great plan of ages, it matters not, at last,  
How wide the shore of evil, how cruel the reef of sin,—  
The wave may be defeated, but the tide will surely win."

J. ADAMS STEVENS.

## The Joy of the Lord

"THESE things have I spoken unto you," said Christ, "that My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." Ever before Him, Christ saw the result of His mission. His earthly life, so full of toil and self-sacrifice, was cheered by the thought that He would not have all this travail for naught. By giving His life for the life of men, He would restore in humanity the image of God. He would lift us up from the dust, reshape the character after the pattern of His own character, and make it beautiful with His own glory.

Christ saw of the travail of His soul and was satisfied. He viewed the expanse of eternity, and saw the happiness of those who through His humiliation should receive pardon and everlasting life. He was wounded for their transgressions, bruised for their iniquities. The chastisement of their peace was upon Him, and with His stripes they were healed. He heard the shout of the redeemed. He heard the ransomed ones singing the song of Moses and the Lamb. Although the baptism of blood must first be received, although the sins of the world were to weigh upon His innocent soul, although the shadow of an unspeakable woe was upon Him; yet for the joy that was set before Him He chose to endure the cross, and despised the shame.

This joy all His followers are to share. However great and glorious hereafter, *our reward is not all to be reserved for the time of final deliverance. Even here we are by faith to enter into the Saviour's joy.* Like Moses, we are to endure as seeing the invisible.

Now the church is militant. Now we are confronted with a world in darkness, almost wholly given over to idolatry. But the day is coming when the battle will have been fought, the victory won. The will of God is to be done on earth, as it is done in heaven. The nations of the saved will know no other law than the law of heaven. All will be a happy, united family, clothed with the garments of praise and thanksgiving,—the robe of Christ's righteousness. All nature, in its surpassing loveliness, will offer to God a tribute of praise and adoration. The world will be bathed in the light of heaven. The light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be sevenfold greater than it is now. The years will move on in gladness. Over the scene the morning stars will sing together, and the sons of God will shout for joy, while God and Christ will unite in proclaiming, "There shall be no more sin, neither shall there be any more death."

These visions of future glory, scenes pictured by the hand of God, should be dear to His children.

Stand on the threshold of eternity, and hear the gracious welcome given to those who in this life have co-operated with Christ, regarding it as a privilege and an honor to suffer for His sake. . . . There the redeemed ones greet those who directed them to the uplifted Saviour. They unite in praising Him who died that human beings might have the life that measures with the life of God. The conflict is over. All tribulation and strife are at an end. . . .

We need to keep ever before us this vision of things unseen. It is thus that we shall be able to set a right value on the things of eternity and the things of time. It is this that will give us power to influence others for the higher life.—*Mrs. E. G. White, in "The Ministry of Healing," pp. 504, 506, 508.*

## Suggestions for Missionary Meeting

### First Week

OPENING EXERCISES: Song; Prayer; Review of Reading Course Assignment.

Text: "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will He repay him again." Prov. 19: 17.

Comment: While it is true that we should never bestow benefits upon others with the expectation of being materially benefited in return, nevertheless the Lord does hold out the assurance of reward for faithfulness in bestowing our goods upon the needy. Christ asked the rich young man to sell his possessions and give to the poor, adding that thus he would have treasure in heaven.

The following illustrates this lesson in an interesting way:

"Occasionally a benevolent action wrought in faith brings with it an instantaneous recompense in kind; therein Providence is seen as smiling upon the deed. The late John Andrew Jones, a poor Baptist minister, while walking in Cheapside, was appealed to by some one he knew for help. He had but a shilling in the world, and poised it in his

mind to give or not to give. The greater distress of his acquaintance prevailed, and he gave his all, walking away with a sweet remembrance of the promise, 'He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will He pay him again.' He had not gone a hundred yards farther before he met a gentleman who said, 'Ah, Mr. Jones, I am glad to see you. I have had this sovereign in my waistcoat pocket this week past for some poor minister, and you may as well have it.' Mr. Jones was wont to add, when telling the story, 'If I had not stopped to give relief, I should have missed the gentleman and the sovereign too.'"

Personal Testimonies: (Give a few minutes' time for the members present to relate how they have been rewarded in their ministry for others.) J. A. S.

### Second Week

Opening Exercises: Song; Prayer; Review of Reading Course Assignment.

Text: "It is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." 1 Cor. 2: 9.

Comment: The most fervid flights of imagination cannot compass the glorious things to be inherited by the children of God in the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. Prophets have caught fleeting glimpses of the saints' reward, but nothing less than the language of the heavenly Canaan could fittingly describe it. Recounting the glories seen in vision, Mrs. E. G. White writes: "The wonderful things I there saw, I cannot describe. O that I could talk in the language of Canaan, then could I tell a little of the glory of the better world!"—"Early Writings," p. 19. There will be a new heaven and a new earth. There will be the infinite God, and also our blessed Lord, the Christ, crowned King of kings and Lord of lords. There will be the tree of life and the river of life. As in creation, all will be very good, and all will be ours through our Saviour.

"I once heard a father tell that when he removed his family to a new residence, where the accommodation was much more ample, and the substance much more rich and varied than that to which they had previously been accustomed, his youngest son, yet a lisping infant, ran round every room, and scanned every article with ecstasy, calling out in childish wonder at every new sight, 'Is this ours, father? and is this ours?' The child did not say 'yours,' and I observed that the father, while he told the story, was not offended with the freedom. You could read in his glistening eye that the infant's confidence in appropriating as his own all that his father had, was an important element in his satisfaction.

"Such, I suppose, will be the surprise, and joy, and appropriating confidence with which the child of our Father's family will count all his own, when he is removed from the comparatively mean condition of things present, and enters the infinite of things to come. When the glories of heaven burst upon his view, he does not stand at a distance like a stranger, saying, 'O God, these are Thine.' He bounds forward to touch and taste every provision which those blessed mansions contain, exclaiming as he looks in the Father's face, 'Father, this and this is ours.' The dear child is glad of all the Father's riches, and the Father is gladder of His dear child."—W. Arnot, in "Feathers for Arrows," pp. 109, 110.

Let us rejoice in the riches of God in Christ Jesus. These are ours now by faith. And let us try to win others to share these joys here and for eternity. J. A. S.

### Third Week

Opening Exercises: Song; Prayer; Review of Reading Course Assignment.

Text: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6: 33.

Comment: Too many Christians fail to recognize the immediate blessings God bestows upon all who render to Him faithful service. "When men use their powers as God

directs them to, their talents will increase, their ability will enlarge, and they will have heavenly wisdom in seeking to save those who are lost."—"An Appeal," p. 5. Christ doubly emphasized this truth in the parable of the talents. By use, the talents were increased 100 per cent, while the one who refused to use the talent God had given him, was despoiled of even that one.

"Whenever the Lord sets His servants to do extraordinary work, He always gives them extraordinary strength; or if He puts them to unusual suffering, He gives them unusual patience. . . . If God calls us to common and ordinary trials, He will defray the charges of our warfare by thousands, but if He commands us to an unusual struggle with some tremendous foe, He will discharge the liabilities of our war by millions, according to the riches of His grace in which He has abounded toward us through Christ Jesus."—C. H. Spurgeon.

Note examples of how God has blessed faithful service; i. e., Joseph, Daniel, Peter, leaders in the Advent Movement, etc. J. A. S.

### Fourth Week

Opening Exercises: Song; Prayer; Missionary Reports; Review of Reading Course Assignment.

Scripture Lesson: Matt. 5: 13.

Illustration: "The Uses of Salt."

### The Uses of Salt

"Ye are the salt of the earth," said Jesus, and this is commonly taken to mean that the followers of Christ are to furnish that which satisfies the soul and preserves the spiritual life. But salt has other uses than to satisfy and preserve. "A Bible-study group of college girls were recently discussing this familiar passage in the Sermon on the Mount, and were asked why Christians are like salt. All at once thought of the preservative qualities of salt. Then a Chinese girl in the group quietly suggested, 'Salt creates thirst.' The truth went home. As one of the leaders afterward said, 'Our lives should be such that people will continually come to us and ask us to explain ourselves.'" Do our lives create in others the thirst that only the water of life can satisfy?

### Good Mottoes for Missionary Meetings

"UNLESS Jesus Christ is Lord of all, He is not Lord at all."

"The church that forgets itself in its passion for others will in that forgetfulness find itself."

"This is a lost world to be saved, and not simply an ignorant world to be educated."

"That life is most worth living whose work is most worth while."

"If we have not enough vital religion to share it with all the world, it is doomed at home."

"The best remedy for a sick church is to put it on a missionary diet."

"Love never asks, How much must I do? but, How much can I do?"

"You might as well try to cure smallpox by scenery as to try to save souls by improvement of environment."

"Let us fail in trying to do something rather than sit still and fail by doing nothing."

"God will not look you over for medals, degrees, and diplomas, but for scars."

"With God go over the sea; without Him not over the threshold."

—The Missionary Review of the World.

"THE Lord has no place in His work for those who have a greater desire to win the crown than to bear the cross. He wants men who are more intent upon doing their duty than upon receiving their reward,—men who are more solicitous for principle than for promotion."—"The Ministry of Healing," pp. 476, 477.

"We need to beware of self-pity. Never indulge the feeling that you are not esteemed as you should be, that your efforts are not appreciated, that your work is too difficult."—"The Ministry of Healing," p. 476.

### Keeping the Doors Open

It is not only to the heathen in foreign lands that we need to bring the word, but to the unreached and neglected at home, who are strangers in God's house. They must be shown that the church has a cordial welcome for them, and that they are entitled to a share in its ministrations and to the loving fellowship of its members. It is our duty to win them over by every sanctified means in our power, to come into the life of the church and have an active part in its blessings and privileges.

The church of God is not a close corporation, a select society, a little group set apart and enjoying special spiritual privileges which may not be shared with the many. There is no monopoly in God's blessing, and there should be no monopoly of privileges in church life. Jesus taught the law of love and kindness, and we should exemplify our obedience by our church hospitality. "All doors should stand open that lead to Jesus."

When you go to church next Sabbath, try to bring with you some one who has been a stranger to the Lord's house, and encourage other members to do likewise. The invitation to worship God is not to you and yours only, and to other regular attendants,—it is to all the people; for all alike have a debt of gratitude to pay, a prayer for help to offer, or a song of joy to raise. You may not be able to publish the message throughout the entire nation, but you can do so, in a quiet, kindly manner, at least within your own circle.

ERNEST LLOYD.

### Reading Course Assignment for the Month of December

#### First Week

"The Ministry of Healing," pp. 439-450.

Special Study: Paragraphs 2-4, p. 450.

Review: 1. Why is skepticism so alluring and so dangerous to youth? 2. What would be the result of superseding the study of the writings of infidels by study of the Word of God? 3. Is an extensive knowledge of historical and theological writings essential as a preparation for Christian work? 4. What importance is attached to a knowledge of the heathen classics and of the dead languages? 5. What should be the Christian's attitude toward high-class fiction, romance, myths, and fairy tales?

#### Second Week

"The Ministry of Healing," pp. 451-469.

Special Study: Paragraph 4, pp. 453, 454.

Review: 1. What is the standard of gospel ethics? 2. What is the strongest evidence of the fall of man from a high estate? 3. What is the Christian life said to be? 4. What divine provision enabled Adam and Eve before their transgression to clearly perceive the character of God and His works? 5. How only may this illuminating light be restored?

#### Third Week

"The Ministry of Healing," pp. 469-497.

Special Study: Paragraphs 1, 2, p. 488.

Review: 1. What is essential in order to draw sinners out of the swift-running current? 2. What comforting assurance is applicable only to one in the furnace of affliction or in the shadows of sorrow? 3. By what standard does God estimate man? 4. What is the safe measurement of duty?

#### Fourth Week

"The Ministry of Healing," pp. 497-517.

Special Study: Paragraphs 2-5, p. 502.

Review: 1. What ten essential qualifications of Christian living are enumerated? 2. What admonition is given concerning the maintaining of individuality in Christian life and service? 3. What is the nature of the twofold life of the Christian? 4. Aside from "hearing sermons Sabbath after Sabbath," and "reading the Bible through and through," what is equally essential?

"WHILE the shepherds were watching their flocks on the hills of Bethlehem, angels from heaven visited them. So today while the humble worker for God is following his employment, angels of God stand by his side, listening to his word, noting the manner in which his work is done, to see if larger responsibilities may be intrusted to his hands."—*"The Ministry of Healing," p. 477.*

### Retrospect and Prospect

THIS ISSUE of the GAZETTE completes the volume for 1923. How quickly the months have slipped by! Another year's record is just closing, and what has been written? Is your church stronger than it was a year ago? Have you fully measured up to the program God has outlined for His people in these closing hours of earthly history?

In the main it has been a good year for God's work. The word of God is not bound, and His Spirit has witnessed to the preaching of the message, so that many thousands have united with those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. For every blessing, and for all of them, we thank God and take courage.

But now for the new year. It may be a ladder of achievement consisting of 365 distinct steps toward God's ideal for your church. It may be a year of glorious triumphs in soul-winning, and it should be. "The church of Christ is God's appointed agency for the salvation of men. Its mission is to carry the gospel to the world. And the obligation rests upon all Christians."—*"Steps to Christ," p. 85.*

Upon the officers of the church rests the sacred responsibility of making every member of their church an efficient soul-winner. So we are told by the Spirit of the Lord: "Those who have the spiritual oversight of the church should devise ways and means by which an opportunity may be given to every member of the church to act some part in God's work."—*"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 116.* And again we are told: "The church of Christ is organized for service. . . . Every church member should be engaged in some line of service for the Master. . . . Many would be willing to work if they were taught how to begin. . . . Every church should be a training school for Christian workers."—*"The Ministry of Healing," pp. 148, 149.*

During the coming year we plan to put forth redoubled effort to help our church officers in the discharge of their heavy duties. Each month we will briefly outline how the missionary officers of the church may fulfil their sacred duties, with specific counsel to elders, missionary leaders, and church missionary secretaries.

The year 1924 will be an epochal year in Seventh-day Adventist history. It will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the sending out of our first missionary to a foreign field. Marvelous indeed has been the progress of our world-wide work since that eventful day when Elder J. N. Andrews set sail for another shore in fulfilment of the prophecy of Revelation 14: 6-14.

It seems eminently fitting, in launching the missionary program of this "golden jubilee year," to dedicate the first Sabbath service to "The Missionary Consecration of the Whole Church." How could we better celebrate the launching of our foreign mission work than by the consecration of our entire membership for active missionary work, thus sharing in the world-task of giving the last warning message to all who will hear? The topics for the weekly missionary meeting also suggest this theme, and will serve well as a background for a deeply spiritual prayer service.

The February topic is, "The Missions Investment Plan." This practical missionary feature has grown rapidly in popularity in the last few years. The plan has been richly blessed of God in providing additional funds for missionary work, that otherwise it would not be possible to furnish from many family purses. It also makes very real the Lord's purpose to be a laborer together with His people. The products of the soil, as grain, potatoes, etc., or the income from various sources, has been dedicated to this fund, and it has been a glad time when the proceeds in cash were turned into the Lord's treasury.

"The Banner of Truth and Religious Liberty" will be the theme for March. The growing spirit of intolerance warns every lover of true liberty to make the principles known to every one. A heavy responsibility rests upon God's people to inform all who will listen or read, as to the meaning of movements already asserting power in many places.

The month of April will have for its theme, "The 'Mystic Stone' in Motion." The ministry of healing will be discussed in its practical outworking, and every believer will

be asked to help in strengthening our medical missionary work in foreign lands. We must add to our medical missionary facilities in foreign lands as we have to our mission publishing work.

May will come to us with all the wonderful promise of springtime. As the tiller of the soil has made ready and now sows the seed, so the church should again recall the blessedness of sowing the gospel seed. "The Evangelizing Ministry of the Printed Page" will be an outline of practical, inspiring instruction that should encourage even greater use of our Spirit-filled literature than ever before. "A Tract a Day" should become a denominational habit.

June ushers in summer, and high temperatures and vacation time. But our church officers should give special study to plans for missionary work during the summertime. The June topic, "Missionary Activities During Midsummer," is calculated to aid in planning so that there will be no vacation in missionary work, even though the church members are at the seaside or off in the mountains. Everywhere there are souls to warn and win to the message.

One of the special lines of work that should be undertaken by our church members is Bible work. Already many of our lay members have developed into efficient Bible workers, all of which proves that many thousands more could become efficient, and this again proves that they should put forth effort to become capable Bible workers. So the topic for July will be provided to help bring this about. It will be called, "Opening the Scriptures to Others."

Among the many admonitions ever held before Israel of old was that they should remember that once they were "strangers." We, too, should recall that once we were "strangers" to God's truth, and it is because some faithful worker found us that we are able to rejoice in the satisfaction of being adopted into the heavenly family. Millions of foreigners are now in North America, and more are coming. We are doing an ever-increasing volume of missionary work for these people, but much more must be done if we are to be guiltless when the work is finished. August missionary topic, "Conveying the Message to Foreigners in the Home Field," outlines progress and plans for extension.

Years of successful effort in behalf of funds for missions, and a host of souls won to the truth in both home and foreign fields, have demonstrated that it was God's leading which brought into existence the Harvest Ingathering plan. This annual campaign for both home and foreign missions is now a world-wide plan, and every month of the year witnesses our faithful people going from home to home with the story of our mission work, and records goodly sums gathered to herald the message on to darkened regions. September will again mark the beginning of the Harvest Ingathering campaign in North America and in other parts of the world. The Sabbath service on September 6 will be devoted to the Ingathering work, and it is expected that 1924 will mark still another advance in this heaven-sent plan to hasten on the triumph day.

October will be devoted to one of our oldest missionary plans. In the early days of our work, our message was sent to many foreign lands by mail, or through packages of our papers carried on ships and left at harbors. Truly, "the pen is mightier than the sword" when it comes to advancing the Lord's work, and many, many more of our churches should organize correspondence bands. Through the GAZETTE topic for October, "With Pen and Voice," we plan to give practical suggestions for inspiring greater use of this agency in carrying the message everywhere at small cost.

"Tracing the Divine Footprints" will mold missionary thought during November. Emphasis will be placed upon the wonderful influence of helpful ministry to the poor, the sick, or others needing help. We have been told that "the Saviour of the world devoted more time and labor to healing the afflicted of their maladies than to preaching."—*"Testimonies," Vol. IV, p. 225.* This service comes at an opportune time to encourage co-operation of all the members of the church with the Dorcas society and the Christian Help band, which co-operate with the deacons and deaconesses in looking after the needy ones in the territory of the church.

The work of the year will be reviewed in the light of "Heaven's Reporting System." December's topic will do more than portray the activity of our people during the months preceding; it will clearly present the virtue of the reporting plan as well as its denominational usefulness. The final judgment will be dependent upon the reports made by angel witnesses, and the record will be a faithful report of the deeds done in the body. This service should serve greatly to strengthen the reporting percentage of every church.

The general program for each month is thus outlined. In addition to the topics as suggested, there will be much helpful material for the weekly missionary meeting. More and more it is being demonstrated that the missionary prayer meeting is the ideal plan for the midweek service, and we desire to offer suggestions to our officers that will be helpful in the conduct of these services. Every conference worker and every church officer must bend every effort to train every member for soul-winning service, because "the work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."—*"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 117.*

J. A. S.

### The Home Missionary Wall Calendar for 1924

THIS calendar is now on sale, and should be placed in every Seventh-day Adventist home. While embodying all the desirable features of the calendar for 1923, it furnishes many additional features of helpfulness and interest.

The year 1924 is significant in our denominational history as the jubilee year of missions in the advent movement, as it marks fifty years since our first missionary crossed the seas. A photograph of this missionary, with those of more than twenty others who left the homeland in consecutive years, is furnished. In addition to these, the calendar takes you to the homes of Seventh-day Adventist missionaries around the world. It makes two stops in China, one in the Hawaiian Islands, two in India, one in Chosen, two in Africa, one in South America, and three in the islands of the Pacific,—Samoa, Fiji, and Atchin,—a most inspiring tour, in which every believer in the advent message will take delight. Never before has the Home Missionary Wall Calendar been of such truly inspiring interest.

Many other practical items of information are included, such as (1) the denominational program of special days, special offerings, and special campaigns throughout the year; (2) the national holidays; (3) moon's phases; (4) sunset table, map, key, etc.; (5) a daily text of Scripture, and a gem of thought each month from the writings of Mrs. E. G. White; (6) a Bible reading, entitled, "God's Calendar," presenting Biblical and historical facts regarding the cycle of time, and giving clear and unmistakable evidence as to the origin of the apparent change in God's calendar, which places the sacred day of rest at the beginning instead of at the end of the week. A gift of this calendar to friends is good missionary work, as it carries the third angel's message.

The calendar consists of 14 pages, 12 x 19 inches in size. The front cover is a beautiful three-color production of a drawing made especially for this calendar, and throughout the other pages there is a blending of colors which gives a most pleasing effect.

Church elders and missionary secretaries are especially requested to bring this attractive calendar to the attention of all church members, and to see that the orders are cared for at the earliest possible moment. Send for a copy at once, and place it on exhibition. This calendar will help in promoting the church work all through the year. It will be a real disappointment not to be able to secure this convenient and artistic Seventh-day Adventist scripture and missionary calendar.

Price, 25 cents, postpaid. (Higher in Canada and foreign countries.) Orders filled through the tract societies.

# Missionary Volunteer Department

## Devotional Meetings for December I

Topic: *The Morning Watch.*

### Senior

1. Song Service.
2. Morning Watch Texts of the Week.
3. Scripture: Ps. 5: 1-3; 90: 14, A. R. V.
4. Prayer Service.
5. Announcements and Offerings.
6. Special Music.
7. Reading: "Each Day Is a Fresh Beginning."
8. Talk: "Do We Value It?"
9. Recitation: "The Hour of the Morning."
10. Talk: "The Morning Watch Calendar Will —"
11. Plans and Responses.
12. Closing Song and "Mizpah."

### Junior

1. Song Service.
2. Morning Watch Drill.
3. Prayer Service.
4. Reading: "Could Ye Not Watch?"
5. Incident: "An Electric Pilot."
6. Story: "A Word to Martha."
7. Recitation: "The Hour of the Morning."
8. Superintendent's Talk.
9. Song and Prayer.

### Senior Notes

*This Meeting.*—For many years it has been customary to remember the Morning Watch at this time of the year. We do not need to seek far to find the reason for this. Prayer lies at the foundation of the Christian's life, and the Morning Watch seeks to impress this truth. The Missionary Volunteer Society that takes its stand upon this platform is facing the future in a way sure to lead to a larger life and influence. Daily prayer means daily communion, and daily communion means daily growth, and growing Missionary Volunteers are the kind we want to have during the coming year. Therefore this topic.

*On Hand.*—For this meeting you should have a supply of the 1924 Morning Watch Calendar on hand for distribution. You should also have the Morning Watch Pledge, Missionary Volunteer Series No. 11, 50 cents a hundred, and if possible, also the three leaflets:

- No. 40. The Morning Watch .....\$ .01  
 No. 66. Margaret's Morning Watch ..... .01  
 No. 74. Living the Life That Wins ..... .01

If you are not able to have the new supply of the 1924 Morning Watch Calendar on hand, use the leaflets with your program, and then when you come to No. 11, "Plans and Responses," find out those of your society that wish the calendar. Make your membership 100 per cent. You may also desire the little advertising leaflet telling of the calendar. This will be furnished you free in quantities, should you desire it. Order of your tract society.

*2. Morning Watch Texts of the Week.*—A short, live review of the texts for the past week would be well here. Give your members warning, and go through it quickly. Do not lecture and preach, but make your review interesting and desirable. "Sell" the idea of the Morning Watch to your members, as if you were selling them some plan that would be profitable—as indeed this will be.

*3. Scripture.*—Just the clear reading of the texts noted. Not necessary to comment.

*4. Prayer Service.*—Short prayers, right to the point; our need of the Master's guidance.

*5. Announcements.*—Make these brief and to the point, and not such as will detract from the aim of the meeting.

*6. Special Music.*—Of course, appropriate and consecrated.

*7. Reading: "Each Day Is a Fresh Beginning."*—The following is by Prof. M. E. Kern, general secretary of the Missionary Volunteer Department:

"Each day is a fresh beginning." If we "walk with God," it must be a daily walk. "Each morning consecrate yourself to God for that day." Before going forth to the work and temptations of the day, spend some time in communion with your Lord and Master. It will deepen your love, increase your courage, and strengthen you, with might in the inner man.

Jesus kept the Morning Watch. "The early morning often found Him in some secluded place, meditating, searching the Scriptures, or in prayer."—"The Ministry of Healing," p. 52. Dear friend, where does the early morning find you?

Do you go forth each day from the place of secret communion armed for victory? or do you, without prayer and meditation, move on to sure defeat?

"Have you and I today  
 Stood silent as with Christ, apart from joy or fear  
 Of life, to see by faith His face;  
 To look, if but a moment, at its grace,  
 And grow, by brief companionship, more true,  
 More nerved to lead, to dare, to do  
 For Him at any cost? Have we today  
 Found time, in thought, our hand to lay  
 In His, and thus compare  
 His will with ours, and wear  
 The impress of His wish? Be sure  
 Such contact will endure  
 Throughout the day; will help us walk erect  
 Through storm and flood; detect  
 Within the hidden life, sin's dross and stain;  
 Revive a thought of love for Him again;  
 Steady the steps which waver; help us see  
 The footpath meant for you and me."

*8. Talk: "Do We Value It?"*—The following is by Mrs. Irene Curtis Walters:

"Do I value the Morning Watch? is a question for each to ask himself. If we cannot answer it in the affirmative, is it not because we ourselves are to blame—because we have failed to give it its rightful place in our lives? A great scientist has declared, 'Prayer is the mightiest power in the universe, and the Christian world is blind to the fact.' So perhaps we are blind to the value of the Morning Watch because we have not tested its power and blessing. The university man who had a terrific fight with doubt, and who in speaking of it said, 'The only thing in the world that saved me was my practice of keeping the Morning Watch,' was brought to realize its worth as perhaps you and I do not.

"The value of the Morning Watch does not lie simply in learning a text of Scripture, but it is in searching for the great truths hidden therein, and in meeting the Master,—coming to know Him better, to hear His voice, to realize His presence, to look into His face. Of the Master Himself we read: 'The early morning often found him in some secluded place, meditating, searching the Scriptures, or in prayer.' If our Saviour felt the need thus to turn aside, should not the morning hours find us sitting at His feet?

"Just recently I was told the story of a young man in college who was under appointment to a foreign field. He hesitated to go, feeling that he was not fitted. Finally he decided to accept the call, and at the same time made the decision to spend at least one hour each morning in prayer and Bible study. After many years of successful ministry in the mission field, he returned, and in telling of his experiences, declared that the thing which he had found most helpful and which had contributed most to his success was his decision to spend that morning hour alone with God.

"It is said that Sherwood Eddy was one of the greatest soul-winners in his undergraduate days that the academic world has ever known. Why? Because he knew the value of the Morning Watch. It was his custom during his college days to spend one hour and a half with His Lord each morning before he went out to meet his fellow students. We do not wonder at his success.

"How much we might do for our unsaved friends if this morning hour were but more faithfully used! If we wonder why we do not win more souls to Christ, perhaps here is the secret of our failure—broken communion with heaven always spells failure as a soul-winner. We need the help of God for this,—yes, and in all our ways,—and is not the morning hour the best time to receive it?"

*9. Recitation: "The Hour of the Morning."*—This poem by Elder Santee will be found elsewhere.

*10. Talk: "The Morning Watch Calendar Will —."*—This is designed as a practical talk, telling just what may be expected from the regular observance of the Morning Watch. Put your strongest speaker on this, and strive to emphasize the practical side of it. We want to live right, and we want to know how to succeed; but we feel that we need help,—real, practical, actual help that will carry us along. J. Stuart Holden tells this story:

"I saw a boy pedaling uphill against the wind, and it was hard work. Just as he was working most strenuously, a trolley car came by. The boy seized it with one hand. Then you know what happened. He went up that hill like a bird. Then it flashed on me: I am like the boy on the bicycle in my weariness and weakness. I am pedaling uphill, and am almost worn out with the task. But here at my hand is a great available power—the strength of the Lord Jesus. I have only to get in touch with Him, and maintain the communion, and He will help me up the hill of life."

That illustrates the practical thought of the real help that such a plan as the Morning Watch may be to the earnest Christian seeking to succeed. Here are some other thoughts, put in a very terse way, of what may be expected from this plan:

- (1) It will give you a good morning thought.
- (2) It will invite you to meet your Master face to face before you meet the world.
- (3) It will remind you to place your hand in the Saviour's as you start out for the day.



(4) It will give one thought on your Sabbath school lesson each day.

(5) It will help you to form the habit of regular secret prayer and personal Bible study.

(6) It will daily place in your quiver an arrow for routing the enemy in the hour of temptation.

(7) It will help you to give a reason for your hope of salvation.

(8) It contains a table that will tell you when the sun sets on Fridays during 1924.

(9) It will make a nice Christmas or New Year's gift for some friend or a Sabbath school pupil.

(10) *Save five cents somehow*, and get a copy of the calendar. Persuade others around you to procure copies also. Do not fail to get this little daily reminder, a guide to the path that leads to a life of spiritual power.

"Take a moment in the morning, a moment if no more, it is better than an hour when the trying day is o'er."

W. L. Hyatt brings this testimony:

"One of the greatest needs of our young people, if they would keep up their interest in the message, is prayer and the study of God's Word. We realize that there is a necessity for some aid to study, meditation, and prayer which will help our youth to adhere to this custom day by day. This need is filled by our Morning Watch Calendar. Thousands of young people are learning the value of the Morning Watch, and to the faithful observance of it hundreds have attributed their growth in Christian life.

**11. Plans and Responses.**—This is the time to take the names of those who will have the 1924 calendar for themselves and desire to sign the pledge, either that in the calendar or the one mentioned in the first of these notes. Distribute these helps quickly, and also the free leaflet telling of the 1924 calendar, and then explain how they can be used as a missionary agency to bring comfort and blessing to others. Mention and urge the giving of the calendar to friends for the holiday time. A special gift edition is ready for this purpose. It is bound in special art paper, and tied with dainty silk cord. It is well termed, the De Luxe Edition. It costs fifteen cents in a holiday envelope mailed or ready for mailing. The plain edition, paper covers, with illustration in colors, is but five cents each. The interior of the calendar is the same in both. There is a wide field of usefulness for this calendar. It has become very popular during the years; so well liked, in fact, that the big convention at Colorado Springs this year voted, and had reason to expect, that this calendar for 1924 would reach the 100,000 mark. And especially note the opportunities of doing missionary work. Many have interested banks, and factories, and various Christian organizations, such as the W. C. T. U., and churches to give the calendar to their members and friends. One business man in Virginia bought 200 copies of the 1923 Morning Watch Calendar to give to his factory employees as a Christian fellowship suggestion.

Less than 750 Missionary Volunteers of the British Union distributed 5,000 among their friends.

A young lady in a small Iowa town sent copies of the beautiful booklet to several friends, who became so charmed as to secure from her additional copies for their friends, until a large circle in the town were enjoying the privileges of the Morning Watch.

Sanitarium hospitals throughout the States have placed a copy in every room to accompany the Gideon Bible.

Just note the good that you can do in this way. Have some special member or a committee canvass the situation in your town to see what should be done in spreading the Morning Watch idea in your community. Present the idea at this time, and get your members to express themselves as to their willingness to help. The circulars will help you, and you can have as many as you can well use. They are free.

**Scripture Helps.**—These are given with the idea of your speakers' using some of the thoughts and experiences from the Sacred Word. Fellowship with Christ: Matt. 18: 20; Luke 24: 15, 32; 1 Cor. 1: 9; 1 John 1: 3; Rev. 3: 20; John 11: 5, 36; 13: 23; 15: 15. Fellowship with God: Ex. 19: 3, 20; 20: 21; 24: 2; 33: 11; Num. 12: 8; James 2: 23; 1 John 1: 6, 7; Gen. 6: 8; 5: 24; 12: 2; Ps. 24: 1-4; 25: 14; Isa. 41: 10; Zech. 2: 5; John 14: 16-18; Eph. 2: 18; 1 John 4: 18; Rev. 21: 3; 22: 3, 4.

**Send to Us.**—If your campaign to extend the use of the Morning Watch Calendar is especially successful, write to us here at Washington, and tell us about it. Address your letter to the Suggestion Corner as noted on the last page of the GAZETTE. We shall be glad to hear from you, and will acknowledge your letter.

U. V. W.

#### Junior Notes

**To the Leader.**—You will specially desire to read through very carefully the Senior Notes, particularly the part that deals with the plans and suggestions as to the campaign and the supplies that should be on hand. It may be that you will think the Morning Watch is old, and enough has been

said about it. But remember it is a tried and true plan which has helped thousands to live better, truer Christian lives. You want the Juniors in your society to start right, and to form right habits while they are young. The Morning Watch will help them and train them. If you cannot get all the leaflets mentioned in the Senior Notes, give out the one, "Margaret's Morning Watch" (No. 66, 1 cent each), to your Juniors. It is a delightful story, and will be found very helpful. Also have some of the pledge slips mentioned for distribution. Pray that the meeting may be inspiring to the members of the society, and leave a lasting impression upon them for the forming of the habit of daily prayer and Bible study.

**2. Morning Watch Drill.**—You, no doubt, have had these during the past year. Make this one especially attractive, interesting, and lively. "Sell" the idea of the Morning Watch. In other words, make them want more of it.

**3. Prayer Service.**—Ask for several short prayers, with the main theme of strength and understanding of what it means to pray often.

**4. Reading:** "Could Ye Not Watch?"—The following is by J. W. Mace:

"It wasn't in the rushing, roaring tornado that rent the hoary, rocky summit of historic Sinai; it wasn't in the mighty earthquake that rocked the mount to its foundations; and it wasn't in the majestic conflagration that raged along its wooded slopes; but it was with a still small voice that God talked with Elijah. He spoke to Moses from the burning bush out in the remote part of the deserts of Midian, to Joshua at sunset on the plains of Jericho, to Gideon by night as he threshed in secret; and in each case He came with a message of deliverance and the power to accomplish. He speaks to us in our quiet times; when free from daily duties, we can hear His voice more distinctly. As one writer has expressed it, 'The shuffling of our feet makes so much noise along the busy thoroughfare of life, that we cannot hear the voice of God speaking peace to our souls.' Stop a moment in the morning, and listen for the message that may come. Keep the Morning Watch with Him, and know of a surety that He will not fail to fulfil His promise, 'As thy days, so shall thy strength be.' Let the Morning Watch Calendar be not only a guide to your devotions, but an inspiration for every day of 1924."

**5. Incident:** "An Electric Pilot."—Have one of the Juniors tell in his own words the following incident:

"The United States Navy has been testing a new method of piloting a vessel toward New York harbor in a fog. An electric cable was laid for more than twelve miles on the bottom of the sea. Around the cable was created an electro-magnetic field into which the vessel sailed. The officer on duty was able, by means of special instruments, to 'listen in,' and steer the vessel according to the volume of sound from the cable. As he got away from the cable, the sound diminished; as he drew near it, the sound increased. The experiment is said to have been a success, and indicates that it may be possible to bring boats into harbor in defiance of the greatest enemy of mariners.

"Is there not laid through life some such cable which, if our ears were keen enough, we could pick up and follow through every fog that obscures the course of duty? There is at least the equivalent of it. When our spiritual senses are sufficiently developed (and they can be developed if we will), we may hear the guiding voice within. This, as Jesus said about the power to work certain miracles, comes not except by prayer. Every one knows that at times fogs gather and blot out all moral landmarks. Would it not be worth while to practise the Morning Watch, and become sensitive to the voices of the spiritual world?"

**6. Story:** "A Word to Martha."—This can be read or told by two Juniors, each taking a part. It is by Mrs. Harriet Holt:

"There goes Esther now," thought Helen, as she saw her sister take the path back of the house which led into a small grove of trees. She knew also that hidden under her sister's sweater was a Bible, and that Esther would not be back for an hour at least.

"I'd like to do that just as much as she does," Helen's thoughts ran rebelliously, 'but we're late with the work now; dishes aren't done, beds aren't made, and the week's ironing isn't even touched. I don't care, I don't think it's fair for her to take the best of the morning off like that, and leave the drudgery for me.'

"Breathing a prayer that God would keep the jealous thought from hurting her soul, Helen put her energies to the morning tasks. She was a good housekeeper, and she prided herself not a little on this fact. Under her quick, skilful hands the house was soon orderly and spotless. She had already ironed several pieces when Esther, radiant and fresh from her hour with the Master, stepped in.

"Why, sister, that's my task! You shouldn't have touched it," she said, taking the iron from her sister.

"I know that's what we agreed on, but from the looks of things I thought it wouldn't be finished, and I do hate to have the ironing last over during the week." Helen could

scarcely refrain from a tinge of sarcasm in her voice as she answered; but regretting it instantly, she put her arm about her sister and gave her a hearty kiss. Then taking her Bible, she followed the path to the woods.

"It was eleven-thirty by the time she had reached a secluded spot and had opened her Bible. 'I've but half an hour to read my chapters, study my Sabbath school lesson, and get back to the house,' thought Helen to herself. 'I can't take a minute more, for I have an appointment in two hours, and I'll just have time to get lunch and wash the dishes before I go.'

"She gave a little sigh as she noticed the morning reading was rather long, but bent to her task immediately, and read every word faithfully. 'Ten minutes to twelve! How time does fly!' Five minutes for the Sabbath school lesson, three more to memorize the Morning Watch verse, and then a hurried prayer and a resolution to do better next time. As the hand of her watch pointed to twelve, Helen got up and started back to the house. She didn't feel satisfied with her morning hour, not one bit; but she didn't see how it could have been otherwise. She hadn't been lazy, and the work had to be done, she told herself.

"Then it all flashed before her—her way and Esther's. She remembered guiltily that she had let herself grumble audibly when Esther had gone off without lifting a hand in the morning work. Mother had only smiled, and told her to leave Esther's share, that it would be done in time. She had retorted that she couldn't bear to see things messed up so long, and mother had replied, 'She "hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her."'

"Down in her heart Helen knew that Esther truly had chosen the better way, for her life was a constant proof of it. Without any apparent effort on her part, she had, of late, led several of her friends to a new and deeper consecration to the Master. It seemed as natural for her to say the right word at the right time as it was for Helen to dust the dining-room table.

"Before Helen left the grove that morning, in spite of the appointment in two hours, the lunch, and the dishes, she had made a new consecration, and a determination that with God's help, come what may, her Morning Watch with God would be of first importance; and that when pressed with daily duties, that time, however short, should be regular and unhurried, unfilled with her own plans.

"Dear friend, are you a Martha or a Mary? If you belong to the first class, you may have a long struggle before you; but remember, Mary was sitting at the feet of Jesus, drinking in the words of life, when the Saviour said that she had chosen 'that good part;' and also remember that it is truly worth while to choose 'that good part, which shall not be taken away.'"

7. *Recitation.*—The one suggested can be used (it is found below), or another, if it is appropriate.

8. *Superintendent's Talk.*—The material for this talk to be taken from the Senior Notes, particularly No. 10 and note on Plans and Responses, that tell of practical ways of using and spreading the Morning Watch idea. Have some definite plan in mind for your Juniors. They may desire to sell the calendar. They certainly will wish to give it as a gift to all their friends. As members, every one of them will want one. Make your society a 100-per-cent Morning Watch society. Remember that there is no profit in this, except the great profit of helping some one else to get closer to the Saviour, and thus gain strength from above. Read carefully all the Senior Notes, using the parts that best appeal and apply to your needs. You may well close by asking your members to express themselves as to what they expect to do with the calendar. Have your secretary take notes for future use.

U. V. W.

### The Hour of the Morning

I KNEEL in the calm of the morning,  
The hour consecrated to prayer,  
For I know, ere I touch the day's duties,  
That Jesus will meet with me there;  
And I ask that the hand of the Master,  
The heaviest burdens will bear.

The hour of the morning is sacred,  
For angels are hovering round;  
And reverent, I lay off my sandals,  
For 'tis holy, 'tis God's hallowed ground,—  
The calm, precious hour of the morning,  
Where Christ my Redeemer is found.

And I ask Him that strength may be given  
For each task that shall come through the day;  
And that every sin and temptation  
May be banished, and put far away;  
And that life may be filled with such blessings  
As the Spirit of Christ shall convey.

O, that calm, holy hour of the morning,  
Ere the duties of day are begun,  
When my heart with my voice is uplifted  
To commune with the Infinite One!  
And with rapture I think of the future,  
When the toils of the journey are done.

—L. D. Santee.

## Devotional Meetings for December 8

Topic: *Judging Kindly.*

### Senior

1. Hymn.
2. Scripture Reading: Matt. 7: 1-15.
3. Notices and Offerings.
4. Special Appropriate Music.
5. Prayer.
6. Talk: "Judge Not."
7. Talk: "Ye Shall Be Judged."
8. Talk: "The Better Way."
9. Recitation: "Just Stand Aside."
10. Open Meeting.
11. Closing Song and Special Prayer.

### Junior

1. Song Service.
2. Scripture Reading: Matt. 7: 1-15.
3. Announcements and Offering.
4. Song.
5. Superintendent's Talk.
6. Recitation: "Just Stand Aside."
7. Story: "Two Ways."
8. Reading.
9. Round Table.
10. Close with Song and Prayer.

### Senior Notes

*Advertise!*—This is an important topic for all of us. Tell your friends about it so that they may get the benefit of the meeting. Here is the wording of a card that you could have printed or made into a poster for use in advertising the meeting:

### A BOOMERANG!

Watch Out, and Don't Get Hit!  
Come and Learn How to Guard Yourself.

M. V. SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_  
PLACE \_\_\_\_\_

*The Program.*—The various parts as outlined are not intended to be long. They are designed for short talks. Even some of your more timid members can help out here. See that they have the opportunity. In assigning the parts, give the notes to the members chosen to take part, so that they may be able to read the suggestions and work out their talks intelligently. There should be enough copies of the GAZETTE so you can clip it apart for this purpose.

*Numbers 1 to 5.*—Is there any need of long notes on these regular features of your program? Constantly watch yourself as an officer, that you do not neglect the opening and the closing parts of your meeting. They are very important, and should be carefully planned. They are the setting for all the rest, and either help to mar or tastily garnish the whole.

6. *Talk: "Judge Not."*—Look up the meaning of the word "judging." The use of the word here does not refer to forming an opinion, for we must of necessity form our opinion of people. The word is used in a censorious sense of judging, condemning, imputing wrong motives. How easy it is to form the habit of saying unkind things about people! It is much easier to judge a person unkindly than to judge him justly, with a due weighing of all the facts. Most of the unkind things we hear or say about people are not true. If you do not believe a statement, go to the trouble of finding out all the facts in the case, and you may change your mind. Most of us are too indolent or too dishonest to ascertain the exact truth. Some Corinthians were judging others because they chose to eat some perfectly good meat that had been slain in the worship of idols. To the Christians the idols were mere things, and had nothing whatever to do with meat. But notice in 1 Corinthians 8 how wisely Paul handled the whole question. Unkind judgment is often criminal in its results. Many a heart has been broken thereby. Many a road has been made rough because of it. Many a person who might have risen to a good life has been pushed farther into the mire by unkind judgment. Be careful that you do not wreck a soul for whom Christ died, just because you take pleasure in wrongly judging another. Notice again the Scripture lesson. (See "The Desire of Ages," p. 314.)

7. *Talk: "Ye Shall Be Judged."*—You do not like people to misinterpret your motives, do you? Well, there are many other people in the world just as sincere as you are, just as earnest, just as pure in motives. Judge others kindly, for you want others to judge you kindly, and "whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." Put yourself in the other person's place. How would you feel there? What sort of judgment would you want? How wonderfully kind Jesus was in His judgment of others! "Why beholdest thou the mote?" That really is a strange story that Jesus told. He said: "You who judge another are like a man who has a whole log in his own eye, and he comes squinting up to another man and says, 'You have a speck in your eye, let me take it out.' Foolish man! First get the log out of your own eye, and then shalt thou see more clearly to help get the speck out of the other fellow's eye." Are you perfect that you should judge others? You make believe you are, for you act as if you were not guilty of the things you condemn in another, and maybe in heart you are worse. Two ladies were talking about another. Having discussed her faults and properly judged her, one of the ladies said, "Well, isn't it grand to be perfect ourselves!" Then they both laughed at the grotesque humor of the situation, for they saw that they were standing in judgment of another, and were trying to make believe they were all right themselves. (See "The Desire of Ages," p. 305.)

8. *Talk: "The Better Way."*—If all the people who judge others unkindly, would suddenly take to praying for those they have been judging, what would be the result? Take them to the Lord in prayer. "Pray for them which despitefully use you." "The Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends." He will turn us from the captivity of censoriousness when we pray instead of judging. That person who has done the wrong, who has been so evil in your judgment—what good does it do him for you to judge him harshly? Couldn't you help him out of that fault? In so doing, you would gain a friend, and perhaps rid the person of the thing you abhor. Is not this the better way? Think of those Pharisees sitting in judgment of the poor woman. How different Jesus' attitude! "Let him that is without fault cast the first stone." "Woman, where are those thine accusers? All gone? Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more."

*Additional Source Matter.*—This topic is closely allied to others. Criticism often includes the matter of wrong judgment. (See "Gospel Workers," pp. 334, 447; "The Desire of Ages," p. 441.) Concerning speech: Prov. 17: 27; Matt. 5: 37; Col. 4: 6; 2 Tim. 1: 13; Titus 2: 8; James 3: 2. Evil speech: Eph. 4: 31; Titus 3: 2; 1 Peter 2: 1; 3: 10; Rs. 5: 9; 10: 7; Prov. 12: 18; 24: 2; Matt. 12: 34; Rom. 3: 13. Backbiting: Ps. 15: 3; Prov. 25: 23; 2 Cor. 12: 20. Slander: Ps. 31: 13; Prov. 10: 18; Luke 7: 33; Matt. 9: 34. Kind words: Gen. 50: 21; Prov. 15: 1; 25: 15; Isa. 50: 4.

"He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends." Prov. 17: 9.

"Difficulties are often caused by the venders of gossip, whose whispered hints and suggestions poison unsuspecting minds, and separate the closest friends."—"Testimonies," Vol. V, p. 241.

"What a world of gossip would be prevented if every man would remember that those who tell him the faults of others, will as freely publish his faults at a favorable opportunity. We should endeavor to think well of all men, especially our brethren, until compelled to think otherwise. We should not hastily credit evil reports. These are often the result of envy or misunderstanding, or they may proceed from exaggeration or a partial disclosure of facts. Jealousy and suspicion, once allowed a place, will sow themselves broadcast like thistledown."—*Id.*, p. 53.

9. *"Just Stand Aside."*—This poem is close to the whole problem of judging, criticism, and gossip. Have it well rendered.

10. *Open Meeting.*—This is but another phrase for the response idea. Encourage your members to express themselves on this topic. It comes close home; then let the testimony be one of resolve and determination for the future. A text repeated will help for a thought, as will a quotation.

*Cooper:* "Their own defect, invisible to them,  
Seen in another, they at once condemn,  
And though self-idolized in every case,  
Hate their own likeness in a brother's face."

*Burns:* "O wad some power the giftie gie us  
To see oursel's as ithers see us!  
It wad frae monie a blunder free us,  
And foolish notion."

*Peloubet:* "We tend to judge others by one fault, and forget their many virtues; to judge the bay when the tide is out, and the career by one mistake. The chronic faultfinder cannot be a true critic or judge. The smallest mind can see flaws. The largest capacity is needed for true criticism."

*Whately:* "Ten thousand of the greatest faults in our neighbors are of less consequence than one of the smallest in ourselves."

*Lyman Abbott:* "Every man who pretends to zeal in reform, but is zealous only to reform his neighbor, but indifferent respecting himself, is but a pretender—a hypocrite."

### Junior Notes

Juniors, as well as Seniors, are very apt—very prone—to judge other people. It may be some older person who seems "cranky," or some "queer" boy or girl. It may be the teacher who you think has done something that you don't like, and so somehow in your mind a whole story grows up around the teacher's action, and you are sure that she does not like you. Then how we all criticize other folks and those about us! We don't say it to their faces; we are just cowardly enough to say it behind their backs. What do you think of such actions? During the Junior years of life is the time to weed out such plants from the character. Then is the time to set a watch over the lips, the time to pray the prayer given in the last verse of the nineteenth psalm.

2. *Scripture Reading.*—This may be told by one Junior in his or her own words, giving perhaps something of the life of that time. (See "The Desire of Ages," for special help in the telling.)

5. *Superintendent's Talk.*—The original boomerang was a weapon used by the inhabitants of New Guinea and Australia. It consisted of a piece of curved hard wood, which, when thrown in a certain manner, would come back to the thrower. Then a boomerang came to be known as any action of ours which comes back to us. Sir Walter Scott tells the story of a Junior who hated his brother, and decided to do him some injury. One day when his brother was away, the Junior took the quiver of arrows belonging to his brother, and deftly split the shaft of one of the arrows in such a way that when shot, the shaft would split, and pierce the shooter's eye. This he placed in the quiver in such a way that it would be used first. That night a noise was heard outside the castle, and the youth in his alarm forgot for a moment what he had done; in haste he chose an arrow, placed it in the bow, pulled, and lo, the arrow that he had intended to harm his brother, split, and pierced his own eye. His mean action had proved itself a boomerang. So Jesus tells us of our unkind judging of another, "With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." Are you kind in your judging of others and what they do? Do you condemn them for doing things that you yourself do? How about it?

6. *Recitation: "Just Stand Aside."*—This is perhaps a little old for some of the Juniors, and if another equally as apt can be found, it may be given instead of this one.

7. *Story: "Two Ways."*—Have a Junior prepare either to tell this story or to read it. If it is to be read, be sure the Junior is one who can read well. The story is given below.

8. *Reading.*—No selection is given for this item. In the files of the *Youth's Instructor* there will be found many interesting stories. Then there is given in the source matter notes of the Seniors, some material that might be used instead of a reading. Whatever is chosen, be sure that it bears very clear emphasis on the subject of the meeting.

9. *Round Table.*—This is a chance for your Juniors to give expression to what they think of this matter of criticizing and judging unkindly. They may do this in their own words, or may choose some of the texts given in Senior Note, "Additional Source Material," and reading or repeating the text, add a thought of their own. There are also given several quotations that might be used. Encourage the Juniors to express themselves, and to state what their desire and determination is for the future as regards backbiting and talking unkindly about others. A short season of prayer could well close this part of the program.

### Two Ways

"THERE'S Petts, driving that lame horse again. It's outrageous!" and Mr. Richmond jumped up from the breakfast table, and hastened to the window.

"Hello!" he cried, and the sound of the wheels stopped. "What do you mean by driving a horse in that condition? Can't you see how lame he is?"

"Yes, I can see it," said Petts shortly.

"Well, why do you do it then? It's a clear case for the Society for Prevention," but here the wheels started up again, and Mr. Richmond turned from the window, red and angry.

"I'll report that fellow this very day," he said; and accordingly, one of the first things he did after reaching his place of business was to write a letter to the society with

the long name, setting forth in graphic language the inhumanity of John Petts and the sufferings of John Petts' horse. After doing this, he felt a warm spot at his heart all day, and when he went home at night, he told his wife, across his bountiful dining-table, that he did not count the day wholly lost, for he had done one good deed in it.

About the time he was writing this letter, Judge Farnsworth, coming out of the post office with his hands full of letters, had his attention caught by a white horse limping painfully along; attached to him was a job wagon, which bore the legend, "John Petts. Light and Heavy Trucking, Furniture Moved with Care."

Judge Farnsworth had a heart in which mercy sometimes got the upper hand of justice, and now it was stirred within him. Perhaps the driver of the white horse felt the judge's stern look, for he glanced up suddenly, and met his eye.

If that was John Petts, he hadn't a bad face, but it was very much against him to drive such a horse; and when Judge Farnsworth reached his office, the first thing he did was to take down the directory and run his finger down the pages till he came to the name: "Petts, John, Truckman, h. 16. Dover Street."

He wrote this in his notebook, and then dropped the white horse entirely out of his mind, and took up the papers of a great railroad case, and after that the contested will of a millionaire, and after that a disputed water right, and so on, through the day. But when night came, and he set his face homeward, he went out of his way to stop at No. 16 Dover Street.

"He's at the barn, sir," said Mrs. Petts, who answered his knock; "if you'll step inside, I will call him."

"No," said the judge, "I can do my errand just as well there," for he intended to say some sharp-edged truths to John Petts; but what he saw when he reached the barn made him change his mind.

He waited a minute or so before going in, for even a lawyer doesn't always know just what he wants to say, and while he stood there, he heard a great splashing and rubbing, and a rough but kind voice, saying, "Poor Dick! Easy! Now the other." Stepping softly inside, he saw John Petts, hot and tired, rubbing the lame legs of the white horse, up and down, up and down, with many soothing words and pats. It didn't seem to help the white horse very much, for when his master backed him, he hobbled and cringed in a pitiful way.

Then John Petts did a very strange thing. He laid his two arms on Dick's dusty, white back, and his face in them.

Judge Farnsworth stepped quickly out, and took a turn or two in the small yard; and then went up to the barn door with considerable unnecessary noise.

John Petts was busy, measuring out some oats.

"Is your horse sick?" asked the judge, glancing at the bottles and pails.

"Lame," said John Petts gruffly.

"Is it anything serious?"

"Yes."

"What seems to be the trouble?"

There was no mistaking the genuine sympathy and interest of the tone, and John Petts was in sore need of sympathy.

"It's the pavements, they say. He began to limp two weeks ago, and he keeps getting worse."

"Wouldn't rest help it?"

"I s'pose so; but its pretty much the same with horses as 'tis with folks: them that can have the rest, don't need it; and them that need it, can't have it. I've favored Dick all I can, made short days, and let many a good job go, because it would be hard on him, but he keeps getting worse. Just see how hot his knees are," and the soft white hand followed the rough brown one up and down the poor stiff legs, while Dick looked at them with eyes of troubled inquiry.

"The doctor says if he could rest through the summer, he might come out all right, but he can't do that. I'm a poor man; I've only just got my horse paid for, and I can't buy another horse and keep this one idle. And I can't sell him to anybody who would buy a lame horse—just to use

up; you know how 'twould be. If he doesn't get well pretty soon, I don't see but he'll have to be killed."

There was a burst of grief from the manger, and a little boy rose up out of it, all tears and hayseed, and throwing his arms about Dick's head, hugged it tightly to him.

"You shan't kill Dick!" he cried, in a passion of grief and anger, "my horse shan't be killed. He's a good horse, and I'll go away with him and hide him."

"It's my little boy," said John Petts, brushing his rough hand across his own eyes. "I'd forgotten he was here. The children think everything of Dick, and many's the thing I've done without the last two weeks so that Dick could be doctored."

The judge looked at his watch.

"I must go now," he said, "but I will tell you what I will do. I have a stout work horse at my place just outside the city, that's really suffering for want of something to do, and if you like, you can drive out in the morning, and just harness Chub into your wagon, and leave Dick till he gets well.

"Yes, I mean it," for John Petts looked incredulous. "Dick shall have good care, and it will be a mercy to Chub to exercise him. Good night!" and the judge was gone.

The next day when the agent for the society with the long name succeeded in finding John Petts,—and it was no easy matter, for John was making up for lost time,—there did not seem to be anything to say to him, for the big, fat, lazy horse between the shafts could by no stretch of the imagination be considered a sufferer.

But the agent was bound to know what had become of the lame horse, and after a few kind questions, it came out how Dick had gone into the country for his health.

"And I'm glad of it," said the agent. "I wish there were more Judge Farnsworths."

"So do I," said John Petts heartily.

While Mr. Richmond stood waiting for a car to take him home to dinner that night, John Petts drove slowly by with a loaded wagon.

"Hello!" said Mr. Richmond to himself, looking from the driver to the horse, and from the horse back to the driver, who favored him with such an unmistakable scowl that he was lost in angry amazement, and nearly missed his car.

But he regained his spirits after dinner, and told his wife that the society had attended to that rascal John Petts, and had probably taken his lame horse away from him; and they had been so prompt about it, he really believed he'd send them a check for twenty dollars in the morning to encourage them.

Taking it all around, I think there never was a case where every one was so well suited.

Judge Farnsworth laughed from sheer pleasure every time he saw the white horse browsing about, and Dick himself thought he had reached the paradise for good horses when he felt under his poor, sore feet the cool earth and soft grass, instead of the flinty city pavements.

Mr. Richmond, ignorant as he was that his way of correcting an evil was not the best way, was gratified by the prompt notice of his complaint; and the society was glad of the check.

John Petts and his family were thankful from morning till night; and Chub—well, if Chub wasn't quite happy, he knew, for the first time, what it was to go to bed tired, and get up and relish his breakfast, which, after all, was a very good thing for him.—*Youth's Companion*.

#### Just Stand Aside

JUST stand aside and watch yourself go by;  
Think of yourself as "he" instead of "I."  
Note closely as in other men you note  
The bag-kneed trousers and the seedy coat.  
Pick flaws; find fault; forget the man is you,  
And try to make your estimate ring true.  
Confront yourself and look you in the eye—  
Just stand aside and watch yourself go by.

Interpret all your motives just as though  
You looked on one whose aims you did not know.  
Let undisguised contempt surge through you when  
You see you shrink, O commonest of men!

Despise your cowardice; condemn whate'er  
You note of falseness in you anywhere.  
Defend not one defect that shames your eye—  
Just stand aside and watch yourself go by.

And then, with eyes unveiled to what you loathe—  
To sins that with sweet charity you'd clothe—  
Back to your self-walled tenement you go  
With tolerance for all who dwell below.  
The faults of others then will dwarf and shrink;  
Love's chain grow stronger by one mighty link—  
When you, with "he" as substitute for "I,"  
Have stood aside and watched yourself go by.

—Edgar A. Guest.

## Devotional Meetings for December 15

Topic: *Missions' Survey.*

### Senior Notes

No regular program is outlined for this week. There has been frequent mention of the Missions' Survey, and it is to be hoped that your committee appointed to obtain information on missions, has been working, and is now ready to bring in something of value and of real interest. There is so much of interest to foreign mission work. Today it occupies a greater and a higher place in the eyes of the world than ever before. The September 8 issue of the *Saturday Evening Post* carried a main feature article on the worth and the value of missionaries to the trade and commerce of the nation that sent them. It frequently expressed this thought, that the merchants of America or England could well afford to stand the expense of missions for the good it did them in the way of opening new markets, and making it possible for new areas to reap the benefits of civilization. There are many parts of this article that could well be used in a program. Copies may be seen at your public library. Besides, our own publications, *Signs of the Times*, *Review and Herald*, *Watchman Magazine*, *Youth's Instructor*, *Missionary Readings*, all contain matter of live interest to those anxious to know more of missions; and there are the regular union conference papers, and such magazines as *Current History*, *Our World*, *Christian Herald*, *Current Opinion*, *Literary Digest*, *World's Work*, *Missionary Review of the World*, and others.

As this is written, better news from the terrible earthquake in Japan is coming through, yet reports all tell of the awful conditions there. It may be that your society could well spend some time on mission work in Japan, and what it has done for that country. A bit of the history of the country, showing the part that America played in opening it to the world, would be of interest. This program should be of great inspiration to every Missionary Volunteer.

Map.—You will of course desire to use one of the big Seventh-day Adventist maps for your meeting. Have you one? How about the outline maps? These are very good indeed.

A suggested recitation, "Calling," is given.  
See Junior Notes for further suggestions.

### Junior Notes

Topic: *Getting the World in Your Eye.*

Harriet A. Clark suggests the following:

"Arrange your chairs in five groups, and put a large paper sign over each group, with the words, 'Europe,' 'Asia,' 'Africa,' 'America,' 'The Island World.' (The missionary committee should make these placards beforehand.) Put also over each group a peace flag, made of paper and colored with crayons. As the Juniors come in, let them choose on which continent they will live today, and let them be ready to tell why they so choose. Give to each a little round outline map of the hemisphere in which he has chosen to live.

"Begin with the missionary hymn, 'From Greenland's Icy Mountains,' and then let all repeat Psalm 24; let the Junior leader then offer a short prayer, asking that we may all really mean in our hearts the words we have just sung with our lips.

"Sing another missionary hymn, and then talk over with the children in an informal way what we mean when we talk of "getting the world in your eye," and why and how to do it.

"Then in a short word-picture show them what the world was like when this psalm was written, and how few people there were who realized that the earth is the Lord's. By carefully studying your history or an encyclopedia, and a Bible dictionary or the helps in your own Bible, you should be careful to get the world in your own eye beforehand, as it was at this time and in Christ's time, so that you can picture it vividly to the children.

"Now find out by questioning how much of a picture of the world the children already have in their eyes. Ask the

leader to stand and close his eyes, and then tell you what kind of picture of your own town he sees, what streets or houses or churches or people, and what he sees in the town that might be made better if we were all 'soldiers of the Prince.'

"Let the children in the different continents tell you anything they can of conditions in their continent, and let those who have items of information, read them. Then let all repeat Bible verses containing the word 'world.'

"Let two Juniors, who have prepared for it beforehand, tell missionary stories, one from our own land and one from a foreign land, of missionary soldiers who are trying to help people to realize that the earth is the Lord's, and to make the words of the hymns we have sung come true. If these two can be dressed in costumes and give their stories as impersonations, it would help; but you can leave costumes to the imagination, if necessary."

Scripture Lesson suggested is Psalms 24:1 and Mark 16:15.

Stimulators.—"Jesus carried the world in His eye and on His heart. He never went out of Palestine; and Palestine, as you know, is a little country no larger than the State of Connecticut; but He was interested in all the nations, and was always dreaming of ways of doing them good. He used to say to His friends, 'The field is the world.'"

"The Prince holds the world in His eye, and He intends that the world shall be in our eye, too. He carries the world on His heart, and He rolls the world onto our hearts also. We are to carry His ideas to the end of the world."

"The last thing Jesus said before He left the world was this: 'Go and make disciples of all the nations. Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation.' Of course we must obey, and we must begin early to find out just what this command means. It covers all the world."

Using some of the above suggestions, it should not be difficult to work out an interesting program for this topic. If you have special success, send a copy of your program outline to the "Suggestion Corner," Missionary Volunteer Department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Takoma Park, D. C.

U. V. W.

### Calling

"Oh, list to the voices plaintively calling  
For help from over the seas!  
With outstretched hands they are hopelessly falling,  
Like leaves in the autumn breeze.

"Long in the darkness of sin they have waited  
For the heavenly light to shine;  
To them go quickly, with heart illumined  
With the lamp of life divine.

"They blindly are groping, and know not the way  
To the Father's home above;  
Ye servants of Jesus, no longer delay,  
Nor withhold from them God's love.

"Art thou intrusted with silver and gold?  
Send it across the blue sea;  
The life that's eternal, the riches untold,  
And souls, thy reward shall be.

"When Jesus shall come in His kingdom so bright,  
To take to Himself the blest,  
With souls thou hast won shalt thou then take thy flight,  
And enter into thy rest."

## Devotional Meeting for December 22

THE General Missionary Volunteer Department gives an outline and suggestions for four meetings a month. When there are five Sabbaths in a month, one Sabbath is left open for the program that you yourselves will choose and work out. It is now near the end of the year, and you could well consider a meeting given over to the thought of resolves for the New Year. You might suggest that each member bring in a New Year's resolution, these to be written out and handed in, and then read by some other member; no names to be signed. Or vary this by suggesting that your members give the New Year's resolution that they would like to have the "other fellow" make out. If you do not have a meeting on this topic, here are some suggestions:  
A Worth-while Life. (See Ps. 37:18-40.)

Life Lessons from the Book of Proverbs. (See Prov. 20:1-15.)

Patience and Its Rewards. (See 1 Cor. 13:4-7; Luke 21:19.)

What Is Real Religion? (See James 1:19-27; John 17:3.)  
These may suggest to either Juniors or Seniors other topics.

## Devotional Meetings for December 29

### Senior

Topic: *Better Bible Reading.*

1. Two Songs.
2. Two Brief Prayers (remembering the topic).
3. Instrumental Selection.
4. Scripture Reading: Deut. 6: 1-9; 2 Tim. 2: 15.
5. Song: "Give Me the Bible," No. 498 in "Christ in Song."
6. Announcements and Offering.
7. Talk: "Read the Bible."
8. Talk: "How to Read the Bible."
9. Talk: "The Bible Year."
10. Open Meeting.
11. Closing, New Rally Song.
12. Quiet Prayer.

### Junior

Topic: "Give Me the Bible."

1. Song Service.
2. Prayer.
3. Scripture Reading.
4. Song: "Give Me the Bible."
5. Talk: "The Book of Books."
6. Drill: "The Holy Bible."
7. Symposium: "Favorite Bible Characters."
8. A Testimony: "My Bible and I."
9. Superintendent's Talk: "The Bible Year."
10. Close with Prayer.

### Senior Notes

*To the Leader.*—Do you read the Bible? How much time do you give the Bible in comparison with what you give to reading the newspaper, fiction, and other literature? What method of Bible reading do you find most profitable? Have on hand for free distribution the following leaflets published by the Missionary Volunteer Department:

- No. 56. The Senior Bible Year .....\$ .01  
 No. 75. With the Book of Books ..... .01

The two tracts named below are also helpful for those who are not convinced as to the value of the Bible. They are of the Bible Truth Series of tracts:

- No. 1. The Bible the Living Word of God. \$ .01  
 No. 2. Do you Read Your Bible? ..... .01

These leaflets and tracts may be obtained through your tract society. Have enough of the Missionary Volunteer Leaflets to supply every member.

*Numbers 1 to 6.*—These are the opening parts. Note the suggestion for instrumental music. This may be changed to vocal, or even a recitation. In choosing, see that these features are fitting and appropriate. They should be a part of the whole, and should contribute in some way to the topic under discussion. Your new officers will have been elected by this time. It would be well to have them assist in the opening exercises. Do not turn the meeting over to them, but courteously request them to help you, in that way lending them assistance that will be valuable to them when they have the whole responsibility. Do as you would like to be done by in this matter.

*7. Talk: "Read the Bible."*—There is a great deal of talk, and always has been, about the importance of reading the Bible. All this talk and writing is useless unless we practise. The best way and the only way to have a better Bible reading is to *read* the Bible. There are many, many books explaining the Bible; many books about the history of the Bible and how we got it; many books of Bible stories. Some of these are excellent, but all of them can never be adequate substitutes for the Bible itself. Have you ever read the scripture assigned for this meeting? We try to substitute too many other things for the Bible. In our studies we all too often pick out a little passage of Scripture, so that we get the impression that the Bible is a sort of scrapbook. We listen to eulogies about the Bible's being the greatest book in all the world, and we take the orator's and the minister's word for it, but we do not know it for ourselves. This is the proposition: If we want better Bible reading, we must *read the Bible*. Do we? How much of the Bible have you read? How much time a day or a week do you spend in reading the Bible? The dauntless explorer, Sir John Franklin, was, once, when a comparatively young man, forced to spend a winter in a desolate spot halfway between Great Bear Lake and Great Slave Lake in the frozen North. In a letter to his sister, written at this time, he spoke of the astonishing way in which, during the intense arctic silence, his Bible broke with new beauty upon him. It was not the same Book. Everything in the Sacred Volume, and especially the central story, the story of redeeming love, acquired a new glory in his enraptured eyes. The Bible was a new book to Franklin for the first time, because he really read it for himself.

*8. Talk: "How to Read the Bible."*—Torrey gives some good suggestions on Bible reading: "Feed on the Bible at

least fifteen minutes every day. Read first the Gospel of John; when you have read it through once, begin and read it through again, till you have read it five times. Then read the Gospel of Luke five times in the same manner. Then read the Acts five times; then First Thessalonians five times; then First John five times; then Romans three times; then Ephesians five times. Then begin the New Testament, and read it right through. Always read with pen or pencil in your hand, looking for words, or phrases, or verses to mark. In this way you will pay more attention to what you read, and will get more out of it. Always, before you read, ask God and expect God to open your eyes, that you may behold wonderful things in His Word. It will be well to commit at least one verse of Scripture to memory every day, and also to commit to memory its location." (Morning Watch.)

*READ THOROUGHLY.*—A great educator once said, "Master well one good book, and you are an educated man." Master well one book of the Bible, and you will have taken a long stride toward knowing the whole Bible. Try reading through carefully one of the books of the Bible several times before you start another.

*READ CONNECTEDLY.*—We do not treat many books so shamefully as we treat the Bible. Most people open the Bible at random, read a verse here and a verse there, and then sighing, exclaim, "I can't understand it. I've tried and tried." Who would read a book of science that way? Who would read a letter from a friend that way?

*READ PRAYERFULLY.*—Though the Bible in one sense should be read as other books, yet it should be more than that. We should read the Bible, praying that God will open our eyes that we may see what He has for us.

*READ VITALLY.*—A Chinese once applying for baptism at one of our mission stations, was asked if he knew the Sermon on the Mount. On giving an affirmative answer, he was asked to repeat it. He did it faultlessly. Then the missionary asked, "But do you understand what those words mean?" The Chinese then told him that he had tried and tried to learn the Sermon on the Mount, but would constantly forget it. He then hit upon the plan of learning a verse or two in the morning, and all day long would try to practise its meaning as he thought Jesus would have him do. After all, our Bible reading will not be of much value if we do not live its principles in daily life. The Bible is not a compendium of proof texts, to prove some theory we may hold. It is a book that points the way to eternal life and salvation. Starting with innocency in the garden of Eden, it tells us how sin entered through disobedience to God. It portrays the downward path of sin in the race; the many attempts on God's part to win men back to Him; then the greatest plan of all, the sacrifice of Christ for us, that at last men might be with Him in heavenly bliss and harmony. It starts with a garden of untried children; it centers in a garden of suffering, triumphant manhood when Christ in agony prays, "Not My will, but Thine, be done;" it culminates in a city that lies foursquare; in every way the same stalwart city of power and beauty, the symbol of perfect character. So God wants us to read the Book and practise it, that we may travel through the innocency of untried childhood, through the trying experiences of life, in such a way that we may be not only willing, but glad to do what God wants us to do, and have Him do with us what He wants to do.

*TEACH IT.*—"I do not know enough to teach a class in Sabbath school," you have said. Try to teach, and you will find how quickly and enjoyably you will learn to read your Bible.

*9. Talk: "The Bible Year."*—This talk is based on the leaflet noted at the very first of these suggestions. Have a copy and study it, and be ready to explain the Bible Year plan as worked out by the Missionary Volunteer Society. Specify and note that this is merely suggestive, for the purpose of stimulating to better Bible reading. Most of us are so constituted that we need a program and a schedule to get the most out of life. This is a schedule to make your reading of the Bible regular and continually helpful. Tell of the rewards offered, but note that the greatest reward is in the reading of the Bible itself. Here is an incident that will help:

A missionary was once traveling in the Far West. He stopped overnight at a little shack in a secluded place. It was one of those unrestful places where each seemed to vie with the other in discontented querulousness. They had gone west, the occupants of that humble home, to seek for treasure, they told the visitor. They had found none. When he left, he said, "There is treasure hidden in your house." Weeks passed, and everybody in the house was hunting the treasure. Each, unknown to the others, would look in some strange place. The man even took up part of the floor, and dug, thinking perhaps the missionary had known some secret of the old cabin. One day, tired and weary and heart-sick, the woman sat down by the window. Her eyes fell upon an old Bible her mother had given her before they had

come west. It carried her back to her dear mother, the little village, the church, the Sabbath school. She began to read; the words came like the running of sweet waters into her soul. She had found the treasure.

A year passed. One day a stranger stood at the door again. But was this the same ill-kept shack of a year ago? Was this the same woman, whose sweet face he now saw? Were these the same children? They were, and they were not. The treasure had beautified them outside and inside. So will better Bible reading do to you and all who read it right.

Miss Marie Mooney brings the question close home. She says: "Are you one of those who last January 1 determined to read your Bible through this year, and started in with enthusiasm and determination? Where are you now? Here it is almost the first of January again, a whole year later. Have you succeeded in your determination? Have you become acquainted with all the treasures and precious promises from Genesis to Revelation? If so, you will want to begin on the first of January of this year, and read it through again; for the more we read and study God's Word, the more precious it becomes. Verses and chapters which we have read many times before, stand out with new meaning as they fit into some circumstance of our daily life. If you have not finished reading it through, if you belong to that unhappy class of people who cannot find time to read their Bibles, then you will surely want to finish it as soon as possible, consistent, of course, with an earnest, prayerful reading. And then, when you have read the last line in Revelation, will you want to close the Book and say, 'I'm so glad I finished it at last?' Oh, no, you will close it reverently, and thank God for the joy you have found in reading it, and then—you will open it again at Genesis—and thus will begin another Bible Year.

"If we devote fifteen minutes a day—just think of it, only fifteen minutes a day!—to reading the Bible, we can finish it in the year. The best time to devote that fifteen minutes (if that is all we plan to give) is in the morning before we start on the day's round of duties. A college student has said: 'After reading the Bible, I can start the day in happy spirits, not only with a clean conscience, but with a conscience powerful enough to help me overcome my temptations more easily. I find that Bible study is one of the greatest helps toward leading a thoroughly Christian life.' Another says, 'Daily Bible study has kept me close to God. It has been a constant reminder of my ideals—a guide in my daily life.'

"We all know that failure lies in giving up. But this is a failure which will mean more than failure in mere earthly things. If we do not keep close to God,—and what better way than by keeping in close touch with the Book which He has given us to guide us in our Christian living,—we shall be eternal failures. Some one has aptly said, 'This Book will keep you from sin. Sin will keep you from this Book.'

Make your appeal for those who are determined to have that treasure for the new year. No matter if they have started before, try again. Begin now. Give out the leaflets and get the names.

10. *Open Meeting.*—This is the time for the responses. Encourage the members to take a few minutes to tell what the Bible has meant to them. What has the study of the Sabbath school lesson meant? The Morning Watch? The reading of the Bible?

*Additional Source Matter.*—See the following pages in "Gospel Workers": Bible Study, 76, 98-100, 105, 106, 249-253, 281-300; Knowledge of the Scriptures, 212, 309, 312. The writings of Mrs. White abound with comment on the Bible and its value. Every Missionary Volunteer should have "Steps to Christ." (See pages 85 to 93.) U. V. W.

**Junior Notes**

This is the last meeting of the old year; 1924 is soon to be ushered in, and how better can the children begin it than by pledging themselves anew to daily Bible study? You may not wish to use all the numbers given here. They are only suggestive, of course. Choose those which will be most effective and can be best prepared in your society.

1. *Song Service.*—Select two or three Bible hymns, and as the different verses are sung, let the Juniors draw a lesson from them.

2. *Prayer.*—Begin with an earnest prayer that this year the Juniors may learn to know and love the Bible as never before.

3 and 4. *Scripture Reading.*—Let Juniors read the texts given below, explaining each text briefly before or after reading:

- The Bible is the Word of God. Heb. 4: 12.
- The Bible is a lamp. Ps. 119: 105.
- The Bible is the law of the Lord. Ps. 1: 1, 2.
- Children need God's Word. Deut. 11: 18, 19.
- We should know our Bible. 2 Tim. 3: 14-16.
- We should search the Scriptures. John 5: 39.
- How to read the Bible. Acts 17: 11.

At the close of this scripture lesson, let all join in singing from the very heart, "Give Me the Bible."

5. *Talk: "The Book of Books."*—This is based on Missionary Volunteer Leaflet No. 75. With thorough preparation an older Junior (or perhaps a Senior) should impress upon the minds of all what a wonderful book is our Bible.

6. *Drill: "The Holy Bible."*—Nine of the younger Juniors, holding up the letters H-O-L-Y B-I-B-L-E, should give these verses from memory.

7. *Symposium: "Favorite Bible Characters."*—The Juniors enjoy telling Bible stories. Give them ten minutes in which to give a brief sketch of their favorite Bible character. In order to bring out real lessons, of course, these should be prepared in advance. The following are suggestive:

"Noah is a favorite because he believed and obeyed God. It seemed foolish for him to build an ark. There seemed no need of it. And perhaps the people laughed at him when he was at work. But he was right. We can never go wrong if we keep close to God, as Noah did. To obey God today saves us from many dangers, just as obeying God saved Noah and all his house.

"Peter is a favorite because he repented. He denied his Lord and swore that he never knew Him. But he came back, and Jesus forgave him. And he fully made up for the wrong he did when he denied the Lord. It takes a great man to confess his wrong-doing, and begin over again; and Peter did this. One slip should not spoil a life.

"John the Baptist is loved because he was a fighter. He loved everything that was good, but he hated everything that was evil. More than that, he spoke out bravely and in plain words. He even told the king that he was a sinner, and needed pardon. We need brave men today to speak plainly, and tell people of their wrong-doing; we need men who will fight evil wherever it is found."

8. *A Testimony: "My Bible and I."*—If there is a white-haired grandpa in the church, ask him to give this little poem, standing with his open Bible in hand. It will make a deep impression upon the children as a personal testimony of one who for years has made the Bible a daily companion.

9. *Superintendent's Talk: "The Bible Year."*—This should be brief, but it should help the Juniors to decide definitely that they cannot afford to begin the year 1924 without the Bible as a daily companion. Do they want to develop characters like the favorite Bible characters of which they have just told? The Bible will help them do it. (For further ideas, see Senior Notes on talks Nos. 7, 8, and 9.)

At some point in the talk ask "the finishers"—those who have finished the Bible Year during 1923—to come forward, and present them with Bible Year certificates. You may wish to use the following story:

"A young artist who was taking lessons from a great man, was once asked to paint a certain scene. He took great pains with it, and when it was finished, he showed it to his master. The master looked at it a while and said, 'It is good, but take it home and finish it.' The youth thought it was finished, but he took it home and worked upon it some more. The more he looked at it, the more places he discovered that might be made better. Then he took it to the master once more, and the master said, 'It is good, but finish it.' Again the young man worked on it, making improvements here and there, and again he took it to the master. 'Finish it,' said the master. At last the young man said: 'It is finished. I can do no more with it.' The master smiled. 'It is very good,' he said, 'but I wanted to teach the lesson of doing a thing to a finish, making your work the very best possible.'

Then while the Juniors have caught the spirit, from seeing "the finishers" receive their certificates, present the enrolment plan for 1924. Give each Junior a Bible Year Leaflet, No. 55. Some may follow the study outline who do not have the courage to sign the enrolment blank. But have a good supply of M. V. Blank No. 6 on hand to pass out, and urge each one to sign. Or, it will appeal to the Juniors more if you have a touch of artistic skill, and can prepare little booklets tied with ribbon, perhaps an open Bible sketched on the front, and printed inside some such pledge as this:

**MY PROMISE**

From today Date .....

I promise, God helping me, to read my Bible every day, to pray daily, and to do all I can to tell others about Jesus.

Name .....

Address .....

Take up the pledges, and while the collectors stand with them in hand, close the meeting with a short, earnest prayer that each Junior may be able to keep the pledge made, and learn to love the Bible more during 1924. E. H.

### The Holy Bible

HEAVEN and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away.

O how love I Thy law! it is my meditation all the day. Open Thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Yea, in the way of Thy judgments, O Lord, have we waited for Thee; the desire of our soul is to Thy name, and to the remembrance of Thee.

Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are they that keep His testimonies, and that seek Him with the whole heart.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, . . . full of grace and truth.

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.

Lo, I come; in the volume of the Book it is written of Me, I delight to do Thy will, O my God: yea, Thy law is within My heart.

Every word of God is pure: He is a shield unto them that put their trust in Him.

— Selected.

### My Bible and I

We've traveled together, my Bible and I,  
Through all kinds of weather, with smile or with sigh,  
In sorrow or sunshine, in tempest or calm,  
Thy friendship unchanging, my lamp and my psalm.

We've traveled together, my Bible and I,  
When life had grown weary, and death e'en was nigh,  
But all through the darkness of mist and of wrong,  
I found thee a solace, a prayer, and a song.

So now who shall part us, my Bible and I?  
Shall ism, or schism, or new lights that try?  
Shall shadow for substance or stone for good bread  
Supplant its sound wisdom, give folly instead?

Ah, no, my dear Bible, revealer of light,  
Thou sword of the Spirit, put error to flight;  
And still through life's journey, until my last sigh,  
We'll travel together, my Bible and I.

— Selected.

## Missionary Volunteer Programs for Advanced Schools

For Week Ending December 1

Topic: *Morning Watch Promotion.*

Kindly observe the various "helps" suggested in the Senior Notes for this date. There are the leaflets and the pledge slips and the advertising matter, all available in effectively and efficiently promoting the Morning Watch. The advertising leaflet can be obtained free from the tract society, and gives suggestions as to ways and means of using the Morning Watch Calendar for the benefit of other organizations and groups of people. The calendar is unusually attractive this year, printed in two colors, and your choice of the gift De Luxe Edition or the regular utility edition. After first making sure that every student in your college will have a copy, plan ways of furnishing the calendar to hotels and organizations and friends who are not of this faith. Make the new year bright for many with the Morning Watch. Remember—

### The Morning Watch Will Help You

To live the life that wins  
To find true happiness in the everyday of life.  
To live so that your life will explain your profession.  
To be more cheerful, more kind, more helpful at home.  
To be a better friend among your friends.  
To keep your tongue from speaking the unkind word, and from leaving the loving word unspoken.  
To have wisdom to see the right, courage to choose it, strength to do it.

An inexpensive booklet that will do these things should, your society will agree, be spread far and wide, that its influence may be extended.

For Week Ending December 8

Topic: *Criticizing, Judging.*

This is a very sensitive topic; that is, it is apt to come close home and touch us. Our discussion may act as a boomerang. But it should be taken in hand and discussed. It is a subject that is closely allied to gossip. All these are of prime importance in school life. Handle the topic in a constructive

way, not spending so much time in mere denunciation,— we all know that it is bad,— but in a practical way of overcoming, and in plans that will help to make your college capable of resisting the effects of this evil. Why not form an anti-criticizing or anti-gossiping society? Then check up from time to time as to its effectiveness. Empower its members to call a halt on the premature judging and criticizing. You will find that such a campaign will bring a good influence into your school. (For helps, see the index of the writings of Mrs. E. G. White.)

For Week Ending December 15

Topic: *Missions Survey.*

This may be either a survey of missions the wide world over, or a survey of some of the good things that your different bands have been producing. Here is a suggestion for advanced study: How have the missions established by this denomination opened up the country and paid for themselves in tithes and offerings and the establishment of schools and sanitariums?

For Week Ending December 22

No topic has been chosen for this date. The Senior Notes suggest several.

For Week Ending December 29

Topic: *"What Will the New Year Mean to Me?"*

For those students who are still at the school, not having gone home during the holidays, it would be well to have a testimony meeting in answer to the above question. It should be a consecration service. The New Year is a fitting time to cast a glance over the past and to look into the future. What are your resolutions and determinations, God helping you? What are your ambitions and your aims? Make the meeting practical for the smaller group present. Have a lively song service and a real prayer service.

## The Suggestion Corner

Please note that this is YOUR corner — yours to give suggestions to others, yours to ask for suggestions. If you have a good idea that you feel will help some other society, make the suggestion to this corner. If you wish help in your society meetings, the General Department will be very glad to give either by letter or, if of general interest, in this section of the Gazette. Address The Suggestion Corner, Missionary Volunteer Department, General Conference, Takoma Park, D. C.

### Special Songs

YOU'LL not forget the Rally Song! Have a large supply on hand. Remember, they cost but 75 cents a hundred, and that includes the sheet with two songs on it. Many have sent for the very pleasing song, "It's Bright Inside," and we have promptly forwarded the orders to the author of the music, Mr. C. A. Smith, Pacific Press, Mountain View, Calif. Remember, two copies for five cents. Send orders direct to this address.

### Gazette Topics for 1924

THE program topics for the new year are ready. If you desire to know their order during the year, send to the General Department at Washington, and we shall be glad to supply you with copies, as long as they shall last, free. Address: Missionary Volunteer Department, General Conference, Takoma Park, D. C. Ask for "GAZETTE Topics for 1924."

### Topics for January

THE selected topics for the first month of the new year are as follows:

January 5.—How to Win All Through the Year. (Accent the "how" side of the topic.)

January 12.—The Foundations of Belief.

January 19.—What About Our Reading?

January 26.—Origin, Nature, and Result of Sin.

You have probably heard by this time that 1924 is designated as Standard of Attainment year,—a year to refresh, to renew, to learn more about the doctrines that we as young people hold, why we hold them, and what they mean. To help out in this there will be a series of studies on various Bible truths. January 12 and 19 are the first two. These should give impetus to your Standard of Attainment work. Your whole society should be able to pass an examination in June.

### Visualizing Your Reports

NEXT month the Suggestion Corner will have a short article telling how the report of missionary work done (which usually deals only with a row of figures) can be made to live before the eyes of the young people. Watch for this, you new officers.