

MESSAGE BY BROTHER HENRY SEELEY
His mother saith unto the servants: Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it—John 2-5.

I notice several things in connection with this small verse.

1st That Mary expected Jesus to obey her request or wish, for she did not even ask him to manufacture wine. It was only an unspoken wish. And he did obey her. It would be well for our young people to study the life of Jesus and they would learn that for all that Jesus was God as well as man, he did not think it beneath him to obey his parents. Yet they were only a man and woman, the same as our parents are. The Scriptures tell us that he was subject unto them. Even when he was old enough to be "his own boss" as they say these days, still he was obedient to his mother's wishes. When he tarried behind at Jerusalem there is no record given that they told him to go with them. Only that they thought he was in the company. So he was not disobedient, for when they found him and told him to go he went.

2nd. She had faith in his power to do. Had she not had believed that he could and would do as she wished, she would not have spoken thus to the servants. Had she not brought the matter before him, he would not have given them what they needed. So many times we get the idea that a need is too small to take to Jesus, yet he cares for us and says that "the very hairs of our head are all numbered." We lack faith in God, both in his love and his power to do. He has said that "if we ask in Faith, believing, we shall receive." We do not always get the answer in the way we look for it, for God in his infinite love, gives us the answer in the way it will do the most good.

3rd. She was not afraid he would tell them to do what they could not do. We often accuse God of asking us to do things that are too hard or unreasonable, but not so with Mary. She told them "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it," knowing that it would be in their power.

4th. She did not tell them to find out what the Governor of the feast or the other guests thought ought to be done. But pointed them to Jesus. How often when we get puzzled to know what to do we make a mistake. Instead of doing as Mary told the servants to do, find out his will, and then do it, we ask our neighbors and friends what they think. Yet Jesus commands us to ask wisdom if we lack, and he will give it to us.

5th. She did not tell them to go find some, or do any thing in their own power or way. But to wait for the voice of Jesus. Whatsoever he "saith." How often we fail in our attempt to do good, because we go at it without waiting to get orders from God, just take our own head for it. That is why so much of the work done by the churches of today fail. If they stopped to ask God about it, there would be fewer suppers, socials and such like in connection with the church. Had the servants taken their own head for it, the bridegroom would have been humiliated and criticised because he had not better provided for the feast. Mary did not even stop to criticise; she pointed them to the one who is able to bring good out of evil, and success out of defeat."

6th. Unto you. Not unto some one

else. Nor find out what the other fellow is to do. Perhaps the work he is to do will be easier or more reasonable. They were to pay attention only to the orders given to them. We so often are so much interested in finding out what someone else has got to do, that we fail to listen to our own orders and so make a failure.

7th. Obedience on their part was necessary. It would have been useless for Jesus to have told them what to do, had they not obeyed. Had they said it was foolish and no sense in it or that people would make fun of them they would still have had no wine. Obedience on their part was all that was needed to bring plenty where there was none before. God would so often give us rich blessings, and make us a blessing to others if we would be obedient. No doubt those servants "If they were anything like most of us are today," were puzzled and could see no sense in carrying the water to the governor of the feast. Jesus did not touch the water, put anything in it or even look at it so far as we know. Only told them to fill the water-pots with water and then to take some of it to the governor of the feast. But, oh, how much richer that water was because they did "all" he told them to do.

What we need to do today is to be in the place where God can speak to us. That will keep us away from every place where we cannot take Jesus with us. But, oh! the rich wine he gives us to drink, when we stay with him.

2nd. We need to pay attention when he speaks, not let it in one ear and out the other, not scorn the voice as asking something unreasonable or unnecessary. Be sure it is God speaking to us, then obey.

3rd. Not ask what others think, or what is going to mean to us. But when we are sure it is God speaking, do as he says and he will take care of the result.

We clipped the following notes from the Fort Fairfield Review of Aug. 18th:

L. S. Kinney and family and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kimball, who had attended the Riverside Camp Meetings, returned home Monday.

Rev. Percy Trafton, of Fredericton, visited friends in town from Monday to this Wednesday, on his way home from Riverside Camp Meetings.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Morrell and young daughter, of Fredericton, returned home this Wednesday after a day's visit with Rev. H. S. Dow and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cogswell attended the Riverside Camp Meetings August 8 and 15.

Mrs. Minnie Kimball and daughter, Miss Kathleen, arrived home Monday from Ocean Park, where they have been a number of weeks.

Rev. H. S. Dow and family and L. S. Kinney and family plan to go to Fredericton next Wednesday to attend the Reformed Baptist quarterly meeting beginning Thursday, Aug. 26, and continuing over Sunday.

The camp meeting at Littleton was a success and very largely attended this year, as was the Riverside Camp Meeting at Robinson.

Among attendants at the Riverside Camp Meeting were: Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Kimball, Mr. and Mrs. John Manter, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Cogswell, Mr. and Mrs.

Howard P. Cogswell, Mrs. F. W. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. Fenton Foster, C. W. Churchill.

Among those attending camp meeting at Robinson Sunday were: Mr. and Mrs. Walter Tweedie and family, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Noble and family and their guest, Katherine Huckins, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Allen, Glenna Tweedie, Harry Clark, Mae Chase, Frank Niles, Mr. and Mrs. Hurd Seeley and family and Mr. and Mrs. James Lawrence.

Among those recently in attendance at camp meeting at Riverside were: Mrs. Jane Savage, Mrs. Lizzie Kimball, Mrs. M. R. Stewart, Mrs. Maggie Nichols, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Kimball, Miss Helen Kimball, William T. Andrews, Otis Ames, L. S. Kinney and family, Rev. H. Smith Dow and family.

The Reformed Baptist Church, which was closed during the Riverside Camp Meeting, will be open next Sunday morning and evening. The Misses Alice and Helen Sterritt, of Gray's Mills, N. B., who soon leave for South Africa as missionaries from the Reformed Baptist denomination, will be present and will take part in the service.

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

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the crowd waiting to finish the precious fluid, which sight made him drink again and again. Reluctantly he left about a half cup and waddled away, swollen near to the bursting point. Immediately the whole brood of chickens jumped into the pan and began to drink, looking up to heaven between the sips, as if giving thanks, a thing the greedy, selfish pig never did.

How many children always remember to give thanks for all their blessings? And when you think how you have everything, and these Zulu children have nothing, you should be very grateful to God and decide to live for Him who showers you with blessings, and fills you land with gospel light.

Yours in Him,

H. C. SANDERS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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How would we enjoy having a lot of sick folk in our kitchen? So we are sending fifty dollars for that fund, twenty-five dollars for the new church at the mission station and twenty-five dollars toward the house for our new missionaries, and thirty dollars for our "Native Worker" and ten dollars for the Students' Fund. We think that the greater things we try to do for the Lord, the more he will enable us to do. Praise his holy name.

I am glad to see you are dealing with the dress question, but I think the reason that the priests can take it up is because they have no wives, for I saw a minister's wife at a public gathering with such a dress. Well, she was not one of our minister's wives.

MR. AND MRS. MANNING MULLEN, Woodstock, Yarmouth Co., N. S.

Note—Perhaps our people will be interested to know that Brother and Sister Mullen were the parents of our young sister, Viola Mullen, who was preparing to go to Africa as a missionary, but died at Millville. The family are bravely carrying on her work.—Ed.