

Young People's Column

SEEKING GOD

"And ye shall seek me and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."—Jeremiah 29:13.

Seeking God is indeed a task which requires the entire man. It is more than a desire of heart to find or know Him. There must be a searching after Him with all our heart.

First.—It is not a lip-service. Many, with their lips, call on the Lord in seeking Him, but fail to seek Him with all the heart. They are as God said concerning Judah, "And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly, (or in falsehood) saith the Lord." Many poor souls who have thought they were all right, and that all there was to religion was to confess Him before the world, will come to the judgment and find that they have missed the true way, and that God required a real heart service. Many of the prophets and leaders of today are deceiving the people and causing them to think they are all right, and that all they can do is to live in sin every day. Jeremiah sent a letter to those who were captives in Babylon and said, "Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed. For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name. I have not sent them, saith the Lord."—Jer. 29:8, 9. God gave this people a promise, that after a certain time they should seek Him with all their hearts, and find Him. God has promised deliverance from all sin to that man and woman today who will quit sin and search after God with the whole heart. Many folk, with their mouth, profess to love God, while in heart they are far from Him. "And they come unto thee as the people cometh, (to be with the crowd) and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they show much love (how deceitful men are!) but their heart goeth after their covetousness. And lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument; for they hear thy words, but they do them not."—Ezekiel 33:31, 32. Many are regular attendants at the place of worship, like the preacher and the people, and they will sanction what the preacher says, and many times will tell him how they enjoyed the message, but they will not obey God. Their heart is far from Him. Jesus said, "This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoreth me with their lips but: their heart is far from me."—Matthew 15:8.

Second.—How We should Seek the Lord. Men must have that earnest desire and determination that Jacob had when he wrestled all night, and at the break of day the angel said, "Let me go," but Jacob sought to be blessed and refused to let him go until he had received the desire of his heart. "And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said unto him, Jacob. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God, and with men, and hast prevailed."—Gen. 32:26-28. Too many people are easily persuaded by the enemy to give up and quit; but Jacob sought with all his heart and refused to let go until he had received the desire of his heart. Men must come to that place where they want God above everything in the world.

Men must seek God with that confidence

which David had. "When thou saidst, Seek ye my face, my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek. Hide not thy face far from me: put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation. When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up. . . . Wait on the Lord: he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord." David had that confidence in God that though all others should forsake him and turn him away, God would take him up and see him through. We must come to that place in life where we are willing to walk with God alone in spite of our own kinsfolk. Many times folks will say, "If my husband will seek God I will," or "If my friends will go, I will." Dear reader, we cannot find God in this manner. We must have it settled individually that we will go through with God. David had that confidence that God would care for him in every circumstance of life. We must seek Him with the perseverance of the woman of Canaan who sought the Master for her daughter who was "grievously vexed with a devil." When she cried unto the Master, saying, "Have mercy on me" Jesus did not answer her, and the disciples came and "besought him, saying, Send her away, for she crieth after us. But He answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. . . . Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith; be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour."—Matt. 15:23-28.

On another occasion the disciples endeavored to quiet a blind man who sought help from the Master. The more they tried to quiet him, the more he cried out for mercy. Many today have done away with the old-fashioned mourner's bench, and tell us men cannot know when they are saved, and that God is not deaf; therefore it is not necessary to cry so loud, neither do we need to be so persistent about it. We have observed that only those who seek God with earnestness of soul ever find Him and obtain an experience that will stand the tests of life.

The promise in the text is on condition, "Ye shall find me when ye shall seek me with all your heart."

"Seeing then, that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in every time of need." In spite of the sins of the sinner he may find mercy, and regardless of the need of the saint, he may have grace to help in every time of need.—The Church Herald and Holiness Banner.

HAVE FAITH IN GOD

It is important that we should have faith in our fellow-men in general, in the church, in our rulers, and in ourselves; but in a special and preeminent sense we must have faith in God. It is in this realm that our greatest battles must be fought and won. Are we in trouble about our personal religious experience? New adjustments are doubtless necessary, but faith in God will bring us out into the light. Does the future look dark for the Church, or some part of it? Let us remember the beautiful words of the prophet: "Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder. . . . Of the in-

crease of His government and peace there shall be no end." (Isa. 9:6-7). Let us have faith in God—new faith, more faith, child-like faith, preserving faith.—The Wesleyan Methodist.

CORRESPONDENCE

September 23, 1933.

Dear Brother Dow: Lr. Millstream, N. B.,

We are glad to report another good meeting at Killam's Mills. We were there for nearly three weeks.

Brother Deadman was with us all day each of the three Sundays and helped us all of the last week. We found him to be a true yoke fellow that carried a burden and sang and preached with the unction on his soul. Conviction was on from the first; but the enemy makes it hard for anyone to yield in these days of awful indifference. But in spite of the enemy God gave us seekers and finders until sinners were saved, backsliders reclaimed and believers sanctified. For all that we accomplished we praise the God of Revivals and take courage. We hope to keep on the old line of Holiness as a second definite work of Grace.

Yours seeking the Lost,

HARTLEY E. MULLEN

MARRIED

Weade—Smith

At the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Weade, Royalton, N. B., on Wednesday, September 15th, at 3.00 p. m., Miss Cora B., the youngest daughter, became the wife of Mr. Merton E. Smith, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Smith, of Durham Bridge, N. B.

The home was beautifully decorated for the occasion. The contracting parties stood under a handsome arch as the ceremony was performed by Rev. L. T. Sabine, of Marysville, N. B.

The bride was the recipient of many nice and useful gifts.

Only immediate relatives were present at the wedding.

On Saturday evening the 16th, a reception was held at the home of the groom's parents at Nashwaak, where the happy couple will reside.

Devine—Kelley

Frank Devine, Fort Fairfield, Maine, and Laura Kelley, Caribou, Maine, were united in marriage Saturday evening, Sept. 23rd, at the Reformed Baptist parsonage. Rev. G. A. Rogers performed the ceremony.

G. A. R.

TRUE RELIGION

True religion must needs go a good deal deeper than sentiment. It must go to the heart and make it pure, to the temper and make it sweet, to the inward parts and make them true.

Religion is more than feeling right. It is thinking right, living right, and loving right. Any structure built of simple emotion is a flimsy thing. It lacks the stability and permanence of Gospel rectitude.—Dr. Malcolm James MacLeod.

We can not go through life strong and fresh on constant express trains, with ten minutes for lunch; but we must have quiet hours, secret places of the Most High, times of waiting upon the Lord when we renew our strength and learn to mount up on wings as eagles; and then come back to run and not be weary, to walk and not faint.—A. B. S.—The Church Herald.