

members of the Church, must first of all and above all be filled with the spirit of our Master, who came to seek and to save that which was lost. We must endeavor to possess His mind, look upon the needs of the world as He looked upon them, and feel towards them as He felt towards them. We must have the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Our Lord did not enter upon His missionary work until He had himself sought and obtained the special gracious anointing of the Holy Spirit. If He needed the Spirit, how much more do we? This baptism will not come to us unless there has been complete dedication. We must place ourselves fully in the hands of God, to be completely at His disposal, ready to go and ready to do. We must believe that the command, "Go ye and make disciples of all nations," is a command addressed to each one of us, and that if we cannot go ourselves, *we are to send*. I feel that we need a great revival on this line—a revival of personal interest in the evangelization of the world. If we are not deeply aroused ourselves, we cannot expect the cause of Missions to advance. "Christendom must be more deeply christianized and then heathendom will be faster evangelized."

Though two-thirds of our race know nothing about Christ, the mass of Christians know little and care less about these lost ones. To them the subject of missions is uninteresting, and missionary meetings are a bore. It is because they have not been properly presented with the facts of the world's needs and the Christian's obligation. Ignorance and indifference are twin brothers. The question is, "How can the League help to break down this ignorance and this indifference, and secure a more intelligent knowledge of missions?"

Missionary meetings should be held at least once a month, and interesting and varied programmes should be prepared. The young people should be made acquainted with the work of the Church in foreign parts in its various phases. They should familiarize themselves with the names of our missionaries and their respective fields. (What gross ignorance there is in this particular.) Let not our knowledge of missions be purely denominational, but let it and our interest be broad and general. Such topics as these might be considered in our meetings:

1. *Fields*—(a) Geography and History; (b) Literature and Religions; (c) Missions.
2. *Success of Missions*—(a) Civilization; (b) Christianization.
3. *Difficulties of Missions and Missionaries.*
4. *The Reflex Influence of Missions*—(a) On Science; (b) On Trade; (c) On Home Church.
5. *Phases of Missionary Work*—(a) Medical; (b) Educational; (c) Industrial; (d) Evangelistic.
6. *The Biblical Argument for Missions.*
7. *Post-Apostolic and Medieval Missions.*
8. *Roman Catholic Missions.*
9. *Missionary Biographies.*

Nothing will so inspire us as to read and study the lives of such famous missionary heroes as Francis Xavier, John Eliot, Bartholomew Ziegenbalg, Hans Egede, Friedrich Schwartz, William Carey, Robert Morrison, Adoniram Judson, Captain Gardiner, John Williams, David Livingstone, Alexander Duff, William Moffat, and Bishop William Taylor. If anything will quicken us to greater consecration and endeavor, the study of these wonderful lives should. Every League should have a library, well stocked with missionary biography and literature. We can afford it if we are in earnest. It would be well to take some weekly

or monthly missionary periodical, so as to keep abreast of the times and understand the present situation of the work. Such a periodical you would find in the *Missionary Review*, or the *Gospel in All Lands*, or the *Missionary Outlook*, or *China's Millions*. Let us have maps and charts of the different fields indicating the progress of evangelization. I have been speaking of the League accumulating information. It must also disseminate information. We should scatter missionary intelligence through the churches to which we belong, and our committees in this way could aid the pastors materially in the preparation of the people for the annual missionary day. If we can get the *fact* of missions before our people, we *will* have the missionary fire.

If you will look over the Missionary Report for last year, you will find that very few of the Leagues give largely to missions, and a great many give nothing at all. The total contributed last year by our Societies was \$4,000.00. The Leagues in connection with the churches in the city of Toronto alone ought to raise that amount. Let every League this year contribute and be interested in placing in the hands of the Missionary Treasurer of the Church something more commensurate with their ability and means.

If we have the missionary spirit, there will be no trouble in raising money, methods will readily suggest themselves, and giving will be easy. What we need to do is to get possession of the idea of stewardship, to have the true ministry of money, and to adopt the principle of systematic and proportionate giving. Each of us, according to our ability, should contribute willingly and cheerfully and systematically.

In conclusion, let me remark that we cannot make the machinery of the Epworth League mighty to effect results in the evangelization of the world without the great motive power of prayer—prevailing, believing, expectant prayer. Reliance on human patronage and kindred confidence in numbers and riches are fatal hindrances to missions. The secret of all the success of the past has been prayer. The secret of all the triumphs of the future will be prayer. To promote the missionary spirit; to increase the givings of the Church; to awaken greater interest, fellow-Epworthians, we shall have to get down upon our knees, in our homes and in our Leagues and pray.

While we are upon our knees, let us remember our missionaries yonder in the field. How much they need our remembrance at the throne of grace. Far from loved ones, amid difficulties and discouragements. One of those at the front has said, "I believe there is nothing in our missionary life like the consciousness that the Church of God carries us on its heart in prayer." In all our meetings let us make it a rule to pray for the laborers who have been sent into the great harvest-field.

Brothers and sisters, may God help us to do our duty in the salvation of the world—the doing of that duty may, perhaps, lead some of us to China or to Japan, or to some far-away shore. I earnestly pray that it may. Let us resolve this day, as members of the Epworth League, to put forth every power in our possession that the happy time foretold by the Psalmist may be hastened, when

"The beam that shines from Zion's hill
Shall lighten every land;
The king that reigns in Salem's towers
Shall all the world command."

THE motto of Dr. Cuyler ought to be written in letters of gold, "No one was ever lost on a straight road."