

PASTOR'S STUDY,
Sunday Morning, Dec. 30th, 1894.

DEARLY BELOVED:

As we enter upon another year, permit me to draw your thought to a few things which, if duly considered, will make for our individual and general prosperity:

(1) In May last you received a pastoral letter, briefly setting forth the need that Family Worship be universally observed among us. Thereby the importance of this means of grace was made to appear more distinctly to some, so that a few who had formerly been irregular in its observance were led to resolve upon greater regularity; and others, who had not been observing it at all, expressed intention to begin at once. And now again allow me to remind you of your duty and privilege in this regard. If you have failed in the good purposes previously formed, then with the New Year set about attending to what cannot be neglected or half-heartedly sustained without immense loss.

(2) Of late we have been feeling a special necessity for the strengthening of our Sunday-school. Upon its success, of course, the future of our church is in large degree dependent. There must be regular Bible study among our youth now, if they are to be actively and profitably engaged in Christian work hereafter. We therefore ask, particularly on account of its effect upon the young, that those who are older come to the Sunday-school as far as they may be able. We ask that parents seek, in fuller measure, to interest their children in the home-study of the lessons and to secure their constant attendance. Young men and young women to whom this epistle comes, who have not been giving their presence at our school, are hereby urged to join us in this invaluable service, and to do what they can besides in bringing in other young people not connected with any Bible school elsewhere. More scholars and more teachers we must have.

(3) For the year now ending a record has been taken in our church, from month to month, of the attendance at the Lord's Supper. It was evident at the year's opening that a considerable number were absenting themselves from the ordinance. For the first half of the year, upwards of fifty of the resident members were always present; thirty were absent but once; eighteen were absent twice; twenty-seven, three times; thirty-five, four times; thirty-nine, five times; while about fifty (including aged and sick