

Programme for January.

It is suggested that the meeting for January be *in very truth* a *Missionary Prayer-meeting*. Ordinarily so much time is spent in the presentation of the programme that little time is left for prayer.

Open as usual with a hymn, prayer and Scripture lesson (Acts i. 8 ; ii. 1-4 ; iv. 31-33).

I. Introduction.—

1. It is fitting that the *initial meeting* of the year be marked by much definite prayer.
2. The subject for prayer for January is "that increased spiritual power may come upon" four different classes. *Spiritual power is only attainable through prayer.*

II. The Membership of the Home Church.—

1. The organized Church is Christ's *means of saving the world.*
2. *Deep spiritual life is necessary* for true missionary zeal.
3. The greatness of the work requires the *interest of all Christians.*
4. Only a missionary Church can *produce missionaries.*

III. The Missionaries.—

1. Need to realize *constant presence of God.*
2. Require *wisdom and tact* in their work.
3. *Spiritual power necessary to win souls.*
4. *Spiritual power necessary to mould the native Church and produce suitable native workers.*

IV. The Native Teachers, etc.

1. Need a *saving knowledge* of Jesus Christ.
2. Need a *clear understanding* of saving truth.
3. Need *spiritual power to influence* their heathen brethren.

V. The Native Christians.

1. Need to be *taught of the Spirit.*
2. Need *grace to stand* in day of trial.

Not more than seven minutes should be spent in the presentation of each of the four main divisions. This should be followed in each case by a few minutes' definite prayer.

The Missionary Committee should pray much while arranging for the meeting.

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We would suggest that in those Leagues in which the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions has not been presented or adopted, the programme in the December number be chosen.

The Woman's Missionary Society.

"Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee."

MY sisters, if you are to do a special work for God, we must have special power from God for that work. And God is ready to give power to those who need and seek it.

Let us feel our absolute dependence upon Christ the Holy Spirit ; then will our numbers increase and the funds pour into our treasury, for God, even our own God, will move upon the hearts of the people in answer to our faith and prayers.

"Not by might, nor by power, but by the Spirit, saith the Lord."—Zech. iv. 6.

REBECCA WILLIAMS.

The Call to Christendom.

1. NINETEEN centuries have passed since Christ uttered the "Go ye" of the Great Commission, and it is still true that the majority of mankind are unsaved. Almost a thousand millions of our lost race perish in the life of each generation without the Gospel. Does not that commission throw the responsibility for all this upon the Church of Christ, and especially upon its leaders, the ministry ?

2. We have evidently reached a great crisis in the history of our race, when nothing but the universal spread and triumph of the Gospel can save the Church and the world from dire disaster. The Gospel has wrapped up in it the solution of all the industrial, financial, political, social and moral problems of the age with which the philosophers and statesmen and philanthropists are hopelessly struggling. Is not the call a clear one to those who have the Gospel, and understand its regenerating and transforming power, to apply it speedily in making over mankind and transforming human institutions by this divine agency ?

3. Christ requires that we should give the Gospel to the world immediately. His command is, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." That is the plainest of commands. It means *ye personally*. It means now, for it is in the present tense, and God has now unquestionably, for the first time in the centuries, removed out of the way every obstacle to the immediate evangelization of the world, and given to the Church everything needed for the completion of the work of preaching the Gospel to the world. The whole world is open and accessible, physically, geographically, politically, to the Gospel messengers, and waiting for them.

The Church has the means, the messengers and the promise of the Spirit at her command, and seems dangerously near to suffering eclipse of faith and blight of life because of her failure to avail herself of them in fulfilling her great and pressing mission. Christ is waiting for her to move in obedience to His command. Who among her leaders will risk the responsibility of holding back or of hindering the onward movement He demands ?

4. The organizations and machinery necessary for the immediate and world-wide forward movement to victory and conquest for Christ are all ready and in working order, and need simply to be directed under the quickening breath of the Spirit of God.

The agencies are all organized for reaching every class and condition of mankind. There are our general societies—Bible, Tract, etc.—and our special societies in all denominations, for home evangelization. There are the numberless agencies for saving heathendom through the foreign mission work. There are the lay organizations that take in substantially the church membership of Christendom—the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young People's Societies for Christian effort, the Armies of the Cross, etc. already marshalled for the final conflict. Every agency needed to reach all the world is already in existence.

And all these organizations will inevitably deteriorate into mere machines and become hindrances rather than helps, curses rather than blessings, unless they speedily become Spirit-filled and consecrated to the accomplishment of their intended work.—*Homiletic Review*.

"To promote the missionary spirit ; to increase the givings of the Church ; to awaken greater interest, fellow-Epworthians, we shall have to get down on our knees, in our homes and in our Leagues, and pray."