

## WORKING FOR JESUS.

AT the close of a beautiful Spring day, as the sun was gilding the tops of the mountains, and filling the hearts of all with love and happiness, a group of young girls in the Spring of life joyfully made their way to the old parsonage which stood in a little dale between two green hills.

The girls were to meet at the parsonage, for the purpose of planning how to obtain more money for their Mission Fund. They were heartily welcomed by Lucy Williams, President of their Mission Band and a daughter of the Parson.

Their hearts were light and their hopes were high as they were busily laying down their plans, when suddenly the door burst open and Maggie Wilson entered, exclaiming—"Well, girls, I see we are here once again, to plan how to get more money for the Mission Work."

"I have just been telling the other girls Maggie," said Lily Newell, "that if we would leave off so much planning and work a little more, we wou'd perhaps get more money into the treasury."

"Those are my thoughts too; and I think it a shame that as long as we have been members of the Band, we have not given one cent of our own earnings," sighed Lucy Williams.

"Listen Lucy," demanded Maggie, "what if we have no means for working or of earning money, what can we then do?"

"We can work at something, every one of us, if we have the ambition to," said Lily, "for my part, as Papa owns a lot of land, I could make a garden, and raise vegetables and fruits for market, and then receive"—

"But we are not all farmers' daughters," broke in Maggie.

"I for one, am not," said Lucy, "but I know not what difference that should make, as work is required in more places than on a farm; and as you all know we keep two servant girls, while a little extra work on my part would only give need of having one; and wou'dnt a servant girl's wages for one year help to give Light to the dark places of the earth?"

This remark brought thoughtful expressions over the girls' faces, when little Annie Watson piped in, "Papa has offered me two cents for every time I bring him his slippers, when he comes home tired, and this money I will put into my mite box."

"Now," said Maggie, "since all the rest, and even little Annie are willing to work, I am too. I am really ashamed of having been begging money so long, instead of working for it. I believe now that we will be more

anxious, and think more about the heathen, if we try to help rescue them."

"See Lucy," said Daisy Laten, (speaking for the first time), "I know by what you said a short while ago that you thought none of us worked for the money which we gave to the Mission Band, but I am glad to think that you are mistaken; for the last two years I have been earning all the money which I gave."

"How's that?" said Lily, knowing that she excelled them all in her offerings.

"Well, I'll tell you," said Daisy, "about two years ago, when I asked Papa for money, to pay my dues to the Mission Band, he said, 'Daisy, I shall not, and never will, refuse you the twenty-five cents for your year's dues; but don't you think it will be more pleasing to Christ to see that you are willing to work for Him in more ways than asking for money?' At those words I dropped the quarter into my mite box, for an Easter offering and formed a resolution from that time to earn my Missionary money. I have earned it by doing extra work at home, and as Papa gives me a certain amount of money each year to buy my clothes with, I save part, by wearing my dresses until they are a little out of fashion, thinking more of the needs of the heathen than of dress."

"Now, girls," said Nellie Langley, who had been aroused by the earnest conversation, "I think Daisy deserves a great deal of credit for earning money herself, when her father would not refuse her any."

"Yes, and do you think it any harm to ask parents for money, as well as to earn it ourselves," said Lily.

"I think the time for our parents to help us is at our sales. You know that we sometimes have more stuff than we can sell, and that is the time for us to receive help," exclaimed Daisy.

After the girls had ceased lauding and admiring Daisy for her ambition and earnestness, Lucy proposed that they should commence next morning to find something to do; and to see at the end of the year whose offerings should be the largest. At this proposal they separated with this text in their minds, "Freely ye have received, freely give"

During the delightful days of Spring and in the hot days of Summer they worked, and through the mild and misty days of Autumn they ever toiled on for the Master, with happy and loving hearts. At last when the year was dying and they gathered together their offerings, they found they had as much again to put into the treasury as they formerly had.

Overjoyed by this year's success, some of the members determined not only to give offerings of money and good-will, but also, after they became old enough, to give themselves as missionaries to help spread the Gospel to the perishing.

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