

THE WISEMAN SAYS:

Do not be discouraged; it may be the last key in the bunch that opens the door.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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

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A PRAYER

O God, I do not pray for greatness; but let, O God, thy goodness fill my soul.

THE LIVING SERMON

Mont Hurst

A clean, vigorous, happy and fruitful life is the living sermon that will be the guide to many of those who grope in sin. The real Christian portrays and lives this life in such a manner as to reveal the true meaning of being His follower. No skeptic can answer such a life as this.

To stand up against all the social currents that set away from God and holiness, to resist the craze for wealth at all hazards, to conquer fleshly appetites, to hold an unruly temper in check, to keep down selfishness, to direct all our plans, all our talents, all our purposes and influence toward the good of others and the honor of our Master, requires more power than any unaided man possesses. It requires Jesus Christ in the soul. Christ's mastery of us alone can give us self-mastery, and mastery over the powers of darkness. This is the secret of a strong and joyous life. Such a life is self-evidencing. Although the union of a believer to his Redeemer is invisible, yet the results of it are clear to the world. They are seen and read by all people. Just as we know the supply of coal and the power of the unseen engine by the steamer's speed, so we can estimate the fullness and strength of a man's piety by his daily life.

Our outward lives can never rise above the inward and he who has not Christ in his conscience will not have Christ in his conduct. In a thousand ways does the hidden life with our Master come out before the world. It is manifest in the man of business who measures his goods with a Bible yardstick — in the statesman who would rather lose his election than lose God's smile; in the citizen who votes with the eye of his Master on the ballot. The mother displays it when she seeks first the kingdom of heaven for her children, and the daughter exhibits it when she would rather watch by a sick mother's bed than enjoy an evening's gay festivities.

No life is so humble or so obscure but it can shine when Christ shines through it. If Christ is hidden within you, let Him not be hidden by you from an observing world. You are to be His witnesses. The sermon of a Christian life is more powerful than any other force for winning souls.—Young People's Standard.

LEAN YOUR WHOLE WEIGHT

John Patton, the New Hebrides missionary, was translating the Scriptures into the native tongue.

He was for a long time trying to find a word "believing upon" for "faith."

Having prayed about the matter specially, the answer came. It was in this way.

One of the native workers coming in after a hard day of labor threw himself into a lounge chair, saying, Oh! I'm so tired I must lean my whole weight on the chair." "Lean my whole weight on" spoken in the native tongue gave the meaning wanted. "Praise God," said Paton, "I've got my word."

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever lean-

eth His whole weight upon Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Are you tired of your vain endeavors to obtain salvation by your own merit or goodness or righteousness? There is a resting place for you. God has provided a full and free salvation in Christ, His beloved Son. "Lean your whole weight on." Him.

"Those who trust Him wholly Find Him wholly true."

—Scattered Seed

AN UNUSED BOOK

"Mother, I've found an old dusty thing High on the shelf—just a book!"

"Why's that's a Bible, Tommy dear:

Be careful—that's God's book!"

"God's book!" the child exclaimed.

"Then, mother, before we lose it

We'd better send it back to God,

For you know we never use it!"

—North Carolina Christian Advocate

GEORGE SMITH'S "FAILURE"

A Moravian missionary named George Smith went to Africa. He had been there but a short time and had only one convert, a poor woman, when he was driven from the country. They found this man dead one day. He died praying for the dark continent. Failure? Yet when they celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of that mission they learned that a company, accidentally stumbling upon a place where he had prayed, had found the copy of the Scriptures he had left. They also found one aged woman who was his convert. They sought to sum up his brief life, and reckoned more than thirteen thousand living converts who had sprung from that life which seemed such a failure.—Dr. A. J. Gordon.

HOW TO BEHAVE IN CHURCH

"That thou mayest know how thou oughtest behave thyself in the House of God."—Saint Paul in 1 Timothy 3:15.

1. Come at the appointed time, not five or ten minutes late.

2. Be in a prayerful mood. Worship God and refrain from talking to others.

3. Maintain a reverent and attentive attitude during the service. Join heartily in the singing and other parts of the worship.

4. Encourage the preacher by your thoughtful and earnest attention. Do not read the calendar or hymn book during the sermon or reading of the Scriptures.

5. If sitting at the end of the pew, either move along to make room for others to enter or stand so that they may pass. Show a friendliness to all whom you meet, especially to strangers.

6. Offer a silent prayer for the people, for the minister, and for yourself and others in need.

7. Except when necessarily obliged to leave early, remain reverently until after the benediction.—Adapted from "Church Life."

If you cannot do some great things, you can do some little things for Christ and so it will be great.—D. L. Moody.

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THREE WORDS OF STRENGTH

There are three lessons I would write, Three words as with a burning pen, In tracing of eternal light, Upon the hearts of men.

Have hope! Though clouds environ round, And gladness hides her face in scorn, Put thou the shadow from thy brow; No night but hath its morn!

Have faith! Where'er thy bark is driven— The calm's disport, the temptest's mirth— Know this: God rules the hosts of heaven, The inhabitants of earth.

Have love! Not love alone for one, But man as man, thy brother call, And scatter, like the circling sun, Thy charities on all.

Thus grave these lessons on thy soul— Hope, faith and love; and thou shalt find Strength when life's surges rudest roll, Light when thou else wert blind!

—Schiller

BIBLE STUDY

Would it not be a foolish thing To die of thirst, with this clear spring Of living water at my feet? To starve when there is bread and meat And wine before me on the board, A table spread by my dear Lord? And would we think he had much sense Who hoarded only copper pence When at his feet, and all around, Were diamonds sparkling on the ground?

The Lord I love has giv'n me bread Sufficient for the day. He said He'd lead and guide me on, and He, O gracious Lord, He wrote to me! He knew I was so weak and blind And foolish that I could not find The road alone. He told me things That all earth's wise men and its kings Have never guessed, yet I foreknow If I but read His Word. And oh, Such depths of love on every sheet! My soul is trembling at His feet.

What would you think of me If when I saw Him, I should say, "I was too busy every day To read what Thou didst write to me; I really hadn't time for Thee!"

—Sel. and alt.

PRAY AND—

D. L. Moody learned on one of his journeys across the Atlantic that there was a fire in the hold of the ship. The crew and some volunteers stood in line to pass buckets of water.