

15. Read the best writers on sanctification. We mention Wesley, Fletcher, Mahan, Finney, Lady Maxwell, and Mrs. Phœbe Palmer. But the blessed Bible should be first, last, always. "Give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."

16. Do not let the adversary lead you to dwell upon some one subject, to the exclusion of others—such as faith, dress, pride, or formality. Make no hobby of any one thing in particular, but of a symmetrical holiness in general. Follow the Bible: it has no hobby but holiness.

17. Be careful not to disparage the blessing of justification. This is unwittingly done sometimes, and is fruitful of injurious results. Justifying grace is always to be highly prized, and should never be depreciated. "Walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless."

18. Avoid an unwarrantable extreme in allowing this one subject to become entirely absorbing. The following are some of the indications of this extreme:—

(1.) A disrelish for any other theme or the accessories of holiness.

(2.) A desire to avoid hearing those discourses which dwell upon other Bible topics.

(3.) A conscious aversion to that experience which falls short of the highest Gospel standard.

(4.) A distrust in the religion of those who make no special efforts for the promotion of holiness.

(5.) Feelings of inaptitude and disqualification for labor that aims directly for the conversion of souls. "That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God."

19. In the profession of holiness avoid all ostentation, display, and affectation. Let your testimony be artless, simple, easy; let it exalt Christ and humble you. Cultivate a due sense of your unworthiness, and let every thought, and look, and word partake of the spirit of holiness. "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."

20. Do not seek to be conspicuous. Seek no prominence for your learning, talents, piety, person, or possessions. Avoid all display; keep a single eye. Your great business is to glorify God. Let your dress administer to your comfort, convenience, decency, and modesty. "Be clothed with humility; for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time."

21. On the other hand, do not (through a desire to avoid being conspicuous) neglect to "stand up for Jesus." Wesley says, "Your holiness will make you as conspicuous as the sun in the midst of heaven." While on the one hand you are not to seek it, on the other, do not think you can avoid it. "Ye are the light of the world." A holy, active, zealous lover of God and man will be seen of men. Stand up for God; speak, pray, and live to please Him. "Let us go forth, therefore, unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach."

22. Avoid all evil speaking. Never talk about the faults of an absent person. We are encompassed by this sin on every side, and are in great danger of being carried away by the torrent. Watch over your lips and "speak evil of no man." "Speak not evil one of another, brethren."