

with the plaudits of the world, will never over-balance your contemptuous disregard of your Saviour's commands. But if through perfect submission and perfect faith in us, God's Spirit have scope to work where and how He will, the Church will attain to a power and prosperity unknown before, and the brightest visions of poet and prophet will fall short of the glory that shall be revealed.

Directions to Christian Workers.*

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DIRECTIONS FOR ACTIVE WORK.

Christ sent out his apostles through Galilee to do Christian work. They would thus gain experience under his eye and be prepared to carry on the work after he should leave them. In the principles involved, his directions had a universal and permanent application. What were his rules as expressed in modern terms?

1. *Begin with those Nearest.* The apostles were to confine themselves to those of their own nation. This was not from any narrowness of spirit, but because Christian work should naturally begin at the home of the worker. The early Church was told to commence at Jerusalem where it was located, and thence work outward till it reached the uttermost parts of the earth. Every one must "build over against his own house" and then he can undertake work elsewhere.

2. *Win men to Christ's Kingdom.*—The one aim of all Christians must be to reconcile men to God. All out of Christ are alienated from God and in a state of rebellion. They must be won to a love of their King and yield themselves as his loyal subjects. To bring this about we must make known the beauties of God's Kingdom and the terms on which it is entered.

3. *Seek Man's Temporal Good.*—The apostles were told not only to preach the kingdom but to heal the sick. The two were inseparable. If spiritual blessings were imparted physical blessings were sure to follow. But more, Christianity seeks not simply to reconcile men to God, but to elevate his whole manhood and improve his temporal condition. The Church has always and necessarily been philanthropic. It could not be true to Christ otherwise. It has pervaded the state with its spirit and has led Christian nations in all their subdivisions of government to undertake a variety of eleemosynary duties. Hospitals, almshouses and asylums, all have their origin in Christianity. It is not strange, but eminently proper, that the Church to-day should give the attention it does to problems of sociology. To preach the kingdom, however, is the first and great duty.

4. *Have no Anxiety about Personal Needs.*—The Christian who is working for Christ will be provided for. Christ pledges him a living. Those for whom he works, if he works faithfully and lovingly, will see that he does not lack.

5. *Seek Helpful Co-operation.*—The apostles were to search out those that were worthy. Their success would depend not a little on these associates. Some could be found in every place who would be interested in them and help them. In some cases the help would be temporal support, in others it would be kindly sympathy and counsel, in yet others it would be co-operative labor. No man can work well alone. He needs sympathy and assistance. It is a large element of success to be able to interest others and persuade them to help in building up the kingdom.

6. *Be Faithful in Warnings.*—If the apostles obtained no hearing they were to shake off the dust from their feet, that is, to indicate that the rejection of the message was offensive to God and unsafe. We must bear our testimony against sin or we are responsible for it. If a sleeping man loses his life in a burning house because we did not awaken him, we are responsible. Our warnings must be given tenderly, tactfully and at proper times, but they must be given.

DIRECTIONS IN REGARD TO OPPOSITION.

Christ widens the scope of His instructions. His disciples' faithfulness will in time awaken violent oppo-

sition. All earnest Christian work is positive, aggressive, destructive, and cannot but make enemies of evil. When a pure gospel is first preached in godless lands, persecutions arise. Life and property are endangered. Such persecutions are by no means a thing of the past to day. They have existed within this century in Madagascar, Turkey, Russia and South America. This period over, the opposition takes another turn. Families are embittered by religious differences. Friends become foes; neighbors become malignant backbiters and scoffers. The trials of the Salvation Army show a phase of modern opposition to the truth. But further still. Even fellow-Christians often become worldly, are offended at the plainness of the truth or the reproach of consistent piety, and make life miserable for the earnest worker. We see this not only in nominally Christian lands, but even in our country. What rule has Christ for such emergencies?

1. *Meet Opposition with Wisdom and Inoffensiveness, with Caution and yet with Courage.*—While "wise as serpents and harmless as doves" we are to fear nothing but our own sin and confess Christ boldly.

2. *Trust God.*—He will take care of the Christian workers and overcome the opposition. God is on the Christian's side. Christ is his friend. In emergencies when there has been no time to prepare oneself, God will give him words to speak. He shall bear testimony to the truth before governors and kings.

3. *Practice Self-denial and be thoroughly Consecrated.*—Christ must have the whole heart or he will have nothing. Even father and mother must not come before him. We must bear the cross and count life nothing for his sake. The successful Christian worker must have the spirit of the soldier who follows his leader to the canon's mouth.

4. *Remember You are the Ambassadors of Christ.*—This is the grand concluding, the dominant thought of the passage. The Christian is in the place of Christ. "He that receiveth you receiveth me" says Christ. We are to go forth in his service as an ambassador goes to represent his king. Such an ambassador is to be trusted as his king, would be and he that would honor the king will honor him. The Christian doing his Master's service will not receive such honor from Christ's foes. Opposition to Christian service is inevitable, but if we persevere it melts away. Christ will be received at last, men will recognize his worth, and then those who are appointed to represent him and do his work will find a glad welcome.

Good Members of Rich Families.

The *New York Witness* writing of the millionaires of that city says.—Almost every rich family in this country has a benevolent member in it. There are many who will deny this our statement and continue to abuse all rich families, but we think that statement must stand for all that. And this further statement wouldn't be easily disputed that the rich families of 1836 are acting more liberally, kindly than those who preceded them, or than you would do if you were in their place. How is that think you? It wouldn't be wise to single out by name these thoughtful souls in the rich families of America. They are well known by hundreds and thousands who have been helped and blessed by their dollars. We are not so sure that our motion will be seconded when we propose three cheers and hearty prayers for those liberal souls who, having become successors to large estates, are using so much of the money for the uplifting and comforting of mankind. But, although you may refuse to second or carry our motion, you'll have no difficulty in finding out on inquiring that what we say is true. Are you aware that these good souls have secretaries to assist them in this work of dispensing their favors, in addition to their own busy days of every week in this same business?

A great many of the poor are the recipients of these bestowments without knowing the hand or the heart from which they come.

These excellent people have read to advantage the following wonderful words of another rich man—the man of Uz. Hear him:

"If I have withheld the poor from their desire, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail; or have eaten my morsel myself alone, and the fatherless have not eaten thereof; if I have seen any perish for want of clothing, or

*A Meditation based on (Matt. x.) in the Bible Study Union Course on "The Teachings of Christ."