

life. The things which are necessary are easy to be understood. A noble missionary bishop once said: "There is nothing essential to the gospel of Jesus Christ which cannot be made plain to the dumbest savage in five minutes."

Second. The average Christian is not disposed to question his own theological decisions of twenty years ago. His cranium has become crusty. He would rather make up his mind than unmake it. He would rather believe than think. But men are not saved by "believing," but by thinking and living. In truth the word "Believe" is a compound of being and living—"Be-Live." Know and do. The New Testament phrase includes two things—(1) Thought, (2) Action. Believing is being and living. You only believe so much as you live. Frederick Douglass once remarked, concerning his escape from slavery, "I never believed in liberty until I believed in it with my feet."

Third. The modern Christian is occupied with a new set of toys, such as no former generation ever had. What are they? Material comforts. Fascinating periodicals. Lightning winged cars and carriages. Mechanical wonders. Ocean greyhounds. Ships which pierce the sky and conquer the air. Current events, swift and fast. Great centres of population awhirl during the day and ablaze during the night. The toys of one of the Vanderbilt children were recently insured for \$25,000. Aye, it is a gay and giddy world we are in. Dr. Greffell passing along Broadway, in New York, one day remarked: "It is a good deal easier to be a Christian on the bleak, wild coast of Labrador than it is here in New York." Somewhat, we should guess.

Fourth. The average Christian is in the church for what he can enjoy rather than for what he can do. It is easier, in the church, to get money than to get service. A New York merchant said to his pastor: "I will pay, but please do not ask me to work." The surprised preacher said: "Friend, I guess you have got into the wrong church. The church you are looking for is located right around the corner. It is called 'The Church of the Heavenly Rest.' Take your check book and settle over yonder." However, the action of the New York divine was drastic. We have found scores of well dressed Christians who will neither pay nor work. They will neither pay for a seat in the ecclesiastical parlor car or act as stoker behind the boiler.

Fifth. The average Christian is prone to believe that the life and teachings of Jesus Christ cannot be reproduced in daily conduct and personal character. A thousand whisper-