

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4:12

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"UNTO YOU, YOUNG MEN!"

(I. John 2:14)

The Church, today, even more than in the "yesteryears," counts upon her young men! Indeed, youth in the church has never faced a more challenging future than that which we now face, never more inspiration for the aspirations of Christian youth than the immediate future. We are in the throes of transitional struggle everywhere. Now we need young men, clear-headed, strong-hearted, quick handed. They form the strength of every militant and progressive cause. Forward movements in every field of activity depend upon their sympathy. The unspent energy, the radiant genius, the sacred optimism, the high daring, the capacity for self-sacrifice, and ready response to heroic leadership—these are the impetus of every assault on the forces of evil! To these elements within us the call to hilarious warfare comes with thrilling appeal. We appreciate the first call to the privileges of the Kingdom, but the call to heroic service completely challenges our youth and meets with jubilant response.

Added to the fundamental elements of Christian experience such as holiness, consecration, faith, etc., there are qualities of heart and mind, necessary to successful service, upon which the youth must place a high premium. Of these I shall mention only a few very briefly.

1. **An Adjustment of Ambition:** In this relation Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 5:9: "We make it our **ambition**, whether at home or in exile, to please Him perfectly." Any ambition, lofty as it may be, which deviates from this central passion may end in an utter breakdown of our service. Subordinate every ambition to this central aim. And in order to do this, we cannot serve safely but in facing Jesus continuously.

2. **An Intensity of Initiative:** This is constantly expressed throughout the Word of God by the word "arise!" Take yourself by the neck and shake off your inherent laziness! Guard against depression, watch against despair, rise above drudgery, and avoid dreaming. These are all parts of our human capacity, but we must not yield to them so as to subject life to a desire for "transfiguration" experiences, to the neglect of the natural simple things, in the doing of which we should meet God face to face, and triumph over the dangers of our human capacities while we serve.

3. **A Habit of Courage:** This, as opposed to self-pity under the "must needs be" circumstances of "fiery trial." Rise to every occasion! Don't create for yourself a hide-out of personal sympathy. Don't whine! Always be found ready to exercise under the most difficult circumstances, that the glory of God may be revealed in you. Give way to self-pity, and the next step is indulgence in ease, from which we dwindle to compromise, and hinder the easy flow of the abounding grace of God into our lives.

4. **A Thorough Abandonment:** The fundamental law of discipleship is such an adjustment in devotion to Jesus, as to be past argument with Him, and free from yourself! It is wreckless loyalty to Christ, conformity to His

sufferings! It is to be so abandoned to Jesus Christ that nothing shall deter me in my loyalty to His person, whether that means life or death. Make an irrevocable surrender to Him, and then keep to the point by working it out in obedience regardless of the cost.

5. **A Steadfast Consistency:** Herein lies the authority of your testimony and the force of your service. Live in such adjustment to God (which will mean a more comprehensive adjustment with the increase of knowledge that comes both by the discipline of experience and from the Word) that your life produces in others a thirst for God, rather than an admiration for your own piety.

DELBERT R. CHATREAU

RALLY AT AMHERST

Denomination-Wide

In view of the fact that Charlie and Grace Sanders, who are to leave for Africa March 25th, are to be ordained on March 7th at Amherst, the Young People of District No. 2 are planning an all-day rally on March 6th, in connection with the Quarterly Meeting to be held there. We extend an invitation to all the Young People of our Denomination to meet with us, and we trust that each district will be represented, and a good number of young people will gather to say farewell to these outgoing missionaries.

Let us make this a matter of special prayer and let us put forth every effort to be present at these services.

CANADA FOR GOD

By Aubrey Fullerton

One of the professed aims of the Christian youth movements is to "Make Canada Christian." Quite as truly, if not so explicitly stated, that is the desire and purpose also of all the churches.

It is an objective directly in line with the way Canada began. If any country might be said to have had a religious start and to have been definitely committed from the first to a Christian programme, it is this Dominion of ours.

When Jacques Cartier landed at Gaspé on his voyage of discovery in 1534, he erected a large cross on a point of land at the entrance of the harbour, while a crowd of wondering Indians looked on.

"So soon as it was up," reads an early record of the event, "we altogether kneeled down before them, with our hands toward Heaven, yielding God thanks."

Forty-three years later Sir Martin Frobisher came over from England with an expedition that sought a through route to the Orient by way of the north. A first landing was made at some point on the Baffinland coast, where the chaplain and members of the expedition held a religious service in thanksgiving for a safe though tempestuous voyage across the Atlantic. Holy Communion was observed for the first time in Canada under Protestant order.

The first permanent settlement of white men in Canada, made at Port Royal, Nova Scotia, in 1605, had a religious accompaniment, for in its second winter Marc Lescarbot, a Parisian-trained layman in the party, conducted among his fourteen associates a

Sunday afternoon study-hour, which may be said to have been the beginning of Bible class history in the New World.

When the City of Montreal was founded, a few years later, the ceremony was a definitely religious one. Immediately after landing from their canoes, the French pioneers built an altar and knelt around it, committing their enterprise and the city they hoped to build into the hands of God. For many years thereafter Montreal was a purely ecclesiastical colony.

There is evidence, on so good authority as that of the historian, Parkman, that Canada really began as a foreign mission enterprise. Parkman says of Champlain, the founder of New France, that in all his work of exploration and settlement he had two main purposes—"to find a route to the Indies and to bring the heathen tribes into the embraces of the Church, since, while he cared little for their bodies, his solicitude for their souls knew no bounds."

Canada has grown wonderfully since then, missionary work and methods have greatly changed, and the churches have spread from coast to coast; but the same motive and desire, to make Canada more fully Christian, still remain as an objective for the Church people of today.—Onward.

BOOKS TO READ

"With Christ in the School of Prayer"

The library of a Christian is most incomplete if it does not contain some good books on the subject of prayer. For our assistance to growth in prayer life, God has inspired various deeply spiritual writers to write, out of the Word and their personal experiences, messages of instruction and counsel which are ordained to teach us how we may "ascend the hill of the Lord, and stand in His holy place." Many of these writings throb with a passion and glow with a beauty that bespeak the deep and devoted spirit that permeated the soul of the authors. Among these rich volumes on the subject of spiritual communion, Andrew Murray's "With Christ in the School of Prayer" offers great assistance to all who desire to prevail with God in prayer, and is especially adapted to young people. Using the disciples' plea, "Lord, teach us to pray," as his background, he leads the reader to the Master's feet, introduces his friend to Christ as being one who desires to enroll as a student in the school of prayer, and leaves him to learn the deep secrets of vital communion from the heart of Him who prayed as never another has or shall. Procure this book, join this zealous class, study this vitally profitable subject under our Gethsemane teacher, Jesus Himself. "Lord, teach us to pray."

Time has laid his hand upon my heart, gently, not smiting it; but as a harper lays his open palm upon his harp, to deaden its vibrations.—Longfellow.

The power to relieve distress should ever be the associate of tenderness or he who possesses it far more wretched than the object on which he has exercised it.—E. Davies.