

Editorial

COMPANIONSHIP or CHRIST

There are the conditions where we as Christian young people may have companionship and Christ. (Of course having Christ is having companionship in itself.) Then there are the conditions where we may have to decide between a certain companionship and Christ.

I know that there are Christian young people who think that they may go with—and even marry—companions of the opposite sex who are not Christians. Their line of thought is that the companions will not affect their Christian experiences and that their companions may become Christians—two guesses, and poor ones at that. Human experience has not supported these theories very well. Backslidden Christians, unhappy home situations, hidden regrets abound to witness to the contrary.

Apart from the practical evidence against being unequally joined together, there is the scriptural evidence. Note particularly 2 Corinthians 6:14-18.

First of all, observe that God commands: "Be ye not unequally yoked together." Then He condemns: "What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?" Next He proposes: "Wherefore come out from among them . . . and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you . . ." The truth is strong that our improper relationships with unbelievers affect our relationship with God; and it appears that if we will not give up the associations which God condemns, He will not be our Father.

Always in the long run, young people, we shall discover, whether the hard way or the easy, that we are happier in God's will than our way.

C. E. S.

JOHN THE BAPTIST

Part IV.

Christ, the Unrevealed

By Judson Sanders

Until they met that day on Jordan's banks, John had never met Jesus. Except for the few, the Jewish nation did not know that in the quiet little town of Nazareth, their Messiah lived and moved and had His being. The fullness of time had come. Mary's tender mother love and pride towards her first-born Son were mingled with adoration and wondering awe as in her heart she pondered precious memories. Simeon and Anna had held Him, an infant, cradled in their arms while their lips burst forth in paeans of praise. Shepherds had worshipped Him as Saviour, and wise men as King. Joseph, with wise, kind eyes, watched Him grow, and was strong in spirit, savoring that this unique young Man was to be the world's Saviour.

These few had seen and known, illuminated by the Spirit of God. But to the Jewish Nation and to the world, He was Jesus Christ, the Unrevealed. Schooled in the desert, taught by God alone, and clothed with a mighty power of utterance, John burst across the Nation's consciousness like a blazing meteor across the stars of night. There, by Jordan's banks, vast crowds came to hear this mighty prophet exhort, rebuke and preach repentance; were

YOUR BIBLE AND YOU

Karl W. Johnston

Your Bible—A Sword

It is called "the sword of the Spirit" (Eph. 6:17) and is described as having two edges that are very sharp. We think of the sword as a weapon of war to be used in defeating the enemy. This was the weapon Jesus used in the wilderness temptation recorded in Luke 4:1-13. It worked wonderfully for Him, and He is our example.

It is one of the weapons we use in winning others to serve under the banner of the Cross. Philip wielded the sword when he talked with the chariot driver from Ethiopia. Jesus used it with the down-hearted disciples of the Emmaus road. We all should become more skillful in its use.

Sometimes the Spirit uses this weapon on us. The Word comforts but it also, like a sharp sword, pricks. "It is profitable for reproof." If we will seriously meditate on the truths of the Bible, the pricking of conviction will cause us to eliminate from our lives many things that rob us of peace and power. Be honest. Lift your life to the Bible level. Don't try to fit the Bible into something in your life if it is wrong or doubtful. God knows best.

Your Bible—A Secure Foundation

Change is so rapid in our day that it's hard to keep up with it. This creates problems and confusion. We need something applicable to this age and yet secure and unchanging upon which to build our lives. We have this in the Bible. Centuries of testing by friends of the Bible have proved this true. We will find this so as we make it our daily companion.

"How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,

To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

—Wesleyan Youth.

Speaking of troubles: If troubles were all piled together in one big heap, and each person was asked to take an equal share, a good many people would be only too happy to get just their own back . . . and quickly depart.—Kay Ingram.

GOSSIP

"I am more deadly than the screaming shell. I ruin without killing. I tear down homes, break hearts, and wreck lives. I travel on the wings of the wind. No innocence is strong enough to intimidate me, no purity pure enough to daunt me. I have no regard for truth, no respect for justice, no mercy for the defenseless. My victims are as numerous as the sands of the sea, and often as innocent. I never forget and seldom forgive. My name is —Gossip!

—A clipping from Morgan Blake.

seized with conviction, and many, repenting, were baptized. Then, one day, mid those men, drawn to follow him, and become his disciples, he stood, and in the supreme moment of his life, cried, "Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world."

WHY?

1. Why are there so many students in our Christian colleges, Bible schools and seminaries who volunteer to go to the foreign field and never get there? (It is said that only 1 per cent who volunteer ever go to the field.)
2. Why is it if the field is the world, and the Lord Jesus Christ appoints His workmen, that such an overwhelming number of Christian full-time workers find themselves laboring in such a small portion of the field? (It is said we have 250,000 churches and preachers in America while there are only about 13,000 or 14,000 missionaries who have gone forth from the United States to other parts of the world.)
3. Why do so many Bible school and seminary graduates take it for granted that their work is to be in the homeland, never making a serious effort to ascertain whether or not God might want them in the foreign field?
4. Why is it assumed so often that the very best young people, those with the most talents and ability, are needed most at home and left-overs and those who are not so well qualified are good enough for the foreign field?
5. Why do women far outnumber the men in practically all the foreign mission fields of the world?
6. Why is it that so many preachers at home have no vital interest in promoting foreign missions, because they say they do not have a definite call to go to the field?
7. Why does the average church fail to place the missionary program at the hub of its program? Why does not the average church place foreign missions at the hub of its program, as Jesus did, instead of making it a mere spoke in the wheel?
8. Why is it that the average Christian thinks in terms of giving pennies for missions and dollars for his own church at home? (The average giving last year in two of our largest denominational churches was just under 2 cents per week for each member.)
9. Why is it that so many churches at home have never sent one of their young people to the foreign field as a missionary?
10. Why is it that so many young people who profess a call to the foreign mission field marry one who has no intention of going to the field and get stranded at home?

—Eugene A. Erny

Y. P. Society Presidents Please Notice

The response to the special offering for the power lawn mower at Beulah was disappointing. However, many of the societies may have forgotten about the offering as a notice was printed in The Highway earlier in the summer. It was decided that each society take a special offering at its first meeting in October to be used to purchase the power mower. There is well over \$100 owing on the machine and payment must be made soon. If possible, would you send us a special offering from your society immediately?

Ron Mitchell

The King's Highway