

often, from the character of the auditorium, its appearance and appointments; from the attentions given to strangers; from the brightness and buoyancy of the service; and from the spirit which pervades the whole life and work of the church, and therefore the worship of the church.

(3) The pulpit that would always address a large audience must preach the duty of church attendance to its members, insisting rigorously upon the use of this means of grace and seeking in every possible way to inculcate the proper conviction regarding it in the hearts of all who are allied to the church. If church members need this service, and it is certain to prove fruitful of good to them, we should not tire, and we cannot conscientiously tire, of trying to make them see, and feel, and believe this. If the right sentiment prevailed among our own people, we would not have to seek elsewhere, as we now so often do, for our evening congregations.

(4) The minister must give the subject more personal and practical attention if he would successfully solve this problem. He must *popularize* the second service, not by preaching sensational sermons, never, never that—sensational success is short-lived, substantially it is a failure; not by taking the great moral and secular, civic and social questions of the day and discussing them; this can be done occasionally with profit, but only occasionally, in my judgment; not by the preparation of an elaborate musical program in which a choir and not the congregation shall have the principal part; not by the employment of any homiletic tricks, or catches, or subterfuges. How, then? By hearty congregational singing; by the use of a form of service differing somewhat from that of the morning and calling, possibly, for some oral participation on the part of the people, and by the straightforward, simple, earnest preaching of the gospel of the cross; in a word, by a conscientious, intelligent, aggressive effort to lift men's spirits, brighten men's lives, and bring them into living acquaintance with the living Christ. An occasional course of sermons, with the emphasis always given to the practical and evangelistic, a printed program of the service either prepared by the pastor himself or secured from a bureau issuing forms for the evening worship, such as the uniformly excellent services published by "The Congregationalist" of Boston, which are growing deservedly more and more popular, a chorus choir—volunteer preferred—singing plain and inspiring music, a good corps of efficient, tactful ushers, and a group of interested, hospitable assistants who shall make it their business always to welcome strangers in a cordial but quiet and judicious way, and, above all, a church life and activity which influences every member of the church and impresses itself upon every part of the community every day of the week—these are the best means I know, and I speak to some little extent from personal experiment and demonstration, for securing a large attendance at the second service.