

where we are expected to be "all at it and always at it." Into such a church the enemy would find it difficult to make inroads, and from such there would go forth the forces which are destined to conquer the world. We beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye rally round the standard bearers who are among you, lest the curse of Meroz be pronounced against any of you.

To those who have but recently entered this blessed service we would say: Be faithful to the teachings ye have received; avail yourself of all the ordinances of God as blessed opportunities for the development of your religious life, and not as duties that *must* be fulfilled; neither regard them as unimportant matters in which you may or may not engage as your own inclinations direct. Look upon your membership in the church as being only of next importance to the salvation of your soul, and guard it as ye regard your eternal interests. As a help toward this we exhort you to offer yourselves at the first opportunity for public reception into the church, according to our rule and order.

While we would not encourage or exhort you to anything that savors of religious narrowness, we would faithfully remind you that you owe your presence and influence first to your own spiritual home. There is untold injury done by religious rambling, and the gad-about is never to be relied on. The more closely you associate yourselves with the household of God, the more will you appreciate both its company and its duties.

We exhort all our members to prize very highly the Class Meeting, for in it there is peculiar help. Never absent yourselves from the week evening services whenever it is possible for you to attend, even at the exercise of self-denial. We believe the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to be a Divinely ordained institution, binding upon all Christians, and which none who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity can consistently neglect; therefore let it be regularly maintained among us, in obedience to Him who said "This do in remembrance of Me."

Let the word of God be your daily companion, your meditations thereon being made effectual by much prayer and supplication; for he who is well informed in that word and mighty in the Scriptures will be able both to overcome the tempter, as did the blessed Master, and to lead many others into the enjoyment of like precious faith. Ignorance of the Scriptures is a sin in which sadly too many seem content to remain, without any effort on their part to escape from it. To hear the truth, yea to read the truth is not sufficient, for the Divine word is, "*Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*"

We strongly advise you all to form habits of systematic Bible reading, for your individual instruction and growth in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Let family religion be a part of your home life, and regard its blessings as the richest heritage you can hand down to your children.

That piety which is only presented to the public and unknown in the home, is sure to bring dishonor to the church, and disaster to the faith of the children; therefore "Show piety at home."

Closely allied to this duty is the need of the co-operation of the parents with the workers in our Sabbath Schools. Remember that these workers do not take your places as the religious instructors of your children; they are simply your helpers. The work of the Sabbath School can only reach its real effectiveness when the *Home and School* join hand in hand to lead the children *Onward*, then indeed may we look for *Happy Days* in the homes, *Pleasant Hours* in the schools, and *Sunbeams* scattered everywhere. To this end we urge you who are parents to see that your children give sufficient time and attention to the study of their Scripture lessons, and the standard doctrines of our church as taught in our own Catechisms.

As a church we again deliver our unqualified protest against the liquor traffic in all its varied forms, and call upon all who name the name of Christ to depart from this evil, and to do all that lieth in their power to deliver others from it. By personal abstinence, and by persistent effort we shall, under God, bring down the power of this terrible evil in this land. Encourage the children to take the temperance pledge, and to unite themselves with the Band of Hope or other total abstinence societies. There are 12,226 children connected with our Sabbath schools in this land, and of these 3,331 are reported as having taken the temperance pledge. Over this we rejoice, though it also shows us that there is still a large field of usefulness lying before us. Let us not rest till every scholar and officer in our schools, and every child in our families is pledged against this world-wide curse. We desire to impress upon you the great need of the faithful

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