

absence of a feeling of *personal responsibility*. Many people have this *ease* in Zion. If they grace a church or a meeting with their presence, and sit the *service through*, they have done *all* their duty, and are *perfectly* satisfied. These are some of the reasons for *lack* of interest in the monthly meetings, and they can *all* be *overcome*. We need our ladies to feel in their inmost souls, that it is just as correct, and just as ladylike, to speak their thoughts on the work on hand, *in* the meeting, as *out* of it—before it is closed, as after, and to speak it in a tone of voice that can be heard. Why should we use our natural tones at home and *everywhere* else, and then when we speak about God's work in a *crowd*, just whisper, or speak so low that only our next neighbor can hear? No one else hears a single sound. We want more *common sense* in all our meetings—less *mock modesty*. In saying this, I am not underrating modesty—that *sweetest grace* of true womanhood. O, no! far be it from me; but it is mock when it makes us dumb in the work of our dear Master, and lets our tongues loose when we get to secular things. We want our tongues *sanctified*, then let loose for God. We do *not* want to become masculine, for as a lady becomes so, she loses *power*; but her very *fearfulness* *overcome*, and *sanctified*, becomes *sweetness*, and *sweetness* has winning power, but it needs to be heard and felt. If it lies dormant, where is its benefit? We do need to pray for great wisdom, when to open our mouths, and when to *keep them shut*, both inside a meeting and outside of a meeting. We could often keep them shut outside to *great advantage* to ourselves and *other* people; and here let me say that it would be well for us, whenever we speak of another who is not present, to keep that letter, complete, of Mrs. Brownings' in our minds *always*—"Inasmuch as I am *not* my brother's keeper, I'm his *Cain*." He can put it in the feminine, if it suits better, as it often does. But while this is so, we need to pray for that *holy boldness* which came upon the disciples after that they had received the Holy Ghost. God can and will give us *liberty* and *power* in this glorious mission work, if we are but *consecrated*. We want to be *lost* in God, and say as we go up to each meeting, "Lo, I go to do *Thy* will, O, Lord, *not* my own at all."

As to *Methods*: 1st. We should avoid ruts—sameness. I have thought we might *all gather* during the month, and bring *fresh* thought and material. Some glean facts on Mission Work—past and present—from papers, books, etc.; others study the Bible for encouraging promises, and bring them; some gather incidents by the way, that bear on Christian effort, self-denial, experience, etc. And then a short time be allowed for these gleaners to give what they have gathered, always avoiding *proviseness*, or length of time on one subject. At other times we might introduce short testimony meetings, that is, in our devotional hour. We need to *keep up* the *spirituality*, that being the *basis* of our success in *all parts* of our work. There, testimony should bear largely on our experience in Mission Work, but not extensively. 2nd. While we avoid ruts, we should have order kept. We want to avoid all desultory conversation. We need to strike the medium between stiffness and looseness, or lack of business manner of conducting the meetings. We

should not have our meetings so long that many ladies have to retire before they are closed; this makes *disorder*, and should be avoided. One and another getting up, and going out, in the business part of the meeting, has a very bad effect on those who remain to complete the work that they are leaving undone; and here, let me say to the ladies, as a rule, do stay till the benediction is pronounced. The Missionary Work is *as important* as sitting down to tea precisely at the minute; but our meetings should be closed promptly, so that this question need not be gone into. We cannot magnify home order too much, but when a little *bit* of work for God is to be done, and a little bit of work for ourselves, let us do *God's work first*. We *never* should put *Him second*, not even to our homes, *precious* and *sacred* as they are; *always God first*. How to increase attendance? This question has been largely answered in the foregoing part of this paper. Increase the interest, and you increase the attendance. Fire will spread, but *all must* take part in the work of spreading. As a rule, we *do not* spend much time in *doing* good. When we take into account what religion has done for us, *our returns* are *small*. If we could get our ladies who have so far kept aloof from us, to see this matter in its proper light, to feel the great difference there is in the time spent in useless trifles or frivolous purposes, and that spent in work that has for its object the *spread* of *Salvation*, I think they would be more willing to make a sacrifice, and cheerfully give this extra afternoon, once a month, for this noblest of objects. We who are members, need to talk it up. There is so much *matter* now to talk about. The world is open for the Gospel, all we need is Consecration, Missionaries and Money. Time is so short; the centuries are fast filling up; the dust of the *passed* away is all about us. O! if our ladies could but see how much more important it is to be up and doing at this work, than it is to be altering the style of a dress or remodelling a bonnet. There is so much time spent on the perishable things; time in which we ought to be doing work that shall last after this mortal shall have *past* away; work that will bring to ourselves everlasting reward. We spend too much of our strength doing work that relates to self and this world only, which we ought to be using for others and for eternity.

If we, as members of this society, but secure *one new* member per year, we double our membership. A little effort, you say. Then why not do it? Let us cultivate the habit of inviting and persuading others to come and give their influence in this God-like work. Is it not the work our Redeemer came to do? Can there be any other work on earth compared with that of *spreading* the *Gospel*? It ought not to be difficult to gather into the society all the ladies of our church, and we can do it if we who are already members *live* and act toward each other, and toward all, in the *spirit* of *love*. It is *love* that *wins*. Let us bury the *spirit* of criticism. It has *no* place in this labor of love. Criticism kills love. We *shall* increase our membership when we *love* more. We *must* *love* as well as work. Love should be the *chief* factor in this society.

*Best methods of raising money.* This question bears on such an important subject, and is of so wide a