

There is a magic in that little word,—it is a mystic circle that surrounds comforts and virtues never known beyond its hallowed limits.—*Southey*.

Christ in the Home.

We have said elsewhere that the happiness of a home depends much upon what you take into it. We would repeat that statement and give it further force by saying that the happiness of a home may be forever made sure by taking Christ into it. Have you ever thought of this in a practical way? What place does Christ occupy in your home? Run over its various rooms in your mind; think of their many uses, and then again ask yourself the question, Is Christ chief guest in my home? There is the parlor, where you receive and entertain your friends, where merry talk and game are often indulged. Does the Master share in all such gatherings? or is the conversation sometimes too strongly flavored with the essence of gossip and uncharitable comment to be pleasing to His refined sense of love and tenderness? Are the amusements engaged in of the questionable kind that necessitate His withdrawal from the social circle? If these things are so, you have not yet experienced the excess of happiness which the intercourse of that room may bring you when Christ is honored and deferred to in it. So let your thought go through the home. How about the books in your library? the dresses in your wardrobe? the food on your table? But perhaps you will say, "I have but a little space in the home, and these matters are in other hands than mine." Well, let the corner that is peculiarly yours be sacred to Him. Make Him ever welcome there, and take Him with you into every room of the house you enter. It will not be long before the others also will recognize the presence of the unseen Guest, and give Him the homage that is His due.

Home.

Home's not merely four square walls,
Though with pictures hung and gilded;
Home is where affection calls,
Fill'd with shrines the heart hath builded!
Home! go watch the faithful dove,
Sailing 'neath the heaven above us;
Home is where there's one to love!
Home is where there's one to love us!

Home's not merely roof and rooms,
It needs something to endear it;
Home is where the heart can bloom,
Where there's some kind lip to cheer it!
What is home with none to meet,
None to welcome, none to greet us?
Home is sweet—and only sweet—
When there's one we love to meet us!

—*Charles Swain*.

For Others.

Do you want another little hint as to how your home may be made happier? Then here it is. Make it a home for others. There are so many who do not know what a home is, or who have only a recollection of tasting a little of its joy before the day came when circumstances turned them out into the world to shift for themselves. Seek them out in the stores and places of business in your city, watch for them in your churches, and take them home with you and treat them as your guests. Let each and all of them be introduced to Jesus Christ before they leave, as the real host in your home, and send them away feeling that they have found a place where they can turn aside for a little while when the burden becomes very heavy and the way more than

usually hard to travel, where there will be a cheery welcome and an opportunity to rest and forget for a time the toils and cares of life's battle.

Trifles that Tell.

The angry word suppress'd, the taunting thought;
Subduing and subdued, the petty strife
Which clouds the color of domestic life;
The sober comfort, all the peace which springs
From the large aggregate of little things—
On these small cares of daughter, wife, or friend,
The almost sacred joys of home depend.

—*Hannah More*.

"Nor need we power or splendor—
Wide hall or lordly dome;
The good, the true, the tender—
These form the wealth of home."



Covetousness.

July 31.—The evils of covetousness. Ex. 20: 17: Luke 12: 13-21.

DAILY READINGS.—Monday: Achan's covetousness, Josh. 7: 19-26. Tuesday: Ahab's covetousness, 1 Kings 21: 1-16. Wednesday: Gehazi's covetousness, 2 Kings 5: 20-27. Thursday: Without covetousness, Heb. 13: 1-6. Friday: First the kingdom of God, Matt. 6: 28-34. Saturday: Godliness with contentment, 1 Tim. 6: 1, 2, 6-10.

A Talk with the Leader.

Perhaps you think this is a somewhat difficult and unnecessary subject for a C.E. prayer meeting; if so I fear you are mistaken. One of the commonest sins of to-day is covetousness, and that among Christian people. This is a time for heart-searching. Begin the meeting with earnest prayer that if the spirit of covetousness is present in any heart, God will convict and give power to overcome. Have several prepared to speak on such topics as "Evils that grow from the seed of covetousness," "Covetousness in Christian work," "The cure for covetousness."

Bits of Song.

"When I survey," "I am coming to the cross," "Is thy cruse of comfort failing?" "Oh, for a heart to praise my God," "Sitting by the gateway," "Saviour, again to Thy dear name we raise."

The Sin of Achan.

Covetousness, which is idolatry.—*Bible*.

He deservedly loses his own property who covets that of another.—*Phædrius*.

Covetousness swells the principal to no purpose, and lessens the use to all purposes.—*Jeremy Taylor*.

Those who give not till they die show that they would not then, could they keep it any longer.—*Bishop Hall*.

The covetous man pines in plenty, like Tantalus, up to the chin in water and yet thirsty.—*Rev. T. Adams*.

Covetousness, like a candle ill made, smothers the splendor of a happy fortune in its own grease.—*F. Osborne*.

Why are we so blind? That which we improve we have, that which we hoard is not for ourselves.—*Madame Deluzy*.

Where necessity ends, desire and curiosity begin; and no sooner are we supplied with everything nature can demand than we sit down to contrive artificial appetites.—*Johnson*.

Of covetousness we may truly say that it makes both the Alpha and Omega in the devil's alphabet, and it is the first vice in corrupt nature which moves, and the last which dies.—*South*.

It was with good reason that God commanded