

(2) Young men, as a rule, are shy of the Parson until they get to know him, and trust him, then they are enthusiastic in their loyalty.

(3) Young men are brought into contact with much that tends to destroy their reverence for that which is sacred and pure, and are apt almost unconsciously to deteriorate morally and spiritually, unless there is an earnest and determined effort to make a strong stand for that which is right, and pure, and holy. This entails a hard, continuous, struggle, which can only be maintained with much spiritual help.

(4) The amount of persecution and chaff which an earnest, spiritually minded young man has to put up with is far greater than that which has to be endured among older men, or among women.

III. How then is the Parish Priest to bring his pastoral influence to bear upon young men?

(1) From the pulpit, he must remember the spiritual needs, trials and difficulties of young men, and preach earnest, manly sermons with a genuine ring of sincerity in them.

Special services for men only are helpful occasionally. At such services men expect to be spoken to very directly.

(2) By visiting men occasionally of an evening, and by being friendly, frank and open in conversation.

(3) Taking an interest in games and sports and athletic recreations will help a parish priest to win the confidence and affection of young men. These healthy recreations, at the same time, exercise much beneficial influence upon the character of young men.

(4) The parish priest must be keenly on the watch, in season and out of the season, for opportunities of helping young men *spiritually*. It is easier to win their affection than to win their souls.

Most young men are quite willing and glad to speak freely about spiritual difficulties when once the barrier of conventional conversation is tactfully broken through.

(5) Definite work in connection with the Church must be found for young men. *e. g.* In Choirs, Sunday School, Brotherhood of S. Andrew, Bell Ringers' Guilds, Church Lads' Brigade, or as Lay Readers, Sidesmen, Sacristan,

Server, Secretaries or Treasurers of Parochial or Diocesan Funds.

A vast amount of good can be done by earnest tactful young Laymen, in bringing their fellow men to the Service of the Church, and other means of grace. The Brotherhood of S. Andrew, with its two plain rules of prayer and work, affords splendid scope for this work.

(6) The parish priest must study the characters of men. No amount of organization, be it ever so useful, will tell, in the long run, so much as faithful, *individual* work among men. Our blessed Lord's method of dealing with, and influencing, different characters during His earthly ministration, must be studied, for nothing can help us as much in *our* special work among men as the study of our Lord's method of pursuing His special work among the sons of men.

2nd Paper by the Rev. A. H. Robertson.

This is a most important subject. Men do not attend the Services of the Church, especially the Holy Communion nearly as regularly and in as large numbers as women do. How many earnest women helpers there are in Church work, how few men. We cannot be satisfied with this, Christianity is a manly thing.

Young men are shy. Let the clergyman always have a friendly greeting, and a warm shake of the hand for them, and a brotherly interest in them and theirs. A good way to get hold of them is to invite them to the Rectory for a pleasant social evening, closing with a short instruction and service of prayer. Give the young men something to do, if it is only to lead the responses in Church. Men in families must be visited at their homes. A friendly meal, followed by a short prayer and a few well chosen words. If we wish to start the habit of family prayer in a house, let the clergyman start it, and show how to conduct it. The clergyman must be willing to give up his evenings to visit men at home. After all personal work, man to man, is the way to reach men. We are too shy about speaking to men about personal religion, they expect us to do it, and even if they do not seem to heed they will respect the parson for attending to his business. Let us follow the example of Christ, who went about amongst men, using the things that they knew about and were interested in to teach heavenly truths.