

## The Upward Look

### No Room for Jealousy

How many of us find it easy or hard to have our fellow Christians praised for the good work they are doing, while we ourselves appear to be ignored? If we have difficulty in this connection we may find assistance in the last chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Colossians.

In this chapter, as in several of his epistles, Paul mentions a number of friends, calling special attention to some, and in other instances just simply mentioning their names. He calls Tychus "a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. Onesimus is 'a faithful and beloved brother.' Luke is 'the beloved physician.' Epaphras is 'a servant of Christ.' Following on these expressions of the regard in which he held these men, he speaks of Aristarchus simply as his fellow prisoner, Mark as sister's son to Barnabas, Jesus, which is called Justus, and Demas.

We are tempted to think when reading this passage that if these men had lived in our day, they would have resented the praise which some of them received and which passed them by. We are led to believe, however, that such thoughts did not enter their minds. No doubt Paul did receive more comfort and assistance from

some than from others, but we believe those men who did not receive the highest praise from Paul realized that they themselves were at fault, and that they should strive to live more as he would wish them to do.

We to-day may take a lesson from this chapter. We are so liable to think we are not being appreciated in what we may be doing. But how much nobler it would be if we determine not to look at the question from this standpoint or to harbor such thoughts, whether they be real or imaginary. If we have the true Christian atmosphere about us these suspicions and comparisons will not exist. Rather in their place will be the love which Paul speaks of in I. Cor. 13, which envieth not, vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, seeketh not its own, is not easily provoked, and loveth as it can. Would not such love as this transform many homes and churches, where suspicion and jealousy now linger?

Another way in which we may look at this question of lack of appreciation, is that if the best Christians know, do not esteem us as faithful and loyal as we ought to be, and others are praised for the work they are doing, while we may not receive commendation, we should not allow jealousy to enter our hearts, but should rather consider this as a summons to seek to reach a higher plane of faith. There is no room in the Christian life for jealousy. As a writer says: "Perfect love must either be blind to

all offences or able to find in each offence the occasion of love's richer perfecting."—R.M.M.

### Interest the Children

There is nothing, perhaps, more productive of great results than the little household tasks, which are first explained and then practised by children. The best way is that which makes the doing a pleasure. The tiniest child will wipe a dish for the mere novelty of it, but the novelty will wear off as the dishes increase.

Begin by telling a little story as the dishes are being washed, and how many things are to be told of pottery. How the ancient people made their dishes, and what strange pieces are found yet. Indian pottery and all the new and wonderful creations in china, may be woven into stories. Study corn on the cob, in the meal and its other secondary products and read to them from Isaiah; the rhythm alone has a charm for children.

Let the child plant some grains of wheat and oats and care for the little plants. Tell them about milling, then they will be ready to do a little baking, and what fun as mother tells them the why of each step. It is true there may be a little more mess to clean up, than if mother did the work herself, but girls in learning a valuable lesson, and the duty should be a pleasure for mother. And there is sweeping and dusting

and darning and mending, each with their histories to be told and their ways to be explained. Oh, who would not be glad to be a child again if mother would teach like that?

She hasn't done so very much of it yet—the average mother, but her babies are bringing her to it gradually, and before long the child and the mother will have revolutionary ideas regarding household drudgery. The one child is a much simpler problem than two or more children, for each child is a distinct entity; it cannot see as the others see; it will not think as do they; nor will even the physical activities be like theirs. The word of admonition that does ripple the placid disposition of one child will fret another to exasperation and still not correct the original fault. For each there must be at least some alteration in the methods of disciplinary training and education. Yet this will not be difficult for the resourceful, sympathetic mother. She will instinctively feel what each child needs. She will be daily providing plays and means of employment, really of culture, which will not only satisfy the needs of each child, but also promote her own life interest.—Exchange.

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