

"WON'T SOME ONE GET HIM IN?"

She was well-groomed, a little past forty years of age, and carried with her a certain air of refinement. Her car, which stood just outside the preacher's study, identified her as one who came out of rather comfortable circumstances. It was very evident from her manner that she was very intent upon the errand that had brought her to the church this morning.

"I have come to see you about my boy," she said, as the preacher motioned her to a chair. "He is just seventeen, and has never given us any trouble until lately. He seems to have started running with the wrong crowd, and I am greatly worried about what may happen. I would like to see some one get him into Sunday School, and I have come to see if you have some young men who would try to show an interest in him. It would not do, of course, to let him know that I have been in to see you about the matter, but there must be some bright boys who can get next to him in some way."

"We will be glad to try," replied the pastor, reaching for a pad of paper upon which to write down the name and address. He was not entirely unaccustomed to such an appeal. In fact, there was scarcely a week in which he did not hear it in some form or other.

"Do you and your husband come here to church?" the preacher asked, innocently enough, for the woman was a total stranger to him, and he knew his people pretty well.

"No," the mother answered, shifting about in her chair a bit, "but we live here in the neighborhood, and the boy knows some of the boys in your Sunday School."

"I just thought it might be easier to get him into the Sunday School where his parents belong," the preacher went on, with a guileless expression on his face.

"Well, you see, my husband is in business and is away from town a good deal. When he gets in on Saturdays, we like to have our Sundays together to ourselves. It is our only chance. Besides, he belonged to one church and I belonged to another when we were married, and we just never went into any church. I know we ought to have done so, but then we did not know whether we were permanent in the city—his business is so uncertain, you know."

"I think I have a plan, then, that will get your boy into a Sunday School class. We have a splendid class of business men that I know your husband will greatly enjoy. We also have a class of mothers, under the leadership of a very intelligent woman, that would mean a great deal to you. Now, why not, next Sunday morning, all of you come to Sunday School together? I will meet you here and introduce you to the leaders of the classes and take your son, myself, down to the young men's class."

"That is very kind of you, I am sure, and I appreciate the invitation, but I do not believe we could, Sunday at least. My husband and I have made some other plans." And there was just a trace of restlessness in her manner as she spoke.

"Then why not a week from Sunday? We will have some of the women call this week, and get acquainted." The preacher was pressing the matter kindly, but relentlessly.

"Thank you so much. But it was not for ourselves that I was concerned," and she was rising to go. "It's my boy. He needs the Sunday School.

I would do anything to get him into some Sunday School class. I want him to get started into life in the right way, and in a crowd of church boys he has a better chance to meet the right sort."

With this the preacher became very serious. Rising to his feet he looked into the woman's eyes searchingly. "Yes, my good woman," he said, "I, too, would like to see someone get your boy into Sunday School. He needs to be there. Every boy does. The world he is going to live in is a very treacherous one and he needs all the help he can get if he does not make a mess of life. But if anyone is going to get your boy into Sunday School, you and your husband are the ones who are going to have to do it.

"You just now said you would do anything to get him into Sunday School, but I guess you meant that you would do anything, except go to Sunday School yourself. If your boy's future is not worth more to you than a Sunday outing, then I do not see why you should ask other people to take a greater interest in him than you do yourself."

As the preacher looked out the study window and watched her drive away, he said to himself, "Yes, I would like to see some one get that boy into Sunday School, with an example in the home like that of those two parents."—*The Evangelist*.

A LETTER TO OUR BIBLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

May 8, 1946

Dear Y. P. of our Holiness Bible School,

It has been with great pleasure and keen interest that we have followed the progress of our own school. It has been one of our dreams for some years and we do thank God that it is now a reality instead of only a dream. May God bless our school and give it a great future, we pray. I have heard such fine reports of the spiritual condition of our dear young people, what a help they are to the Woodstock church, etc., and I say God bless you one and all.

Won't one of you dear girls write and give me a list of names and addresses of all the students and those who have calls to His work? I could pray for you and think of you, so much more intelligently if I knew. Thanks, I believe one of you will do this for your missionary here in Africa.

It does pay to serve Jesus. I was telling the people, in my Easter message to them, that I'd far, far rather be a Christian here on earth, even if there was no future after this life.

Sometimes I ask the heathen if they would like to become a Christian. Often the answer is "Yes, I'd like to be a Christian but I am sick or have too many troubles." Then I tell them that is just the way the enemy is deceiving them. If we have Jesus in our hearts we have peace and a dear friend to go to in our times of trouble.

I do wish you all would sometimes remember to pray for our boys who are compelled, by the Government, to attend boarding school. Harold is 14 years, taking Grade IX in Piet Retief (how I wish he could go to our own school). Glendon is 12 years old and in Grade VI while Reginald is 9 years old and in Grade IV. They all need the home influence and my little Reginald especially, seems so little to be away from his mother.

One good thing is, they have prayers night and morning and also in the morning the bell rings for silent worship in the room. Then every child must read his Bible and pray silently. Glendon

has been studying Bible verses and knows quite a few.

The people here are very religious. In tea rooms and hotels people ask grace. The children are taught to pray at their bedside nights and mornings. Jesus said we shall know them by their fruits and if I may be permitted to judge I would think that very many know very little about real salvation. May God help us to live right before all people, I pray.

I must close praying that God will help you in every way and not forgetting to thank you for my lovely Christmas gift. Keep looking up!

Yours in Christian Love,

GLADYS KIERSTEAD

ON LOCATING CHURCHES

About thirty years ago, in a growing city, some of our people were planning to build a church. A certain corner lot was offered them for \$1,000. The one next, the "key lot," was offered for \$700. Having small resources they decided to be "penny wise," save the \$300, and buy the inside lot. They built a small church at a low cost at first, but afterwards replaced the first church with a good brick structure which cost, perhaps \$25,000. But always, through all these years, by a saving of \$300.00 they have been handicapped by being located off the corner. Of not as much importance as this is the fact that while the lot they bought has increased to a value of \$7,000, the corner lot, on which has been an unattractive store building during the years, is valued at \$10,000 (without buildings in each case).

If consideration is being given to a location for a church, several things are good to remember:

1. A lot that is donated to the church "if you will build there" has been the cause of many a miserable and long-regretted location. Accept the lot on condition that it can be sold or traded in on the lot you want.

2. Do not locate next door to the blacksmith shop or on "the wrong side of the track" just because property is cheap there or because you have an inferiority complex.

3. Other things being equal, for a church the corner location is worth twice as much if not three or four times as much as the inside lot.

4. Your location should be convenient to the people you wish to serve, near good transportation, and easy to find.

5. You should avoid crowding into the same immediate region with other churches, and especially crowding in on churches which represent the same type of religion you do.

6. Do not depend entirely on local wisdom. Make use of the district superintendent and also of the conference committee on church and parsonage locations.—*The Free Methodist*.

WEDDINGS

Gray—Mathieson

On Monday evening, June 10th, at the home of the brides' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mathieson, Upper Woods Harbor, N. S., their daughter Evelyn F. and Elwin W. Gray of Burk's Falls, Ontario were united in marriage by Rev. B. D. Price.

Coleman—Corey

At Moncton, N. B., June 15th, Doris Luella Corey and Bliss Donald Coleman were united in marriage by Rev. B. C. Cochrane.