

A CONSECRATION SERVICE.

It is difficult to make the many services for consecration always bear out the real thought of the time; so I thought perhaps others might wish to try this little service, which was planned and carried out by our society one evening not long ago. The meeting was pronounced one of the best we ever had.

The service is founded on Miss Frances Havergal's beautiful poem of consecration, and each stanza was supplemented by a Bible reference appropriate to the thought of the couplet. I give below the verses as they appear in her little book, "Kept for the Master's Use," and the reference as we used them:

- Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
1 John 5:12.
- Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Eph. 5:16.
- Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.
Ps. 24:4.
- Take my feet and let them be
Swift and "beautiful" for Thee.
Isa. 52:7.
- Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King.
Jonah 2:9.
- Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.
Ps. 63:5.
- Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold.
Matt. 6:21.
- Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose.
Phil. 2:5.
- Take my will, and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Eph. 6:7.
- Take my heart; it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne.
Matt. 5:8.
- Take my love, my Lord, I pour,
At Thy feet its treasure store.
Deut. 6:5.
- Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.
Acts 20:24.

Several methods can be used in following out this idea. If your society is a small one with few who will take part, have just the twelve slips with number, Bible reference, and verse couplet on each. And in turn let the person holding them read out the verses and the references which they have looked up in their Bibles during the opening part of the meeting, and also say a few pertinent words.

But, if you have a large number present, or, rather, if you have a general large attendance that will warrant it, have twice as many slips, each pair numbered alike. Let the more timid ones, or the associate members, read the couplet, and then it can be followed by the person holding the reference, who can say a few words also.

Or still another plan, and perhaps the best, is to have the organist play while all sing the first couplet; then some one reads the Bible reference; then another gives a short talk from personal experience, or of his or her own ideas as to how best to consecrate the "life," the "will," or whatever the case may be. Follow the plan through the whole poem.

I sincerely hope this may prove of help to some other leader.—*May Myrtle French, in C. E. World.*

HEAD LIGHTS.

VII.

A STRONG SOCIETY.

How to make the society stronger is an ever-recurring question, and many times a perplexing one. First, the church should put more faith in her young people, not that she shall turn over the management of the church, but take the young people, when converted, at their word and believe that they desire to do nothing so much as to serve their Master. Put them to work at once—encourage them in their effort and keep the mutual confidence burning brightly.

Let the stress be kept upon the prayer-meeting, rather than the social features. It is of far more importance to know how to talk with God and with man, knowing that with a good degree of efficiency in the pure "language of Canaan" you will be able to reach the understanding of immortal souls.

Put much thought upon the power of a consecrated service, rather than the mere act of taking some part in every service. The heart set apart to God's service will never lack for something to say in a testimony meeting, because the fire shut up in the bones must break out. A mighty work is to be done. Emphasize that, rather than the doings at the last social or the "new features" for the next. When you do have a social, let it be a "social to save." Be in earnest!

Loyalty to their own church must be instilled into their very beings; where no fidelity exists to their own church no loyalty will be found for another. Never for a moment should the thought find lodgment in the mind that the society is not an integral part of the church, or is not under direct control of the church and her pastor. And let the fact be sent far and near that the society is a school for service—to increase talents while winning souls for Christ and the church.—*John H. Wolfe.*



LET IT ALONE.

Keep off the enemies' territory if you would be safe, my young Christian friend. Perhaps you may think you are strong enough to resist the tempter and come away in safety, but many have over-estimated their strength, and have fallen into sin, when they least expected it. They tampered with temptation and it overcame them. Some rats assembled in a large cellar, to devise some method of safely getting the bait from a steel trap which lay near—having seen numbers of their friends and relatives snatched from them by its merciless jaws. After many long speeches and the proposal of many elaborate and fruitless plans, a happy wit, standing erect, said:

"It is my opinion that, if with one paw we can keep down the spring, we can safely take the food from the trap with the other."

All the rats present loudly squealed assent. Then they were startled by a faint voice, and a poor rat, with only three legs, limping into the ring, stood up to speak.

"My friends, I have tried the method you propose, and you see the result. Now let me suggest a plan to escape the trap. Let it alone."

If there is a single question as to the danger of your soul, *let it alone.*



Gentleness and kindness will make our homes a paradise upon earth.—*Bartol.*

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YOUNG WOMAN.

You had better learn to sew.
You had better learn to bake.
You had better learn to keep a tidy house.
You had better help mother mend the children's stockings and make yourself otherwise useful around the house.
You had better not cry and pout or grow peevish or fretful, under restraint or parental advice.
You had better practice economy, self-denial, self-restraint, humility, love. Such flowers will grow in the garden of your soul, and blossom into fragrance and beauty.
You had better avoid taking into your mind the trash of the street, world or literature. Poison is always dangerous. Read pure books, train your mind to think pure thoughts, and your character will be strong, robust, healthy.
You had better not marry an unsaved young man. See to it that Christ has the first place in your life and demand as much from him who is to be your constant companion. This will save you from a thousand heartaches, enhance domestic felicity and very greatly help you on your way to Heaven.
Young woman, will you heed this kindly advice?—*Christian Standard.*



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You need God in the very things that seem to separate you from him. You must seek him in the very places where the misery of life seems to be that he is not. You must question the stoniest paths for streams of water.—*Phillips Brooks.*

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