

others it seems too beautiful for earth and so they will not even for one day let Him live in them and so prove whether the promised blessedness be false or true. The Lord speaks to His people to-day as of old, "Hear, ye that are far off, what I have done, and ye that are near, acknowledge my might." Holland Patent,

How We May Work with God.

It is a joyful thing to help God to do his great work in the world, for this high and holy duty. God is always at work. When on the seventh day he rested from all the work which he had created and made, he entered on labors in which he works as he rests and rests as he works. But in these he needs our help. The branch cannot bear fruit apart from the vine, and the vine cannot yield her ruddy clusters apart from the branch. Let us consider some cases in which we may work with God.

God is eager to feed the teeming children of men, but he needs our co-operation in preparing the soil, sowing the seed and garnering the harvest.

He desires to clothe the nations and tribes of these northern climes, and with that intent prepares the wool on the sheep, the leather on the horse's skin, the silk and cotton, the alpaca and the eider down; but he needs our co-operation to shear the sheep, tan the skin, wind the silk and spin the cotton, and presently the swift fingers to do what Eve did with the fig leaves.

God desires to house man, who has no power of weaving nests like the birds, or burrowing holes like the foxes. For this purpose he has made clay for bricks, stone in quarries for the walls, slates for roofs, wood for beams and rafters, the silica for glass and mortar for the interstices of the walls. But again he needs our co-operation.

We need not increase our enumeration, but it is impossible to look around our homes, our streets, or our great cities, with their telegraphs and telephones, their tram cars and their railway trains, their motor-cars and their gas engines, without encountering scores and hundreds of instances which God and men have wrought together.

What a new complexion this would lend to life, if, as we stepped out from our homes, we could realize that we were going forth, not to make a living, not to earn our salary or stipend, not to amuse, instruct or legislate for men, as our primary object, but to discover what God was doing in the world and to give him such help as we could! It may seem a high and impossible idea, but the more one thinks of it the more it grows upon the mind. We are bidden by the Apostle to abide with God in every calling in which we are called. We know that he claimed to be a fellow worker or co-laborer with God—and why should the significance of such a conception be reserved for the missionary or minister of religion alone?

Nothing so degrades our toil as the constant thought of the pay we shall receive for doing it. If this is liberal, we are apt to be cheerful and deft-handed; if it is meagre and stinted, we grumble and move to it as slaves. But if we once realized that our work was with God, how eager, how quick, how strenuous would be our endeavors that we might not disappoint nor fail him. Since companionship with the great and good is always a joyful thing, it would put a song on our lips if we realized the blessed copartnership in our toils with God.—Rev. F. B. Meyer.

Our Young People

Oct 30 Liberal Giving.

Some Bible Hints.

"Honor the Lord"—how that phrase does honor to man, as if we could in any way add to the honor of the Almighty! (Prov. 3:9.)

We are not to give in order that we may be enriched; but have you ever heard of a generous giver who was permitted by God to be in want? (Prov. 3:10.)

The only gift that counts with God is the gift that is purposed in the heart, and not forced from outside. (2 Cor. 9:7.)

The grace of giving never stands alone, but God always adds to it a wealth of other beautiful graces. (2 Cor. 9:8.)

Suggestive Thoughts.

Every gift makes it easier to give, and every withholding easier to withhold.

Giving, even from the wrong motive, makes it easier to give from the right motive.

It is a higher ambition to be a wise giver than to be a wise philosopher.

Giving is a fine art, beset with many difficulties. It is not to be learned without pains and practice, but it is well worth learning.

A Few Illustrations.

Every gift is like a knife, cutting us loose some weight of worldliness that was holding us down from the higher life.

While a water pipe is giving out water, it is pure; but as soon as the water ceases to flow through it, it corrodes.

Those that have houses for rent soon find that not even the most careless tenant will harm a house so much as to allow it to remain tenantless. You must live in your Christian truths if you want to preserve them.

A man that practises lifting weights will become able to lift with ease masses of iron that at first he could not budge. So as we give does the power to give grow upon us.

To Think About.

Do I know what part of what God gives me I am returning to Him?

Is there any reason why I should not give God at least a tenth of my income?

What am I doing in return for all God has done for me?

A Cluster of Quotations.

Daily, hourly, loving and giving
In the poorest life makes heavenly living.

—Cooke.

When God comes to man, man looks around for his neighbor.—Macdonald.

"The more thou spendest from thy little store,
With a double bounty heaven will give thee more."

"Let thy lighted lamp on high
Be a star in some one's sky."

Ideas for Socials.

A "light" social, with essays and talks on the recent discoveries in regard to light, with the room illuminated by different colored lights, and with such games as "throwing light," and with shadow pictures.

A rainbow social, to which the guests will come each wearing one color as conspicuously as possible, while there are games in naming colors, talks on dyeing and painting, exercises in matching colors, tests for color blindness, and the like.

A mountain social, at which each guest represents a mountain by some feature of his costume, with pictures of mountains on exhibition, talks about mountain travel, and games based upon mountains, such as a "mount hunt" in the word Popocatepetl, and a mountain "spell down."

A "First Time" social, in which every one will do something, for the entertainment of the company, that he or she has never done before—sing a solo, take part in a dialogue, tell a funny story, draw a picture on the blackboard, exhibit and describe a set of curios.

Prayer.

BY THE LATE DR. PARKER.

Blessed be God for the degree in which we can see God in any movement of our life. Sometimes we see nothing but God: Thy goodness fills the earth, and Thy glory fills the sky. In the springtime our pulses are quickened and our songs are multiplied and heightened; then in the sunless days we fall back in unbelief and in distress. But the whole year is Thine: why can we not, by increase of faith, which is Thy gift, rest in God and count the darkness one of His jewels? We are slow to understand; we stand in our own way, and we throw our own shadow upon God's blessing. What wonder if we charge our souls with unfaith and rebellion, when it is really not so, but is some passing mood of the mind? The Lord give us understanding in these things, lest we grieve the Spirit and finally quench the Holy Ghost.

Storm and Stress.

I cling to Thee through storm and stress.
I own my utter nothingness;
Upheld by Thee from hour to hour,
My weakness lost in thy great power,
I shall not faint—I cannot fail,
Though fiercest foes my strength assail.

Through storm and stress I cling to Thee;
I trust the love that chastens me;
The love that doth renew my strength,
Each step along my journey's length,
Within that powerful hand of Thine
I lay this feeble one of mine.

I cling to Thee through storm and stress.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, Thy child to bless;
O, day by day, with manna feed,
Thy grace sufficient for my need,
Eternal peace my harbor be
When storm and stress shall cease for me.

Self-love is not a part of the heart, but its disease, preying upon it, and ossifying it, as far as it reaches over it; and nothing but self-love is the cause why our hearts are only fragments, and little more than splinters and shivers of what ought to be; it is that, instead of loving ourselves in others, in God, and His world, and our brother man, we love ourselves in distinction and separation from them, and therefore in opposition to them; that instead of finding our chief happiness in the utmost expansion of our feelings, we shut them up within our own breasts, where they must waste and crumble, and moulder and rot.—Guesses the truth.

Daily Readings.

- M., Oct. 24. Earthly and heavenly treasure.
1 Tim. 6:17-19.
T., Oct. 25. Scattering that increases.
Prov. 11:24, 25.
W., Oct. 26. Overflowing blessings.
Mal. 3:10-12.
T., Oct. 27. Giving and receiving.
Luke 6:30-38.
F., Oct. 28. Christ's example.
2 Cor. 8:7-9.
S., Oct. 29. Loving and giving.
1 John 3:17-20.
Sun., Oct. 30. Topic.—How giving reacts upon me. Prov. 3:9, 10; 2 Cor. 9:6-11.