



PRAYING FOR MISSIONS

The Women's Missionary Prayer Circle in Yarmouth is a very small group. Occasionally there may be an attendance of eight, but more often than not, circumstances arise which keep the number down to four or five. I used to wonder, "Is it worth the effort to meet when there are so few of us?" In answer, the words of Christ's promise would remind me, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." No meeting is in vain if Christ is there.

But why a special night set aside to pray for missions? Do not all of us remember the missionary cause in both our public and private devotions? In our Prayer Circles we have time to pray for specific missionary needs. While our general praying tends to be concerned primarily with those persons and circumstances closest to us from the standpoints of time, space, and interest, we purpose in our missionary prayer groups to acquaint ourselves with our missionaries, their personal needs, and the needs on the mission fields of the world. We endeavour to concentrate our praying on specific requests. As a result, I feel we can pray more intelligently and effectively for missionary work.

Must we meet formally at a designated time and place? Could not each of us pray as effectively in his home? I believe it is possible that each could, but it is highly improbable that we would. In the few years that our Prayer Circle has been meeting, we have built up a fellowship of prayer that has come to mean much to each of us. As we share our knowledge of missionary needs and unite in prayer to God for these needs, the Holy Spirit does indeed come in to our midst to bless.

—Vesta Mullen

HE DID—HE CAN—HE WILL

By Martin Luther

The God that stopped the sun on high	Joshua 10:12
And sent manna from the sky	Exodus 16:4-15
Laid flat the walls of Jericho	Joshua 6:20
And put to flight old Israel's foe	Joshua 10:8-10
Why can't He answer prayer today	Luke 1:37
And drive each stormy cloud away?	John 14:14
Who turned the water into wine	John 2:3-11
And healed the helpless cripple's spine	Luke 13:11
Commands the tempest, "Peace, be still"	Mark 4:39
And hungry multitudes did fill.	John 6:9-13
His power is just the same today	Hebrews 13:8
So why not labor, watch, and pray?	Matthew 26:41
He conquered in the lion's den	Daniel 6:16-23
Brought Lazarus back to life again	John 11:38-44
He heard Elijah's cry for rain	I Kings 18:42-45
And freed the sufferers from pain	Matthew 8:16-17
If He could do those wonders then	Exodus 14:21
Let's prove our mighty God again.	Malachi 3:10
Why can't the God who raised the dead	I Kings 17:17
Gave little David Goliath's head	I Samuel 17:32-51
Cast out the demons with a word	Matthew 8:28-32
Yet notes the fall of one wee bird	Matthew 10:29
Do signs and wonders yet today	John 14:12
In that good, old-fashioned way?	Acts 12:16
He can—He's just the same today	Revelation 13:9
If we believe it when we pray.	Mark 11:24

Workers Together

By Bishop M. D. Ormston
in "Free Methodist"

The Christian church is designed to be a growing institution. A desire for success is natural in any undertaking. Whether one be a salesman, a farmer, a business or a professional man, it is but natural to desire whatever constitutes success in that undertaking. Likewise success is the desire of everyone who loves the church.

We must keep in mind the aim of the church, which I like to think of as a continually-enlarging influence in the community, a constantly-increasing attendance, and more and more people accepting Christ as their Saviour and Lord, which is the ultimate end of all the church's work. To quote another, "If we are not seeing men saved, this whole thing is a sham." From an organizational standpoint, we should hope to see some of those who are saved through our efforts added to the church rolls, for some who find peace at our altars will want to make our church their church home, even as we chose to share its fellowship.

A ship plowing through the waves with its load of merchandise and passengers is always more attractive than one tied up in dry dock. A store with an attractive display of merchandise, and with busy clerks and a flow of customers, is better than one with neglected window display, unkempt show cases, and little activity. A factory with boarded windows and neglected surroundings is depressing, while one in production, with attractive grounds, busy employees, and signs of prosperity all around, is inspiring. Even so, a church called out from the world, commissioned to preach the gospel to every creature, is more inspiring than one going through its routine services, with no community outreach, no growing Sunday school, its grounds and buildings neglected, its membership dwindling.

To realize the greatest progress in the work of the church, there must be the co-operation of both the human and the Divine. The appraising of the resources, the organization of the workers, the planning of the program, the survey of community needs are a part of the human responsibilities.

The Christian religion is more than mere form. Jesus taught us that "God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit . . ." The apostle urges us to "be filled with the Spirit." The record of the scene on Pentecost is familiar. The freshly-anointed disciples coming down out of the upper room to the crowd below, witnessing to what has been experienced, and Peter's pointed exhortation, sets a pattern of witnessing and preaching for the generations following. It is still true that "When he is come"—when His anointing rests on the preacher, when the Spirit moves on the congregation—that "He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." This is the divine part.

The church has been placed in the world for a purpose. We can no longer simply meet to enjoy ourselves, follow our forms, and contend for our views while the world lieth in wickedness, and with the coming of the Lord at hand. We must take the message out to the people, while continuing the ministry in the church, always remembering that it is "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts," and that Jesus said, "Without me ye can do nothing." Thus we become "workers together with him."

"Every saved person is a missionary; and every unsaved person is a mission field."

The King's Highway