

build my church." We thought that Peter by that wonderful sermon on the day of Pentecost built up the church considerably. We suppose the church is built up by our preaching, teaching, eloquence, meetings and efforts of every kind. True, the Lord may be pleased to make these instruments by which He builds His church, nevertheless He Himself is the divine builder. All we can do will never add a stone to the spiritual structure, unless He blesses our efforts. The good which is done in any community is not by human might or power, but by the divine spirit of the ascended Lord. And yet He is pleased to associate us with himself in the work and make us workers together with God. But whatever transformation takes place in the character and conduct of men, or whatever additions may be made to the church, it is due not to the instrument used but to the hand of him who uses it.

The Lord uses the agency of His *Word* in this work. He commissioned all His disciples to proclaim it. He enjoined the duty of teaching it upon all parents. It is one of the most effective agents for the erection of his spiritual temple. What the world needs and is dying because of the lack, is not higher education or political reforms, but the Word of God, taught and enforced by precept and example. Oh! for more faithful teaching of the truth, that we may see the church rising higher, and growing broader in Christian knowledge, holiness and love.

Another agency used by the Master is *the power of Christian Life and Example*. It is as we exemplify the life of Christ in our lives that we attract others to Him. It is as we allow the doctrines of Christ to pass into our life blood and become the iron of our constitutions, that we will be able to exhibit the Christ-like character. We may flaunt all the doctrines of Christianity upon our banners and embody them in our symbols, but unless we have them, as vital principles in our hearts, we cannot be suitable instruments for the building of the church. The life of one genuine servant of Christ is worth more in extending the kingdom than ten thousand heartless professors. The external rites and ordinances of religion may be enjoyed by many who are destitute of the divine life and consequently powerless and useless in the service of the Master. Pope Leo. IV. once pointed out to St. Thomas Aquinas the masses of treasure accumulated in the Vatican, and remarked, "that the day is past when the church could say, 'Silver and gold have I none.'" "Yes, holy father," was the saint's reply, "and the day is past when the