



# MISSIONARY LEADER

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## Home Missions Department

### NOTE TO LEADERS

Sabbath, May 12, being the second Sabbath of the second month of the quarter, would ordinarily be Home Missions Sabbath, but owing to this being the last Sabbath of the Week of Prayer, we are not providing a programme for that day. We are, however, giving important matter relating to church leadership, especially in regard to the organising of the church for service. We request that it be carefully studied, and that each church formulate plans for the more efficient organisation of its forces for concentrated soul-winning effort.

We suggest that the OFFERING for FREE LITERATURE be taken on MAY 5 instead of May 12.

A.U.C. Home Missions Dept.

### STRONG LEADERSHIP NEEDED

God is calling for strong, courageous men, — men of faith, of prayer, of power as leaders, whom He may endow richly by His Holy Spirit so that they may accomplish the definite task assigned to the church in these last of the "last days," when the world is to hear its final call to repentance.

"The leaders in God's cause, as wise generals, are to lay plans for advance moves all along the line. In their planning they are to give special study to the work that can be done by the laity for their friends and neighbours." — "Gospel Workers," pp. 351, 352.

When the Lord in His earthly ministry was in need of leaders, He found and trained men wherever He went, and assigned to each one definite tasks. We are to follow the Master's example in the important work of training men and women for responsible service in His church. There is urgent need of developing an efficient staff of leaders for the various phases of missionary endeavour. It is very important that church officers give careful study to this question. With proper leadership in a church, every member may become an active soul-winner. Every church is called to become a training school for Christian workers, and the church that is not training its members for more effective service in the various lines of missionary activity is failing in its responsibility. Communicate with your Conference Home Missions Secretary and secure his help and counsel in this work of training.

A.U.C. Home Missions Dept.

### THE UNSTINTED GIFT OF LEADERSHIP

By C. B. Haynes

Where can we find leaders? I do not believe that cry is justifiable among this people. There is not a place where leadership does not exist. Start any political party, anywhere, and that party will find leaders for its work. It matters not how small the place may be or how wild the scheme promoted, leaders will spring up overnight. Get three boys on the school ground, and one will lead the other two; or, if there are only two, one will take charge of the other. Every duck that waddles over the barnyard follows a

leader, and for every flock of wild geese there is a leader.

Leadership is everywhere. If there is one gift that God has planted in the human heart more widely than another, it is the gift of leadership. I cannot be convinced that it is entirely absent in our churches. The trouble is, we are not looking for it; we are not causing it to function by placing responsibility where it belongs.

### TRAINING LEADERS

The reason we are not developing leadership is that we, as officers, take responsibilities upon ourselves and feel that there is no one else to do the work. It is astonishing to see the results which come from placing responsibility upon the man available — be he a farmer who has not had special training, or a mechanic who has never been through the higher grades. When such men and women sense the responsibility that has been entrusted to them, they will rise to the occasion and do the work in a splendid way.

There was a time when Jesus was in need of helpers, and it is interesting to note how He obtained them. He went in search of them, He found them, He showed them the fields white for harvest. Then He trained those chosen helpers by a process which enabled them to discover their own powers of leadership. Jesus assigned to each helper a definite task, and patiently bore with him in his mistakes, pointing out the better way. He saw the weakness of Peter, and He also saw his strength. He knew the doubting nature of Thomas, yet recognised his loyalty.

We are to follow the Master's example in the important work of training men for responsible service in His cause. There are many individuals in our churches weaker than Peter, and more doubting than Thomas, who may be trained for successful leadership if we are willing to bear patiently with them, but who will be lost to God's service if unseeing eyes and unfriendly hearts deal with them roughly and unsympathetically. Most men need to be made strong, rather than set straight. Place responsibility upon men. Assign them definite tasks. It is surprising how leadership will develop under responsibility. Let us not fear to incur some risks with prospective workers. In supplying the church with leaders, men must be tried; and the opportunity to become a leader should be given every follower of Christ. The way in which he relates himself to such opportunity, demonstrates to what extent latent powers of leadership can be awakened.

We must train the officers and leaders in our churches to meet their duties and responsibilities. When once we place responsibility upon them, let us see to it that we do not reassume the responsibility. Make the leaders fight their own battles. Let us have confidence in them. We must never go over their heads to adjust matters in the field which has been placed in their charge. Let us learn to say "we" instead of "I," and let the operation of the church become "our" field instead of "my" field. If the work succeeds, let it be "our" success instead of "my" success. If it fails, let it be "our" failure, rather than "your" failure.

The stability of our work depends upon

the giving of due recognition and regard to the responsibility of officers and leaders. The training of efficient leaders is our holiest and most profitable task.

### TRUE LEADERS

Our churches in Europe owe very much to faithful church elders. Many of them have suffered severely. They have been in prison again and again, but they have not ceased to care for their flocks. Because of trial and persecution, the members of one small church became discouraged and were on the point of surrendering and giving up the message. But the old elder stood up weeping, and said, "I will go to prison for each one of you every time you are arrested. I am willing to be flogged for you; but you must not break my heart by denying Christ." The people were so impressed by his deep love that they all decided to stand true.

L. H. Christian.

### LEADERSHIP IN THE COMPETENT CHURCH

By W. H. Bergherm

It should be clear to all that by the term "leadership," we do not refer to the one individual in the church who may be chosen as the elder, but that the term includes all who have been elected to office and who are officers of the church, which should constitute the directing body of the church.

The following instruction through the Spirit of Prophecy is very definite: "Those who have leading places in the church should give more thought to their plans for conducting the work. They should arrange matters so that every member of the church shall have a part to act, that none may lead an aimless life, but that all may accomplish what they can according to their several ability. . . . It is very essential that such an education should be given to the members of the church that they will become unselfish, devoted, efficient workers for God; and it is only through such a course that the church can be prevented from becoming fruitless and dead." — "Christian Service," p. 62.

### THE MISSIONARY LEADER

The qualifications and work of an efficient missionary leader are primarily as follow:

(a) He is thoroughly informed. The leader must have a sense of the possibilities for witnessing invested in the church through the operation of the Holy Spirit, and what the members of the church, when properly guided and encouraged, might accomplish in the various lines of missionary endeavour. The leader should be a man of vision, who realises the part the laity can and must take in the finishing of this work, and recognises his responsibility in making their work effective in the community.

(b) He can secure co-operation. A missionary leader should be able to secure the co-operation of all the forces in carrying out the missionary plans of the church in harmony with the missionary leadership of the conference.

(c) He knows how to supervise. The leader must supervise and lead the people forth into active work along all lines of missionary service.

(d) He should be capable of taking charge of missionary services. The mis-



sionary leader is appointed to take charge of the various missionary services of the church, including the Ten-Minute Missionary Exercise.

### THE MISSIONARY SECRETARY

The second chief officer of the missionary staff of the church is the church missionary secretary, who, in connection with other duties, acts as the representative of the Tract Society. In this capacity, the ordering and circulation of all classes of literature needed by the church comes under the supervision of the missionary secretary. The secretary is expected to order all literature supplies, keep accounts, collect bills, and settle with the Tract Society.

But this is not all that the church missionary secretary is expected to do. A work of first importance is the securing of missionary reports regularly from church members and sending on quarterly reports to the Conference Home Missions Secretary, and also rendering to the church a live, interesting, up-to-date missionary report. (Wall charts have been provided for each church, free of charge, on which to record the weekly report of missionary work.) The worthy aim of the church missionary secretary is, "Every church member an active worker, and every one a reporting member."

### BAND LEADERS

The missionary leadership of the church is not complete without the band organisation. In the divine plan of organisation, as given to Moses in the wilderness, there were not only captains of fifties, but also captains of the smaller unit of ten. It is this organisation of the smallest unit that really stands as the basic foundation upon which the entire structure of a complete and successful organisation may be built. The plan is of divine origin, as set forth in the following words: "The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort has been presented to me by One who cannot err." — "Testimonies," Vol. 7, pp. 21, 22.

The missionary band leader takes charge of the weekly meetings of the band, gathers reports from each member each week, and by example and precept encourages all members of the class to be faithful in missionary work. Experience gained through the years is proving that the band organisation is an indispensable part of successful missionary organisation in the church.

### SPECIAL LEADERS

It is recognised that, particularly in our larger churches, there is need for appointing leaders to assist the missionary leader in the training for and conducting of particular lines of missionary service, such as Bible evangelism and literature evangelism. It is always true that some members will find greater joy and satisfaction in one line of work than in another, and because of this and other reasons, it has become an established plan to choose distinctive leaders for various lines of work. These leaders are appointed by the church officers, and are commissioned to seek out, encourage, and direct church members along specified lines of service. For example, there may be a number in the church who desire to prepare for giving Bible readings, and there should be an appointed leader to organise such a class, and to help all who are qualified, to engage in actual Bible work, — taking their Bible and going from door to door seeking and filling appointments for Bible studies.

In churches where a continuous and well-organised literature programme is to be carried on, a leader should be appointed to give special attention to this work, being entrusted with the responsibility of promoting the distribution of literature, enlarging the field for literature racks, and assigning responsibility for keeping them filled, and encouraging suitable persons to engage in the sale of our periodicals and small books.

Special leaders are also required for the growth of welfare and Dorcas Society work.

With a staff of missionary leaders, as here outlined, it is of the utmost importance, especially in our larger churches, that the missionary leader of the church meet with his associates and helpers at regular intervals.

Without question, the call to leadership in the missionary work of the church involves serious responsibility, and should not be lightly undertaken. Each leader will need the sustaining grace of the Master Shepherd as he endeavours to seek for talent and to guide into right paths of

usefulness. There is constant need of earnest prayer — individually and as church officers — for divine wisdom and power in bringing every church up to the divine standard, — "every member of the church . . . an active worker, — a living stone, emitting light in God's temple." There is now no time for delay on the part of missionary leaders in any church or conference, for —

"The work which centuries might have done  
Must crowd the hour of setting sun."

## Ten-Minute Missionary Exercises

MAY 7

### WITNESSES

Text: Isa. 43:10

#### Suggestions for Talks

During the 1936 Appeal for Missions campaign, one of our members visited a teacher in a well known college. As soon as the lady saw the magazine and knew the representative was a Seventh-day Adventist, she expressed great delight, and an interest to know more about our work and beliefs. She said:

"Last summer I went to Germany to study music and found myself under certain restrictions. I was accompanied by a guard wherever I went and was given to understand that no one was allowed to discuss religion on the streets or in the hotels; in fact, it was almost forbidden to tell what church one belonged to. One day while walking on the street with my guard, I noticed a woman passing who was carrying a Bible under her arm. Soon another woman appeared, also carrying a Bible. I asked the guard if these people belonged to a church which was exempt from the restrictions, and how it happened that they carried the Bible about with them. My guard replied:

"I will tell you what these people are. They are Seventh-day Adventists. It is impossible to intimidate them when it comes to their religion. They are ready to face cannon fire for their religion, and I want to tell you they are the greatest missionary people I have ever met. They live what they profess and they are not afraid to testify to their religion, in public as well as in secret."

"That made such an impression on my mind that I wanted to know more about the Seventh-day Adventists, and you are the first representative of that denomination I have found." And so this lady was able to learn more of the message.

Are you a faithful witness? Are you always ready to testify for Christ? Do you carry your Bible under your arm?

MAY 14

### THE CONSISTENT LIFE

#### Suggestions for Talks

Could we be suddenly brought to sense a tithe of the importance and solemnity of our part in the work of God, our daily influence on the lives of our friends, and our responsibility for their salvation, the light and trifling subjects of conversation, and the too common tendency to create a laugh, would as suddenly be changed to a seriousness of thought, speech, and action that would cause those with whom we have business or social contacts to inquire, "Is this not true Christianity?" with as much conviction as did the woman at Jacob's well when she exclaimed, "Is not this the Christ?"

Your friends expect you to live according to your belief, and they often judge your religion by the evidence, or lack of evidence, of its effect upon your life.

A young man recently presented himself for baptism. Although not known by the worker, his demeanour and tone of voice indicated that he was in dead earnest. It was revealed that he had been assigned a post of duty in a new place, and

that in his quest for companionship he had been observing a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church, and a very favourable impression had been made on his life. He went to one of the members of the church and asked questions concerning our belief, which opened the way for the study of the Bible together. In association with this church member, he was soon led to see that the amusements and the literature of the world had no place in the Christian's experience, and he made the statement that he never would have been led to a thorough investigation of the truth and its acceptance, had he found the church member who came under his observation to be leading an inconsistent life.

An evangelist in a stirring sermon on surrender to Christ, told among other things, of the case of a wealthy man in Chicago who had lost heavily in a financial crash, and who was on his way through a snowstorm to step off the bridge into the river below to commit suicide. A short distance from the bridge he stepped in to warm himself in the back of a well-lighted, inviting hall. To his surprise he found that a religious meeting was in progress, and he slumped down into a seat.

Something that was said gave him a desire to live, and before the meeting closed he went to the front and pledged to give his life to God. His wife was at first incensed at the humiliating public confession that her husband had made, but he persuaded her to leave with him for the West where they could start over again. His life was the means of humbling her heart and haughty spirit, and in course of time she joined him in taking a stand for Christianity. She later became interested in local work for the uplift of humanity, and through her interest and help was the means of bringing a drunkard to give up his drinking and to take his stand for the Lord. The evangelist brought his sermon to a close by saying, "And the drunkard raised from the gutter to the service of the pulpit was I, and I tremble to think or where I would be now had that business man hardened his heart to the pleas of the evangelist that night, or if his life had not been so consistent as to lead his wife to accept Christ and to follow Christ's example in stooping to aid a fallen man."

"I tremble to think of where I would be now." Perhaps to the majority of Christians there comes the memory of some person as the one really responsible for their acceptance of Christ, and they shudder to think of where they might have been but for the kindly, personal interest on their behalf. What if that person had failed to recognise his responsibility? Think for a moment of a score or more of your acquaintances toward whom you have a solemn responsibility, and of the consequences, both to them and to you, should you fail in your duty to try to win them to Christ.

MAY 21

### WHAT IS SOUL-WINNING?

#### Suggestions for Talks

"Every Christian professes to be a follower of Christ. But the Master's own word is, 'Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.' Following Christ, then, should mean that soul-winning becomes the



chief business of the Christian's life. . . . You will remember the words of our Lord Jesus, spoken to the disciples after He had performed the wonderful miracle of the draught of fishes, 'From henceforth thou shalt catch men.' (Luke 5:10.) That was not a command, but a promise. He did not say, 'From henceforth go and catch men,' but 'thou shalt catch men.' The Revised Version margin reads, 'From henceforth thou shalt take men alive.' Soul-winning, then, is the art of taking men alive, catching them for Christ. Paul refers to 'instructing those that oppose themselves, that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.' He is speaking of those who have been ensnared by the evil one, and when he says they have been 'taken captive by the devil at his will,' he uses the same word 'take alive' as in Luke 5:10. So we have this tremendous thought, every man and woman in the whole world is taken alive—caught by somebody, — either by Christ or by Satan. The two verses are in contrast. In the one, Jesus promises that we who are His disciples should catch men, take them alive for His kingdom. In the other, Paul speaks of those who are taken alive by the devil. How in earnest, therefore, we should be to win souls; for if they are not caught by Christ unto eternal life, they will be captured by Satan unto eternal death.

"What then is soul-winning? Let us consider five things in reply to that inquiry: 1. It is a great work. 'In comparison with the worth of one soul, the whole world sinks into insignificance.' — 'Testimonies,' Vol. 5, p. 614. 2. It is a wise work. 'He that winneth souls is wise.' Prov. 11:30. 3. It is hard work. . . . In the military sense, winning a victory costs hardship, privation, suffering, and sacrifice. The wise commander needs skill, patience, endurance, and wisdom to know when to move and when to hold back. So the winner of souls must know when to advance, little by little, with patient determination to slay prejudice, undermine criticism, storm the citadel, and capture the soul of the man he should win. 4. It is joyous work. 'The effort to bless others will react in blessings upon ourselves. . . . This is the highest honour, the greatest joy, that it is possible for God to bestow upon men.' — 'Steps to Christ,' p. 83. 5. It is effective work. 'When we give ourselves wholly to God, and in our work follow His directions, He makes Himself responsible for its accomplishment. He would not have us conjecture as to the success of our honest endeavours. Not once should we even think of failure. We are to co-operate with One who knows no failure.' — 'Christ's Object Lessons,' p. 363."

The satisfactory answer to this question, "What is soul-winning?" is not theoretical. The true meaning can be known only by those who have entered into the secret place of the Holy Spirit's power, and experienced the thrill of winning a soul.

MAY 28

## FORWARD WITH OUR BIBLES

### Suggestions for Talks

"Forward!" When, and where, and how is this forward movement to take place? — "With our Bibles!" Does that simply mean a revival of the early custom of carrying the Bible to the house of God on every occasion of worship? Surely there is great need of returning to primitive customs along this line; but it is apparent that possessing a copy of the Bible and studying its chapters in the quiet devotional hour, is not, by any means, all that is required of God's children. There is a summons to activity in which the Bible becomes the prime factor to be employed in warning the entire world of the end of probationary time, as the following statements indicate:

"Our work has been marked out for us by our heavenly Father. We are to take our Bibles, and go forth to warn the world." — "Testimonies," Vol. 9, p. 115.

"Let the workers go from house to

house, opening the Bible to the people." — Id., p. 123.

"Among the members of our churches there should be more house-to-house labour, in giving Bible readings." — Id. p. 27.

Therefore, we say, "Forward with our Bibles." But some may say, "Does that mean that I am to knock on doors from house to house, presenting the open Bible in my hand? Not, perhaps in the strictest sense of the word, and yet the messenger is to go from house to house, with God's Word hidden in his heart, and the sacred volume always available in pocket or bag, making initial contact through the circulation of literature, or as a friendly visitor and welfare worker, tactfully conversing with the people and directing their attention to the messages from God's Word due to the world at this time. Then, when interest and curiosity are awakened, offer to call at a convenient time for informal Bible study."

This mighty forward movement with the Bible is increasing in volume, but the immediate future is to witness greater advance. Hundreds and thousands will be engaged in visiting families, and opening before them the Word of God." — Id., p. 126.

# Missionary Volunteer Department

## ABOUT THOSE PROGRAMMES

Ques. — Is it intended that the "Missionary Leader" be used exclusively in society meetings? If not, how far should officers go in originating their own programmes?

Ans. — The object of the society meeting is to strengthen young people in their Christian experience, and to foster missionary activity. The programmes should serve these ends. Much time and effort are given to the preparation of the programmes printed in the "Missionary Leader," and while it is not intended that any one should follow these outlines slavishly, nor that a programme should never be omitted for a special reason, experience has proved that the best results are obtained when these programmes are mainly used. Some feel that when they use a "Leader" programme it is a reflection on their ability to originate a programme themselves, but this is not so considered by those who give any thought to the

The preparation required is brief but adequate. First of all, there must be full consecration of heart and life to be moulded and fashioned by the Holy Spirit through the Word, then study to become "a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth." And after that — what? Not to sit down in the rocking chair or the church pew, and do nothing; but to go out — first in the immediate neighbourhood, and then in an ever-widening field, to gain access to the homes of the people and let the Bible speak and convict hearts.

It is for this purpose that Bible Training Classes have been organised, so that members may receive simple instruction in Bible doctrines, denominational history, and in the art of conducting Bible studies under various circumstances. Even the most timid ones may become efficient soul-winners. If you are desirous of joining a class, notify your missionary leader, and he will communicate with the Conference Home Missions Secretary with a view to organising a class right in your own church. Do not delay. "Every church should be a training school for Christian workers." "Let all make sure of being among that company of hundreds and thousands . . . seen visiting families, and opening before them the Word of God."

question. Missionary Volunteer secretaries of long experience in the field, as well as other workers, have given in these programmes the results of their study and experience. There is abundant opportunity for the exercise of initiative and originality in adapting the programmes to local needs. Then, too, when there are more than four Sabbaths in a month, it is left for the society to provide its own material for the fifth Sabbath. As we meet our young people and their leaders in conventions and councils in different departments, as we consider the needs of our cause everywhere, we are impressed that the army of our Missionary Volunteers need strengthening along this or that line; and we endeavour to provide for such needs in the "Missionary Leader" programmes.

Should you at any time have a programme that you would like to pass on through the "Missionary Leader" for the help of all the field, feel quite free to send it to the M.V. Department, "Mizpah," Wahoonga, N.S.W.

MAY 7

## MOTHER'S DAY PROGRAMME

### INTRODUCTION

I would like to tell you of a little mother who is very young and lovely, and who devoted herself to her tiny son. Every hour of every day, and sometimes many hours in the night, she tended the little helpless mite; and every time she did anything for him she would lay the sweet, soft face against her cheek and kiss the little downy head and say, "My wages, and well worth it!" explaining that she had not thought it possible to love anything or any one so much.

Months went by; pearly teeth showed in the little chap's wide smile. He learned to clap his hands, play "Peep-oh," and say, "Dad, Dad," and do all the adorable things babies do.

Then one evening he electrified his mother by putting his chubby arms round her neck and planting a wet kiss on her face, and saying, "I lub oo"—his first consecutive words.

Referring to the incident afterwards, she said it was the happiest and most surprising moment of her life. She had had an idea that she was to do all the loving, and it gave her a warm and thrilling feeling to think the little pet was starting to love her in return.

And haven't you discovered that there is inborn in you, a craving, a longing for

recognition and appreciation? You have it, I have it, mothers have it. How this young mother was thrilled when her tiny boy in his babyish way told her he lubbed her.

Maybe we wish our mother were near us right now, that we might tell her that we love her. Perhaps she is far away from us. Could we not write her a letter and thrill her with the knowledge that we appreciate all she did for us as a babe, a child, a youth, and what she means to us now?

### THE LOVE LETTER

The veteran sales manager of a great corporation stood before more than a thousand salesmen, gathered from the four corners of the earth in convention. He had organised them into a wonderfully efficient selling unit, and this four-day consultation as to methods, ways, and means had done much to cement their close friendship. The last session of the meeting had been thrown open for general discussion, and the office and factory workers were present.

One after another, a dozen men had paid tribute to Mr. King and his leadership, and expressed appreciation for the kindly help and wise, sympathetic counsel he had given from time to time, especially through the medium of letters, for which he seemed to have a special gift.

The crowd cheered each speech to the



echo. But before the last took his seat, he made a singular request. "There is one thing I have always wanted to ask of our sales manager," he said, "and I am going to ask him now, because nothing would be of greater inspiration and of more value to those of us who represent this great company in this field, if he will answer it. I am going to ask him tonight, before we disperse, what he regards as the most important and fruitful letter he ever wrote."

#### MR. KING'S SPEECH

It was in answer to their cries of "Speech!" "Speech!" "By King!" that he now stood before them.

"Gentlemen, your gracious words have warmed my heart tonight. It is a real triumph to have won the enthusiasm and approval of such a company. It is not strange that I am able to write a letter which meets your needs, for I have worked in this factory in every capacity from the engine room to the shipping room. With this view and knowledge, I am sometimes able to write letters which meet your situation.

"You have asked me to tell you of the greatest letter I ever wrote. I have never told any one, save my wife, and I did not think I should ever repeat the story. My closest friends have never heard it. When I wrote the letter and had posted it, I was ashamed of it, and would have recalled it if I could.

"Gentlemen, here is the most important letter I ever wrote. Here is the letter I was ashamed of. It came back to me after a number of years. The profits received from it have been greater to sender and receiver than the profits from any other letter I ever sent through the mails."

He took it from the envelope almost tenderly. Somehow the whole scene had changed. The house was very still. He smoothed out the sheet, yellowed, and worn through the creases where it had been folded, and stood looking at the page before him for several moments, seeming to have forgotten his audience.

"I wrote this letter," he spoke softly, and every ear was strained to hear, "a good many years ago. I had been in this shop until I felt I must have more education in order to succeed. Then I had gone to college for four years. It had been a struggle; I had worked my way through, and we came up to the days of graduation and parting.

"I had some loose ends of work to clean up which kept me there a few days, and after the late train, taking the last quota of students, had gone, I walked back through the deserted college, which had been so full of life a few hours before, and started across the campus. The stars were very bright, and the moon swung low on the horizon; the buildings stood stark and still among the trees; there were no lights in the windows; no music floating from the music hall; no steps echoing along the walk. I made my way to a seat between two pines and sat there for an hour, thinking.

"This had been my home for four years, and now the family had broken up, the members had scattered, and I alone was left; my college days were over; I was as lonely as a boy could be, and homesick, and I thought of my mother and how she must have felt when the last of us had gone and she was left alone. Tears came to my eyes, and I went to my room and poured out my heart to her in this letter which I am going to read to you tonight."

#### THE LETTER

He stood still, looking into the distance for a moment, and then began:

"My dear Mother:

"My college days are over; the other students have gone; the future is uncertain; the campus is still, and I am thinking of you with a heart too full to talk much if I should see you, but I do want to write.

"I have been thinking how you must have felt when the last of us had gone and you were all alone after the years of patience and anxiety in rearing a large family. What a life you have lived! So full of sorrow, and sacrifice, and suffering. You have given so much, mother, and

received so little. Is this the life of all mothers? Is this the reward of every girl when she gives her heart to the man of her choice? I can see it all, even back to early childhood. It has been one long term of service, and we never knew, and often were not grateful for this gift of life which you have bestowed.

"But tonight with the college days and college friends gone, I can see how you hovered over me along the years. I remember when I was so small that I wore little blue and white rompers, and one day, playing barefooted, I stepped on a piece of glass, and then the blood from my foot ran down the front of your apron. You soon had the gash cleansed and bound, and then you took me in your arms and pillowed my head on your breast and rocked me to sleep in contentment.

"There is no place as restful as a mother's breast, and tonight I wish I were a child again, pillowed in the same warm nest with your arms around me, and could hear the sweet tones of the old familiar hymn, 'There's a land that is fairer than day,' which you used to hum to us.

"And do you remember when I was a few years older I stepped on the garden rake and ran one of the teeth through my foot, and when you reached me, we tried many times to pull it out before we succeeded? You were frightened that time, and sent for the doctor; but before he came, you poured something into the wound which boiled and foamed and smarted (they call it peroxide now), and you followed that with turpentine; and when the old doctor came he said, 'That was just the right thing to do, Mrs. King.' Mother's always know just the right thing to do, don't they, mother?

"Then there was the diphtheria. There was not much antitoxin in those days, except the antitoxin of love, which was effective, too, because when the doctor thought I was choking, the things I knew were your voice and touch, and they seemed in some way to open the passage for enough air to live.

"You must have had a hospital most of the time, mother, and I had more accidents and diseases than the other boys.

"The days which tried your courage and your faith more, were the days when we came into our teens, and fell into temptation. It is a triumph to raise a boy to manhood with a healthy body; it is a greater triumph to raise a boy to manhood with a healthy soul. When I look through my life, I wonder how a boy without a mother to love him ever comes through to manhood. It seems to me that you have saved me a hundred times; and since I have been away from home, your faith and confidence in me, and your love have gone with me all the days.

"You remember, mother dear, when I found a purse with £6 in it, and how I wanted to keep it because we needed the money so badly, and you said, 'No, son, we must find the owner. It doesn't belong to us.' For several weeks we failed to learn whose purse it was, and every day I became more hopeful that we would never learn. But you would not let me spend the money; and the day we did find the owner was about the bitterest day of my youth, until we went to deliver it to the gentleman who lost it, and then, somehow my grief was turned to joy. How wise you were to take me with you! In that hour you taught me not to covet what might come into my possession by accident, and not to conceal nor hold anything which was not mine.

"Do you remember when Henry took me into his father's cellar and gave me some wine? I was worried because you had talked to me a great deal about the evil liquor does in the world, and I think you knew there was something on my mind. I tried to tell you that night, but I couldn't. I was afraid it would break your heart. I lay awake nearly all night, thinking; and the next morning after prayers, when you had asked God in your simple way to go with your boys through the day and hold their hands and keep them from evil, I couldn't stand it. When we started to school I ran back, and threw

my arms about your neck and told you about the wine.

"O mother of mine, it must have been almost a deathstroke, I could feel your body grow rigid with grief, and then your arms closed about me and held me frantically, as if you feared I would be snatched away. For a long time you never said a word, and we did not hear the last bell ring. But when I could look into your face, it was white, and drawn, and old, and all those soft lines were gone out of it, while your eyes were brimming with tears that dripped over the lashes and ran down your cheeks.

"There was no school for me that day. Do you remember how we talked about life and what it means, and how necessary it is that a boy should be strong enough to withstand temptations, and before the others came home you took me to the bedroom and we both prayed about it until we found peace? When we came out of your room your arm was around me, and I knew then that nothing could ever tempt me to touch liquor of any kind again.

"And, mother (are all mothers as wise as you have been?), you remember my first party when I was to take my first girl? I can recall the night in every detail. It was an epoch in my life, as it is in every boy's. I was very nervous and very anxious, and a little bit ashamed, and very frightened, with all of it hidden, as I thought, beneath a demeanour of indifference and scorn. But you understood me, and many other things as well.

"And the evening before the party, you asked me to go with you to Mrs. Holmes' house, nearly a mile away. As we were on the way home, the stars were coming out and we sauntered along, slowly chattering in a familiar way. You led the conversation around to the subject of the party. You told me how glad you were that I had my new suit and hat and tie, and how pleased you were that my first girl was Margaret, who was very charming, and one that any boy would be proud to have for a special friend. And then you talked to me about girls. You showed me why they don't have the rugged strength of boys, and how they have to depend upon boys and men for protection and care. You told me that as I grew older, I would know them better, and that maybe sometime, when I became a young man, I would find one whom I could love very, very much, and who would love me in return. But before that time came I would know a great many, and I would hear boys and men talk about them, but to remember this, that any man or boy who would make a remark about a lady which he would not make if her brother were present, is evil of mind and coward at heart.

"Mother, I remember how I held my breath almost while you talked. I did not understand all of it then, but I have understood since. And when we approached our gate, you stopped under the big apple tree at the corner of the yard, laid your hand on my head and said, 'Carter, boy, you don't know anything about this thing called love yet, but I want you to keep your mind so pure and your body so clean that when you do find the young woman who can love you, you will have no hidden sins to conceal, and no remorse for what you have done before you met her.'

"Mother of Mine, sitting at home in your old wooden rocker, this and a dozen other things I have been thinking about, and tonight with college days over and life before me, I want to tell you that now I see what your life has been through years of suffering and service and sacrifice. I want you to know that, tonight, I know what a wonderful mother you are. And, mother, I love you, love you, and have loved you always."

#### THE REPLY

There was a silence in the great convention room. Mr. King stood still a moment and then he continued. "When I had finished this letter, I took it to the post office. On my way back I stopped on the campus and began to think, and a feeling of regret came over me. I was ashamed of this love letter which I had sent to my mother. I thought she would regard it as just the gushing sentiment of a boy.



"A few days later I received her reply. I have it here pinned to my own. It is very short. It reads:

"My dear boy:

"I have your beautiful letter. I can't write much now, I am too happy; but I want you to know that my heart trembled as I read it, and when I had finished, my eyes were full of tears of great joy. A letter like this is all the reward I shall ever need for what I have done for you."

Once more there was silence for a moment, the speaker held up the letter and said, "Gentlemen, this is the most fruitful and important letter I have ever written, this love letter to my mother." He paused again. It seemed as if his audience were holding their breath. There came a sob from the packed house and then — and then, they cheered, and cried openly, and were not ashamed.

### THE SEQUEL

After a while, Mr. King raised his hand for order. "Gentlemen," he continued, "there is a sequel. Eighteen years later my mother died, and when we opened the little box where she kept her treasures, on the top of the package of marriage and birth certificates, and many other precious papers collected through a long life, we found this letter with the creases worn from much handling and the pages covered with stains of her tears.

"In this audience tonight, are many boys in their teens from the shops and offices. Young men who are not married, but hope to be, men with young families, and men in the middle of life, and some approaching old age. We are about to depart from this inspiring convention, where we have inaugurated the greatest campaign we have ever attempted, and as you go, I want you to take with you this sentiment as my last message!

"When you are away from home, make it a habit to steal off alone and think of the house where your mother lives. Let the picture fill your mind.

"You will see the street where the old home stands. You will see every tree and shrub. You will follow the winding paths through the tangled grass. You will see the nests of the robins and the wrens. You will walk upon the porch and open the heavy door. You will see the old family furniture within. The pictures from the walls will nod and smile their welcome, and you will know them all. Then listen, you will hear the creak of your mother's chair, and the hum of old home songs. You will see her sitting alone, thinking. She is thinking of her children. She is thinking of you. The song will cease, and you will see the tears drop upon her breast where she has pillowed your head a thousand times and rocked you away into the children's palace of dreams. And while you watch, she will lift her swimming eyes toward heaven and pray to God, in whom she puts her trust, to walk with her boy along the highway of life unto the very end.

"My friends, think of your mother every day. Write to her often, and tell her how much you love her. Next to faith in God, this is the loftiest sentiment of life. And we know that the business of our great house will be safe in the hands of men who think of their mother every day and are trying to make her dreams for them come true.

"And now, my friends, good night. I have talked to you this hour in a way that leaves me open to criticism. I have let you look into my private life, at personal intimate things, but I am not ashamed. I have given you the most important message I shall ever give, both for yourself and for the house you serve, because:

"The man who is true to the love of his mother will never be false to the best that is in him, or to the trust of his friends. Gentlemen, think of your mother every day. Write to her often and — tell her that you love her."

MAY 14

### THE CARPENTER OF NAZARETH

A very precious chapter in the life of Jesus receives very little Scriptural comment. From the age of twelve until He began His public ministry at the age of thirty Jesus was a labourer's son, a son of toil. He worked with His hands, and especially after the probable death of Joseph He felt the weight of a heavy responsibility as He became the support of the family.

There was nothing dishonourable in the trade which Jesus followed. He was the Master Carpenter; His work bore the seal of perfection. But the fact that Jesus worked with His hands is very helpful to many who earn their living by physical labour. We may feel that He well understands our feelings when in the care and busy-ness of life the days seem far too short, and it seems that there are very many necessary things neglected because of this constant haste and need for diligence.

There was something, however, that Jesus did not neglect. The people noticed it and raised the question, "How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?" In other words, How is it that this carpenter is able to hold His own amongst the rabbis who have spent many years in training?

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(This programme has been provided by the Australasian Fireside Correspondence School. Leaders are invited to co-operate with the school by suggesting that their members would find pleasure and profit by continuing their education through the Correspondence School. Leaders are asked to communicate with the school at "Mizpah," Wahroonga, N.S.W., regarding any members of the local society whom the Correspondence School might address with a view to their enrolment for studies. Full information will be readily given on request.)

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It was not a miracle. Jesus did not come into an immediate possession of skill, wisdom, and knowledge. How did Jesus come by this great mental improvement?

The answer is that during the formative years of His Nazareth life Jesus used every means in His power to acquire knowledge. He listened with alert mind on Sabbaths at the synagogue, and His mother instructed Him in the law of Moses and the history of the chosen people. The great basic truths of His sermons and parables were worked out in His meagre leisure moments during those years. He who later spoke the parable of the talents knew the value of time, and constantly sought to improve His mind. While His hands were busy with the saw or plane, His thoughts ranged the world and there gradually came to Him in the development and unfolding of His mind a breath of wisdom and understanding evidenced by His successful public work.

Jesus is an example to us in His careful and wise use of leisure time. It is possible through our own denominational Correspondence School for us to continue our education and the development of our minds after we have completed our usual school work. Indeed we may capitalise our spare time and invest it so as to make a useful contribution to the uplift and betterment of ourselves and those with whom we associate.

### JESUS, THE CARPENTER

(Catherine Liddell, in a little poem written in the Northern dialect, expresses the feelings of a pious Yorkshire carpenter as he sits in his shop on the weekly rest day, and reads his favourite passage from the Bible, Mark 6:1-4.)

"Is not this the Carpenter?—Aye, it is He, Jesus the carpenter, same trade as me.

I thought as I'd find it—I knew it was here;

But my sight's getting queer.

"I don't know right where His shed must ha' stood,  
But often, as I've been a-planing my wood,  
I've took off my hat, just with thinking of Him  
At the same work as me.

"He warn't that set up that He couldn't stoop down  
And work in the country for folks in the town;  
And I'll warrant He felt a bit of pride like I've done,  
At a good job begun.

"The minister knows that I'll not make too free;  
But on Sunday I feels as pleased as can be,  
When I wears my clean smock, and sits in a pew,  
And has taught a few.

"I think of as how not the parson hissen  
As a teacher and father and shepherd o' men—  
Not he knows as much of the Lord in that shed,  
Where He earned His own bread.

"And when I goes home to my missus, says she,  
'Are ye wanting your key?'  
For she knows my queer ways, and my love for that shed.  
(We've been forty years wed.)

"So I comes right away by mysen, with the Book,  
And I turns the old pages and has a good look  
For the text as I've found, as tells me as He  
Were the same trade as me."

### FROM BOOTBLACK TO JUNIOR PARTNER

He was a friendless, homeless bootblack in the great city of Glasgow, where he gained a precarious living by plying his trade. One day there came to the shock-headed, barefoot lad a vision of something better. He would be errand boy in a certain well-known establishment. Without losing time he immediately applied in person for the coveted position. The member of the firm whom he interviewed, took a rapid survey of the boy, and saw immediately the bare feet. He said casually in the broad Scotch, "You'd have to have a pair o' shoon."

The bootblack didn't wait to parley over the matter; he accepted the decision that the errand boys of that firm couldn't go barefoot. He returned to his corner, and by working hard and saving carefully, he was able after some weeks, to buy a pair of shoes. Putting them on his feet, he walked straight to the department store. "I've got the shoon," he said.

The man at the desk was a little puzzled at the abrupt announcement, but presently recalled the boy's former visit. Then he looked him over more attentively, and said: "You'd have to have a suit of clothes; you couldn't work for us in those rags."

The lad turned on his heel without a word, and went back to his work. Stinting himself in food, and working harder than ever, he managed, in the course of a few months, to get together enough money to buy a plain suit of clothes. Dressed in his new suit, shoes on his feet, face and hands clean, he presented himself once more at the department store, and announced that he had met the conditions and would like to begin work.

The interviewer looked at him now with interest and sympathy. "Can you read and write?" he asked.

The answer was "No."

"Then I am sorry, but you can't serve as errand boy until you have learned to read and write." The boy departed without another word. He was disappointed, but not discouraged. Getting shoes and a suit of clothes had developed his self-respect, and he was conscious of a rising



spirit within, that promised greater things.

He got a job at a livery stable, matriculated at a night school, and devoted his spare time to earnest study of the common branches, in which he made excellent progress. After about two years he offered his services once more to the department store, and was immediately accepted. The employer said to himself: "The lad will take your place someday." He stood in awe of the bootblack's singleness of purpose, his ability to select a definite goal and labour patiently to reach it. And the man was right. When a few short years had passed by, the one-time bootblack had become junior partner in the establishment.

This incident is taken from life, but it may be considered in the light of a parable. The bootblack got a vision of something finer than his daily task, and he set himself resolutely to achieve it. From time to time such visions come to many of us. What is needed is the patient effort, spread over months, and often years, to realise the vision, — to make it take on flesh and blood.

#### "HE CAN WHO THINKS HE CAN"

No matter how full we may consider our daily lives to be, by careful and even scientific planning it is possible to find time for self-improvement. We may work out a plan after considering all the factors involved.

A few years ago some boys were preparing for a contest to see who could swim the farthest under water. The director, Dr. Gulick, asked a boy whom he knew if he intended to enter the race. The boy replied that he did not intend to enter for the race because he had not trained for the feat.

"Would you enter the race," asked Dr. Gulick, "if you were sure you could win?" "Certainly," replied the boy.

Dr. Gulick then suggested a plan. He timed the boy with a stop-watch and found that he could hold his breath for fifty-six seconds.

"There are people," said Dr. Gulick, "who hold their breath for from three to four minutes. A sea lion holds his breath under water for thirty-five minutes. Any normal boy of your age ought to be able to do better than you have. The secret is to breathe deeply and slowly many times, thus over-oxygenating the blood; then with the lungs full, to hold the breath. Now, I shall hold the watch again," said Gulick, "and give you the signal. See if you can hold your breath two minutes." He held the watch, and the boy did as he was told. It was a hard struggle, but he managed to hold his breath two minutes on the test.

"You see," said Dr. Gulick, "you can hold your breath twice as long as you thought you could. Now, how many strokes do you take in a minute under water?"

"Make the motions in the air, while I count them."

He made sixteen strokes a minute.

"Now," said Dr. Gulick, "dive into the water, swim twenty-four strokes under water, — it will not kill you, — and you will win the race."

The instructions were written out so that the boy could not make any mistake. An hour later he easily won the "swimming-under-water" contest because he had accurately determined his ability, had analysed the task, and had acted in accordance with a definite plan based on a scientific analysis of facts.

#### THE LADDER OF ST. AUGUSTINE

We have not wings, we cannot soar;  
But we have feet to scale and climb  
By slow degrees, by more and more,  
The cloudy summits of our time.

The mighty pyramids of stone  
That wedge-like cleave the desert airs,  
When nearer seen, and better known,  
Are but gigantic flights of stairs.

The distant mountains, that uprear  
Their solid bastions to the skies,  
Are crossed by pathways, that appear  
As we to higher levels rise.

The heights by great men reached and  
kept

Were not attained by sudden flight,  
But they, while their companions slept,  
Were toiling upward in the night.

Standing on what too long we bore  
With shoulders bent and downcast  
eyes,

We may discern — unseen before —  
A path to higher destinies.

— H. W. Longfellow.

MAY 21

#### FIRST AID BIBLE VERSES

One reason the Bible means so much to us is that there is not a need we may have which cannot be satisfied by reading somewhere in it. The people in the Bible are real flesh-and-blood persons, and their troubles are much like ours. Therefore, there is something for every kind of difficulty. If you are in danger, read Psalm 91, which many of you memorised in school. If you remember, there is hardly a danger it leaves out: "the destruction that wasteth at noonday," "the pestilence," from which angels preserve us, "a thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee."

If God seems far away, read Psalm 139, which shows that God is closer than breathing, and that He knows all about our thoughts and hopes, and takes care of us. If you are lonely, read about the Good Shepherd in Psalm 23. If you want to review Jesus' idea of what a good Christian should do and say, read Matthew 5.

When discouraged and blue, read Hebrews 11, for in that chapter is told the story of all of God's faithful people through the years who were true to Him in spite of all kinds of persecutions. If you don't feel better after this, just repeat the dose. It's guaranteed to make you forget your small sorrows. If you feel tired, try reading Matthew 11:28-30. In discouragement, read Romans 8:31-39, for this pictures better than anything else could, how strong the love of Jesus is for us, no matter what our circumstances. If you are unhappy, read John 14 to get the benefit of many precious promises Jesus has made to us.

Because the Bible is the Word of God, because it contains the greatest of literature, because it has a wider influence than any other book on people, because it contains the wisdom of really great men and women, and because it contains first aid help for all our troubles and is a guide for our lives, we should not miss the treasures of this greatest of books.

(Note. — Assign the following talks to six persons, suggesting that they search for Bible characters, or experiences, or texts where God's children in times past have received first aid help from the Bible, to add to the Scripture that has been given under the talk heading.)

Talk No. 1: WHEN MEN FAIL YOU  
Psalm 27.

Talk No. 2: WHEN WORRIED  
Matt. 6:19-34.

Talk No. 3: WHEN GOD SEEMS FAR AWAY  
Psalm 139.

Talk No. 4: WHEN YOU WANT PEACE  
Matt. 11:28-30.

Talk No. 5: WHEN THE WORLD SEEMS BIGGER THAN GOD  
Psalm 90.

Talk No. 6: WHEN YOU FEEL BLUE  
Psalm 34.

MAY 28

#### "HOME, SWEET HOME"

(A Junior Programme)

NOTE. — Have a group of Juniors take part, each holding in his hand either a drawing, or a cut-out from a magazine, of the home he represents. Each Junior can hold it in front of him while he speaks his poem. Further material to be used by the leader as introduction and conclusion can be found in the chapter, "Choice and Preparation of the Home," given in "Ministry of Healing," p. 363.

#### HOMES OF OUR NEIGHBOURS

##### 1. African Bushman Home.

I am a bushman from far off Africa dark,  
You can see my home is of grass and of bark.

My home is not made just to keep out the sun,  
But a real home to me, means all evil to shun.

##### 2. Eskimo Home.

My house is of ice, I'm an Eskimo, you see,  
But you'd be surprised just how warm it can be.

I have found it's not only a shelter from storm,  
But even up here true love can be born.

##### 3. Island Marine Home.

My home is built high on stilts very tall,  
And I climb up a ladder and try not to fall.  
There is nothing on earth I have found so sweet,

As my loved ones and Jesus — to me it's complete.

##### 4. Trailer Home.

My parents are living in a large trailer home.

It is hitched to a motor and continues to roam.

When we wish we can leave the turbulent throng,  
But we try never to indulge in anything wrong.

##### 5. Sod Home.

Here I live on the prairie so wide and so long,

My sod house, made of mud, is baked in the sun.

Every night my family has prayer round the hearth,

To me there's no spot so dear on the earth.

##### 6. Palace Home.

My home is a palace; I'm a prince you can see,

It is built of stone and surrounded by trees.

The reason that it is not merely just walls,  
Is because all respond when our dear Saviour calls.

##### 7. The True Home.

No matter what country, be it lowly or grand,

A home with Christ's love will surely stand.

Invite Jesus in, and on Him depend,  
Then your home will be safe and kept to the end.

A. H. Johns.

#### WHY CAN'T I?

DIALOGUE. — A family group can be arranged, performing various tasks, for this part of the programme. A father and mother and four Juniors, acting as children, can be in various places of the spot arranged as a room of a home. The father and mother can be reading and look up when the first child asks his question. After the last question the united group can sing, "Home, Sweet Home.")

1. Jack: "Why can't I play with those Juniors across the street? I like them. Why are those things they say, bad?"

Father: How hard it is to understand just why we cannot associate with those who use bad language and have undesirable ways. They may be very likable



playmates, full of life and fun, and we can have the best time with them. The story is told of a baby bear that played around a steel trap and got his foot caught in it. The mother bear was frantic, and tried every way to get the bear loose. There was no way but to chew off the foot, and this she did. My! how painful it was to the baby bear, and it meant that all the rest of its life, it would have to go around with only three feet. It would keep that scar for life. Jesus wants us to keep away from bad company. No matter how much we are pained in giving up evil companions, or how much we hate to turn our backs on those who are not followers of Him, we should be glad to do it for His sake.

2. Betty: "Why can't I use slang and talk like most of the other children?"

Mother: It is too bad that some use slang words in the home. I have heard it said that the most common of our slang words are abbreviations of, or have come directly from, swear words. But just because the word is changed so that it is "near profanity," does not mean that God will not hold us guiltless if we use it, when we know it is really against God's commandments. The language of those who belong to Jesus is different from the language of others. Those people who were standing at the fire, knew Peter belonged to Jesus, because of the way he talked; then when he denied Jesus, he had to swear and talk like the others. (Read Matt. 5:34-37.) When we do not use slang it shows a straightforward character that believes its own truthfulness. I believe that many boys and girls use slang because they want their words noticed and believed. But slang only cheapens our words. The home is the place to learn how to use the language of Jesus.

3. Charles: "Bob wanted me to go with him, and I promised to go. Now just why can't I go?"

Mother: A promise should always be based on what our parents desire us to do. In the Bible we are told, "For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that." James 4:15. The apostles believed that no promise should be made unless God was willing. The Lord may interfere in many things, and we should be willing to follow Him in it. The promises we make to our companions should not interfere with what our parents wish us to do at home, and what the Lord has pointed out as the way.

4. Jean: "I wish we were rich, and had lots of money, and cars, and everything rich people have."

Father: We do not love our homes because they are so well furnished, nor because there are so many things in them. We like our homes because love dwells there. If we think too much of wealth here, we might miss the home Jesus is making for us over there. Jesus said, "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to his works." Matt. 16:27. Therefore I am determined to live the kind of life here that will entitle me to be really rich by getting to heaven and living with God. True riches can be given only by Jesus. If we try to make the right kind of home here, Jesus will give us a heavenly home which will last throughout all eternity.

### THE INNER HOME

During the Middle Ages when men were killed for Christ, there lived a martyr who wrote about an "inner room." This home evidently is not built with wood, or brick, or canvas, but he says it has pillars and foundations.

There are seven pillars in this home and the first is, **Goodwill**. The gospel is the good news of founding a real inner home. Let us always be pleasant in everything, so we can have this first pillar in our heart's home.

The second pillar is **Memory**. God tells us, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." We cannot have a real inner home unless we keep God's Sabbath just

the way He wants us to. Then, too, we must remember all of God's gifts to us.

The third pillar is a **Clean Heart**. When we cut ourselves and get dirt in the wound, it will never heal unless all the dirt is washed out. Our hearts are also like watches, which must be clean if they are to work right. It takes just one drop of heavy, dirty oil to stop a watch. People can see in our faces, just how clean our hearts are.

The fourth pillar is a **Free Mind**. Our minds are free only if we have given them to Jesus. "Take my will, and make it Thine: it shall be no longer mine; take my heart, — it is Thine own, — it shall be Thy royal throne."

The fifth pillar is a **Right Spirit**. We can have the right kind of spirit in us, if we just want it. We can be always willing to help others; we never need to say the wrong things. God wants us really to like to study His Word and learn our memory texts. Selfishness can have no place with a "right spirit."

The sixth pillar is a **Devout Mind**. Looking down makes our shoulders stoop. If the only thoughts we have are looking down and are low, then our characters bend. Family worship in our home will help to make this inner home the dwelling place of God's Spirit.

The seventh pillar is an **Enlightened Reason**. Some people do cruel and wicked things because their minds have not listened to the Word of God. We must study the Bible every day if we really want to have the wisdom of God in our minds. God wants us to know just why we keep the Sabbath holy, and just why we pay our tithe, and the reason we believe this message. So when we continue to study the Bible, we continue to grow with Christ in our hearts.

The only foundation of the inner house is the Lord Jesus, prayer, and Bible study.

### HELPING AT HOME

"Today," said pretty Polly,

As she opened wide her eyes,

"I'm going to give my dear mamma  
A beautiful surprise.

I hardly know what it will be,

But I shall find a way,

To do some great and noble thing

To please mamma today.

"I'm tired of doing little things.

Why, any one can sweep,

And dust, or wipe the dishes up,

Or watch the baby sleep.

I've some big thing I want to do;

If I could write a book,

Or save the house from burning, now

How pleased mamma would look!"

So after breakfast Polly went

And sat beside the fire;

While mother cleared the things away

And mended baby's tyre.

She wiped the dishes, made the beds,  
And braided Bessie's hair, —  
While Polly sat and pondered long  
Within her easy chair.

And so she dreamed and thought and  
planned

The busy morning through;  
But could not think of anything

Quite big enough to do.

And when she went to bed at night

She really wondered why,

When mother kissed her lovingly —

The kiss was half a sigh.

— G. M. Canno.

### THE MAN WHO FORGOT HIS HOME

A magazine article told of a young man who completely lost his memory. He could not remember his name, his friends, his town, nor his home. He lost his memory while walking down the street. He did not know where to go; so he left his town and started wandering. He went from city to city, begging food and trying to get work. His clothes became all ragged and torn, and he had no money to get more.

He did finally get a job digging ditches. This was very hard on him, because he had not been used to strenuous work.

His family worried about him — and finally gave him up for lost, and thought he would never return. His father, however, did not believe that he was dead, and determined to start out and find him if possible. He searched and searched for him. One day he went into a cheap eating place. He could scarcely believe his eyes, when there before him he saw his boy. His heart leaped within him and he rushed forward and loudly called him by his right name. The young man almost jumped from his chair. As soon as his right name was called, his memory came back. My! how happy he was to get "home." He never realised before what his home meant to him.

There is the story of another boy who left home and didn't say just where he was going. He wandered until all his money was gone, and he was ragged, and poor, and had nothing to eat. The Bible doesn't say that he lost his memory, but his condition was just as bad. He didn't even want to go home, but preferred to eat with the swine. However, one day God called his name. I suppose he looked around, and when he failed to see any one, the Bible says, "He came to himself." He certainly hurried home as fast as he could, and how glad he was to get there.

Jesus doesn't want us to forget or be unappreciative of our homes, but He wants them to be the kind of home where He can dwell with us.

A. H. Johns.

## Sabbath School Mission News

MAY 7

### NINETEEN THOUSAND TREATMENTS

Missionary Arthur Parker, whose wife is the doctor in charge of our hospital on Malaita, Solomon Islands, writes to the Sabbath schools for today:

"Jesus said He came 'to seek and save that which was lost.' He came not to do His own will, but the will of Him that sent Him. Again, 'As Thou hast sent Me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.'

"Jesus went about healing the sick, encouraging the downcast, and teaching the way of life. As Jesus did this work, so are we to do it. There is much opportunity for this kind of service in the mission field. In fact, the only way to win the heathen is by the practical Christian life, and by healing the sick. There are not many who have the opportunity and privilege of visiting or working in the mission field, but all can be there in the per-

son of their substitutes, the native missionaries and teachers.

"Just a word to try to help you realise what you are doing on the large island of Malaita. There are about 45,000 natives on this island. We had thirty native medical missionaries working there last year, and half of these representatives of yours gave no less than 19,000 treatments. Just think of it! What a lot of suffering you are relieving by sending out these native missionaries! Not only are you doing the medical work, but many of those treated are coming to Jesus and learning of Him through your missionaries, and receiving spiritual healing.

"Next Thirteenth Sabbath, June 25, your Sabbath school offerings are to be used for the medical work in the Solomon Islands. Just think of these substitutes of yours, helping so many sufferers because of your support. But imagine also what could be done if only more of these missionaries had some equipment with which to work. Many of these native



workers do not have even a basin or a bowl, nor any fomentation cloths, nor a hot water bag. Just think of these things when deciding what your attitude will be toward your own missionaries this quarter; and be sure to give the largest offerings that it is possible for you to give. Win souls by pushing on the medical work."

MAY 14

### WHAT WILL YOUR ANSWER BE?

"Last week you heard a little of what you are doing through your native representatives on Malaita, the most densely populated island of the Solomon Group. This week we want you to know what you could do, but are not doing," Missionary Parker continues.

"You will remember that your representatives are helping about one-third of the population of Malaita. I would ask, What is to happen to the other two-thirds of the population? Are they not to receive help also? And what about the unattended sick on Guadalcanar Island, and the help needed at Dr. Parker's hospital, and at the Amey Memorial Hospital, and also the other three districts in the Solomons? They all come within your field for this quarter. Now what will be your answer? Will you tell them that they must continue to suffer without help? Or will you provide the present workers with the needed equipment and medicines, and supply more workers for the people who are calling and who are now beyond the reach of the present workers? Calls for more missionaries are coming in from everywhere, but they cannot be supplied because we have not the money to do so.

"Just think of Lili, a small girl from the bush. She saw how Iingoara was helping the sick, so she came to the mission to stay. Her people did not approve, and they came and took her away by force; but Lili had tasted something good, and was soon back, only to be taken off again. This happened several times; so finally her people decided to marry her to a heathen man away off in the middle of the island, and she was taken over the second range of mountains. But when the people awoke in the morning no Lili was to be found. She was back at the mission, where she has remained ever since, and is now a baptised member of the church.

"There are thousands like Lili, brethren, only waiting to see and hear of the better way. Are they to remain in heathenism? What is your answer to these needy people?"

MAY 21

### THE FAR EAST CALLS

The Secretary of the Far Eastern Division of our work, Pastor C. L. Torrey, has written to the Sabbath schools on behalf of his field, which includes all the Far East except China. He states:

"In this far-flung territory, 162,000,000 souls are making religion their chief business, hoping and expecting some day to achieve salvation through the medium of their own works, and thus escape the present life with its toils, its heartaches, its suffering, its pain, and finally death.

"There are many among those benighted millions who are honest and sincere in their search for God, and we believe these will yet hear the message and be saved in God's kingdom. The apostle Paul tells us, 'Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

"These fields 'are white already to harvest.' The cry from the hearts of our workers in this needy Far Eastern Division is, 'Come over . . . and help us.' Literally hundreds of people are pleading for this blessed truth in various parts of this division, and we must go to them, and teach them the message. But how can we advance and send workers into the many openings without men and means?

"In French Indo-China there are whole districts on fire, as it were, with the message. In the providence of God, doors have been thrown wide open for us to enter.

The people welcome us with open arms and warm hearts, believing that we have the truth which will enable them to obtain the salvation they so resolutely seek. And they want the message, and they want it NOW! It appears to them as the 'pearl of great price.' They plead for teachers and evangelists to come and teach them the truth. They reason that if we really have the Word of Life to give to the world, why do we not come to them with it?

"Brother Wentland is pleading that provision be made immediately for a training school wherein to train workers to answer the many calls coming to him.

### FOR OFFICERS AND TEACHERS

"The teacher makes the Sabbath school. Here centres success or failure; his ideals measure the height to which a Sabbath school attains; here pulsates the very heart-throbs of Sabbath school endeavour." How forceful, and yet how true, is this statement from "The Soul Winning Sabbath School," written by our world leader in Sabbath school work for so many years, Mrs. L. F. Plummer.

"Teachers should guard themselves against the mistake of adopting the methods of the preacher. The ideal teacher tactfully draws upon the class for co-operation, so that each member feels that he is contributing to the recitation." — *Id.*, p. 92.

When home division members sometimes attend the parent Sabbath school, they should not be counted as visitors. These home division members mark their own record card each quarter, and so if counted as visitors, would be counted twice.

Members of one church who regularly attend Sabbath school of another church are not to be counted as missing members. However, steps should be taken in an endeavour to transfer them to the church where they attend.

"On time" means to be in one's place when the opening song or silent prayer is announced. Those coming in afterward are tardy, and thus break their record. The teacher should make sure that each class member is on time before making up the class record.

Assistant superintendents are not just "wall flowers." They should be accorded the privilege of superintending the school at regular intervals. A large school, with two assistant superintendents, rotates responsibility. The superintendent directs the school one month, then each of the assistants has it for a month. The superintendent, therefore, is free for two months to give careful study to all divisions of the organisation.

SABBATH SCHOOL DEPT.

Something must be done without delay to provide for such a school.

"For a long time the brethren of the Malayan Union and of Siam had been asking for a doctor for the city of Bangkok. In view of the shortage of funds, it was impossible to provide another budget for such a worker within the appropriations; but the union and Siam committees were so impressed with this need, and with the value of such a work in the opening of doors to the gospel, that they promised to support a doctor.

"And now Dr. R. F. Waddell's work in the capital city of Bangkok is truly an example of the results of faith, and God is wonderfully blessing his efforts. Dr. Waddell's wages are being provided for largely by the income from the little hospital in Bangkok. We thank God for the faith exercised by the brethren of Siam and by Dr. Waddell and others who made it possible for him to start work in that place.

"We are confident that a large and successful medical work can be accomplished in Siam if proper facilities can be made available.

"The needs for an expanding work are many and pressing. Large numbers are annually joining the Advent movement, and we must press the battle forward to a final and victorious conclusion. Please pray for our work here."

MAY 28

### THE STORY OF TARUPA

"There is a horrid ringworm in the islands," one of our missionaries writes; "it is like tinea, which white people sometimes get between their toes, but this ringworm comes out all over the body and leaves the skin in papery scales. It is very itchy, and the natives so afflicted soon become very thin and miserable. We have a strong, stinging medicine which we paint on their bodies; this burns like fire, and is so severe that only a small portion of the native's body can be painted at one time. There is a peculiar smell from people who have this complaint, and they are never very strong. In some villages just about everybody seems to be infected with it.

"Nurse Wiles is stationed at Aroma, a village where the disease was very, very bad. However, God blessed the treatments. She used to buy about twenty gallons of the medicine at a time. Now there is very little of this disease in the whole district.

"While the disease was very bad, soon after Mrs. Wiles went to Aroma, a dirty, smelly boy came to the mission. He was covered with this ringworm. He wanted to stay on the mission. They tried to clean him up, to cure the skin disease, and to teach him about the Bible and other school subjects. He was just like a thin, miserable, hungry, mangy dog that everybody feels sick to look at. His name was Tarupa. After a while Tarupa was found to be hopeless. His skin was still bad, and he seemed more stupid and clumsy than any other native. Finally Tarupa was told that he could go away to the village, and if he wanted medicine he could come in, but that there was no room for him on the mission. He was very sad, but went away. Later he came back again. Another chance was given him, but once more it was decided that they could train better boys than Tarupa, so they sent him away again. Time and again this happened. They would wake up and find that Tarupa had sneaked into worship, or meals, or school, or a bed, and still they could not clean up his skin, and so they were frightened that the disease would spread to the clean boys.

"After a long while he lost the disease and the bad smell went. He then grew fatter and stronger. At last he was sent up to the training school. Here he was a very hard-working boy, but he was so stupid that he could not learn anything, and he wrote a wretched scrawl with the left hand. But he studied his Bible, and in time could conduct the Sabbath school lesson. Then we found that he could preach. Soon after this he went home for a holiday. Just at this time there was a shortage of native teachers, so Tarupa was asked to try to help them.

"When school reopened Tarupa was not there. He had done such good work as a teacher and preacher in the native villages that the mission folk felt they could not be without him. In a little while the work that Tarupa was doing was so well liked by the natives that he had the chance to open up two new villages. This meant that he was teaching a school and in addition conducting daily worship and Sabbath services in three villages.

"Soon after this there arose a very difficult situation in a rather wild inland village, and the only person we thought could do the job was Tarupa. So there he is now. The miserable sick boy stuck to his job. God blessed him, until now he is doing a really good work in saving the souls of his fellow Papuans."

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