

FRUITFUL CHRISTIANS

By Rev. E. E. Shelhamer

Seven is a perfect number, and God gives us at least one of more of seven talents or avenues through which to bless the world and bring glory to His name. Let us mention them in their order of importance.

1. Prevailing Prayer.
2. Preaching.
3. Publishing.
4. Purse.
5. Posterity.
6. Personal Work.
7. Personal Influence.

Suppose God sets us up in business, with a thirty per cent investment of grace. With this as capital, we should average at least ten per cent on each item, some more, some less, but an aggregate of one hundred fold.

1. Prevailing Prayer. In this capacity any and everyone may excel. No one can plead failure for lack of this talent. Friend, you can, if you will, spend hours interceding for rulers, heathen and loved ones. And, think of it—this, the greatest power entrusted to man, can wield a sickle which will reap a rich harvest the world around, while others are asleep. Why not, then, develop this talent to the full?

2. Preaching. Perhaps this is the next greatest gift in God's kingdom. Who can estimate the power of one sermon when preached in the Spirit? A man who is armed with the living Word and filled with the Holy Ghost is almost omnipotent and can do the devil's kingdom more harm than did Samson's foxes to the Philistines' corn.

3. Publishing. It is still a debatable subject whether the pen is not more powerful than the pulpit. Sad, but only a few seem called to write. Multitudes of able men have not developed their latent powers along this line. They seem content never to write even a tract or an article for the paper. They go along for years, continually taking in without giving out. They are consumers but not producers. O, brother, bestir thy sluggish brain and set in motion something which will live and mould character after you are gone!

4. Purse. Perhaps the reader will say, "I am not called to preach or to write." Very well, you are at least called to scatter truth. The zealous devotees of strange doctrines put us to shame the way they spend money, time and energy sending out tons of poisonous literature. What condemnation awaits many good people at the Judgment for the way they saved and hoarded money for ungodly relatives, while little or none went to missions, holiness schools, and the dissemination of light through the printed page.

5. Posterity. But again, suppose one cannot do some of these things. Yet if God has given children, what a glorious thing it is to weep, fast and pray over them, until in return they do likewise over others. Catharine Booth said she could not afford to raise children for the devil. All of her children must preach the gospel and be soul-winners. How wicked for holiness parents to be satisfied that their children fill lucrative and honorable positions and not one of them is a soul winner. Worldlings can furnish good school teachers, bankers and officials. Let them do it! But we have a vision and an anointing about which they know nothing. We, therefore, should furnish the world with reformers, missionaries, and

heralds of the cross. God help you parents to wake up and rise to the occasion.

6. Personal Work. Here is another great arm of the Lord. Perhaps you have no children. Yet you could distribute tracts, start a prayer meeting or Sabbath school. How about that empty store building or schoolhouse. This is the way Moody started, and things grew on his hands. Friend, better get busy and do something, even if you blunder, than sit back and look wise, wondering why it could not be done in a different way.

7. Personal Influence. A peaceful and holy life will always produce fruitage. It was not Christ's great miracles but His silence when spit upon that caused the wicked governor, Pilate, to "marvel greatly."

You may never see your name in print, yet by a life of holy submission you can create an atmosphere which, like Isaac, will bring forth "an hundredfold." You remember (Gen. 26) how, when he had been robbed several times by the Philistines of the wells which he and his servants had digged, instead of having "words" or a lawsuit he calmly "pitched his tent" in another place and there digged another well. No marvel then that King Abimelech and the chief captain of his army came and bowed down to Isaac, saying, "We saw certainly that the Lord was with thee. Thou art now the blessed of the Lord; make a league with us, that thou wilt do us no hurt, for thou art much mightier than we." Here we find a sample of how a humble man can take an insult and later rule over opposers. Yes, a righteous influence will eventually triumph. Robert Ingersoll sent one of his atheistic books to an aunt. On the title page he wrote, "If all Christians had lived like Aunt Sarah perhaps this book would never have been written."—Free Methodist.

A CONVERSATION ON TITHING

(Matthew 3:8-11)

"Why do you believe in tithing?"

"Because God's Word teaches it."

"How does a person tithe?"

"By paying one-tenth of his income to God's work."

"How can one afford to give so much? I give as much as I can afford—but it is not as much as one-tenth of all I make."

"Well, I don't give the tithe—I pay it as a debt. Afterwards, if I make an offering over and above the tithe, I have a right then to say I have given something."

"But Peter and Paul and Jesus didn't tithe. So why should I?"

"Oh, yes, they did, too, for they were all Jews, and all kept the law of Moses. You read Leviticus 27:30."

"Well, but that was specially for the Jews, wasn't it?"

"The Mosaic law was for the Jews, but the law of the tithe is older than the law of Moses. Abraham paid tithes more than seven hundred years before the law of Moses was written."

"Still, that was all in the Old Testament. Did Christ ever say for people to tithe?"

"He praised people for tithing, and said, 'This ought ye to have done.'"

"Is there any Scripture showing that a Christian should tithe?"

"Hebrews 7:8 says, 'And here men that die receive tithes; but there, he receiveth them of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.' The

verb 'receiveth' is in the present tense; that is, Christ is receiving them now. We know it refers to Christ, for it says 'it is witnessed that he liveth.' And we know that Christians would be the only ones from whom Christ would receive tithes."

"But what about one who cannot afford to tithe?"

"Can you not afford to tithe, when God's Word teaches tithing?"

"I—, no! I cannot afford NOT to tithe. I will become a tither from this hour."

"The Word says, 'Prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.'—Selected.

CORRESPONDENCE

Woodstock, N. S.

Dear Brother Dow:

Enclosed please find \$1.50 to pay for the Highway for another year.

I am trusting the Lord to take me through. There is not anything to go back to, but an eternity to look forward to. As I grow older I am more thankful that I got in the narrow way when I was a child and don't have to look back on a ruined life or think that I ever caused anyone else to be lost. I would say to the young, choose to walk with God now before the evil day comes.

Yours in the work for Christ,

MRS. MANNING MULLEN

Woods Harbour

Dear Highway Friends:

No doubt a report from this part of the work is long overdue.

Our tent meetings at Shag Harbor this summer were successful and some lasting work was done. We had as our special worker Rev. H. S. Wilson. He proved himself to be the right man for the place. His messages were clear, practical and forceful. God owned and blessed the truth. He also proved very efficient in leading the singing. As a result of these and last summer's meetings, a church was organized by Rev. G. A. Rogers and myself on Aug. 24th. We feel there are good opportunities here for advancement. As yet we haven't been able to secure a building suitable to hold services in but are holding them in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Kenney. We covet the prayers of God's people for this new field.

God is blessing our work in Wood's Harbor. Several were definitely helped in the tent meetings at Shag Harbor. Our attendance and interest is good. We are having revival services here in December. Rev. H. S. Dow is to be our evangelist.

G. R. SYMONDS

YES WE HAVE NO

Time for gossip.
Hope for the spendthrift.
Love for the cynic.
Sympathy for the shiftless.
Help for the idler.
Faith in the braggart.
Respect for the knocker.

Three things to avoid—Idleness, loquacity, and flippant jesting.

Three things to govern—Temper, tongue, and conduct.