

services, including devotional and business meetings of the Church—the performance of allotted work in the Sabbath School or of a missionary character, the warm-hearted love that loses no opportunity of speaking to persons to win them to Jesus—in short, every faithful exhibition of truth shall be successful in some way, since God's word shall not return to him void but shall prosper in that whereunto he hath sent it. Too much weight cannot be placed on the necessity of using whatever influence the Church has to bring to salvation all it can reach. No member should remain idle; present effort by one and all would put a new aspect on many Churches. When urged onward to deeds of generous enterprise and holy action, constrained by the love of Christ, a Church will surely find its happiness and peace in obedience. Action indicates life, progress, growth, prosperity.

“There is a fire-fly in the southern clime  
Which shineth only when upon the wing;  
So is it with the mind: when once we rest,  
We darken. On! said God unto the soul,  
As to the earth, forever! On it goes,  
A rejoicing native of the infinite—  
As a bird of air—an orb of heaven.”

7th, and lastly. **DEPENDENCE ON GOD.**—Faith rejoices in the preciousness of the gospel—Christ and Him crucified. While the cross is clearly exhibited, a strong and constant reliance should be placed on the work of the Holy Spirit. Our age is distinguished by an intense worship of power, yet it is to a great extent merely human. Boastfulness points to achievements of a gigantic character as giving ground for glorying in men—the Alps are tunneled, the greatest rivers are bridged over, the broad Atlantic has a telegraph laid beneath its waters. From all this has sprung a tendency to glorify the creature, shutting out the Creator. Now, while this is going on in the physical world, may there not be something similar in the Church? Trust is placed too often in the power of man to melt to tears, to stir up feeling, producing a mere excitement which proves as the morning cloud and as the early dew. Refuge is taken in good resolutions, keeping the soul away from Christ. Places of worship, styles of architecture, modes of conducting meetings, music, forms of prayer, changes of the ministry, and so forth, are popular, it may be, to secure success. It is well to obtain every advantage in commending the truth to men; we should get all the power we can, we should call to our aid whatever is mighty; but remember, the triumph of truth in the soul is only through the *power of God*. The ministration of the Spirit is our sheet anchor. Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord. Paul planted, Apollos watered, God gave the increase. True success is always ascribed then to God. Let us look for the making bare of that arm that overturns the mightiest obstacles and secures the triumph of the truth. “The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.”

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How IS IT WITH YOUR CLASS?—We were recently listening to a pastor's account of a most precious revival. In describing its characteristics, he said: “The means which have been most blessed have been the private efforts of individuals. Sabbath-school teachers, in particular, have been very faithful with their classes in private interviews.”