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HOW TO MEET THE NEED OF MISSIONS

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WHEN one surveys the enormous task involved in making Christ known to the world, and realizes the inadequacy of human agencies in performing this task, one's first impression is that the church is totally unable to discharge its responsibility. But the next impression is that Almighty God is able, and that the church must be led to avail itself of His limitless resources. Missionaries, native workers, leaders of missionary activities on the home field, while they differ as to plans and methods, are absolutely united in the conviction that the world's evangelization is a divine enterprise, that God's Spirit is the great Missioner, and that only as He dominates the work and the workers can success in carrying the knowledge of Christ to all people be hoped for. They believe that God gave the missionary impulse to the early Church, and that to-day all true missionary work must be directed and sustained by Him.

If the teaching of love to God, and love to our neighbor were practised by all Methodists, old and young, the missionary needs would soon be met. Very soon there would be no dark continent, no child widows in India, no Chinese provinces begging for the gospel, no human life sacrificed to appease the wrath of some heathen god, nor any stranger within our own gates suffering neglect.

There are in the world approximately 1,500,000,000 souls, of whom 1,000,000,000 have not yet heard the gospel. The campaign will yet be won, and Jesus crowned as king "from the rivers unto the ends of the earth," but victory lingers. If we would evangelize the world in our day we must get a fuller, more constant, more commanding realization of the personal presence of Christ. "He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for apart from me ye can do nothing."

It is a decisive hour for the non-Christian nations. Far-reaching movements, national, social, and religious, are shaking these nations to their foundations. These nations are still plastic. Shall they set in Christian or pagan moulds? Their ancient faiths and social orders are being weakened or abandoned; shall our sufficient faith fill the void? In Jesus alone is there ample remedy for the sins of the world. He has gone forth to the rescue and a great fight is on. All who name the name of Christ are borne into battle, and upon each the command is binding, "Go and preach." We have looked upon Mission work as work for men who were es-

pecially called of God, but we must realize that it is a fight in which we must place ourselves and all that God gives us.

"If once all the lamps that are lighted
Should steadily blaze in a line,
Wide over the land and the ocean
What a girle of glory would shine.
How all the dark places would brighten,
How the mists would roll up and away—
How the earth would laugh out in its
gladness
To hail the millennial day."

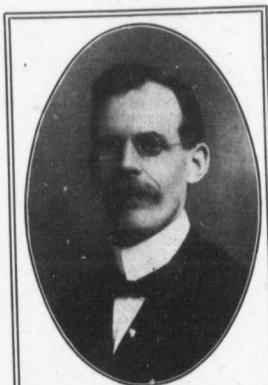
Christian man. Power in prayer requires neither eloquence nor learning. Faith is the key. Every grave crisis in the history of the extension of Christianity which has been successfully met has been met and triumphed over because of the faithfulness of some of Christ's disciples who tarried in the secret places of the Most High. How can we reach up and get Eternal Life, and then bring it down to meet the world's need, except by prayer?

Pray that you fall not in your duty, but may be found as true missionaries wherever God calls. Pray that the whole Church at home may be awakened to a sense of its responsibility. Pray that the Christians and workers in foreign lands may be sustained by the power of God, and richly blessed in the work they are trying to do. Pray for the Lord of the harvest to thrust forth laborers into His harvest, and then listen to learn if He answers, "Behold, I send you." Pray, "Thy Kingdom come," and then with all your powers strive to do your part in the Kingdom's establishment. True prayer for missions makes the one who prays a true missionary.

If we would learn to meet the needs, we must study. Mission study is the key to missionary interest. Study helps us to reach intelligent conclusions regarding the world's need of Christ. It creates a desire for personal missionary service. It compels recognition of personal responsibility for the evangelization of the world.

What shall we study? The Word of God, that we may discover His purposes for the world. Then we should study the real meaning and needs of foreign missions, so that we can more intelligently do our duty towards them. We should study that we may know, and know that we may do. No one ever threw his whole soul into an enterprise of which he knew nothing. Until our knowledge of missions is definite, we shall never be as enthusiastic, or as earnest, as we ought to be.

But prayer and study are incomplete without something else. No matter how they may be carried on, if they do not lead to personal sacrifice they are like the fig tree that brought forth nothing but leaves. The blessed privilege of giving, whether one can give little or much, enables one to become a real missionary. Money is portable life, and when it is cheerfully and prayerfully given with the object of extending the Gospel, it becomes one of the truest expressions of love to God and man. It requires life,



REV. DR. ENDICOTT

The General Secretary elect of the Foreign Department of the General Board of Missions, and successor to Rev. Dr. Shore, resigned. The Canadian Epworth Era right royally welcomes our experienced missionary to West China to his new office, and wishes him great success.

Our duty is plain. How shall we accomplish it? The motto of the Forward Movement, "Pray, Study, Give," comprehends our whole duty to the world.

We should pray. Prayer has paved the way to every victory that has been won by the Church, or by human souls, since God made man in His own image. Prayer links the human with the divine. It is the most universal power possessed by