

Jesus Christ. At any rate, unless you can somehow get contact, real, personal contact, as human soul with soul, you will never do your people much good as a pastor.

We hope you keep a pastoral note-book. This you ought to do, entering into it some of the records of every call you make : the circumstances, the persons seen or inquired about, the line of conversation taken, and so forth. The next call may thus avoid the misfortune of your making the same series of inquiries over again, thus showing that you remain as ignorant about the state and circumstances of the family as before those inquiries were first answered. For, of course, you must refresh your mind by looking over your notes of the last preceding call before making the one now intended.

Let me sum up for this time in one sentence :

*Be* so deeply, truly, earnestly, wisely, devoutly ministerial, in fact, that you shall never *seem* ministerial at all, in making your pastoral calls.

At the end of this valuable advice are found a number of "Hints toward Maxims relating to Pastoral Visiting," which may be read with much profit.

1. Calculate on drawing your impulse to fidelity in pastoral visiting rather from reason and conscience and will than from spontaneous fondness for the work.

2. Accordingly, reinforce your resolution to do pastoral visiting, and define your purpose in doing it, by an occasional thoughtful review of the advantages to be gained from the practice.

3. Begin by reminding yourself that all advantages are to be reckoned with reference to the securing of human obedience to Christ as the one comprehensive right aim of your Ministry.

4. Remember, then, first : That pastoral visiting, apart from results that may be expected to follow, is itself obedience to Christ, rendered by you.

5. Remember, secondly : That in pastoral visiting you may carry privately the messages of the Gospel to souls that would not otherwise receive them at all at your hands.

6. Remember, thirdly : That pastoral visiting done by you will tend to draw together and keep together a congregation of hearers for your public preaching.

7. Remember, fourthly : That pastoral visiting will enable you to improve your preaching by indefinite increase of adaptedness in it to your hearer's actual needs.

8. Remember, fifthly : That pastoral visiting, in addition to making the sermon itself better, makes the congregation better hearers of the sermon.

9. Remember, sixthly : That pastoral visiting will tend to make and to keep you broadly and tenderly human-hearted.

10. Remember, seventhly : That pastoral visiting will replenish your store of material for preaching.