

and utilizing the varied gifts of the Church, which this form of Church life provides. The common brotherhood makes the obligation of mutual edification comparatively easy. The varied exercises under so little of restraint, save what the spirit and aim of their assembly imposes, gives occasion for every variety of natural endowment to be utilized. Whether the gift of song or of speech is possessed it may be used to the profit of all, and in being used may grow. Many a mighty warrior in the army of the living God has acquired great boldness in the faith. What otherwise might have remained dormant, or even unknown has been stirred into activity by the excitement of this holy fellowship. Let the idea of Church life be merely the public congregation of promiscuous elements, presided over, and its worship conducted by one gifted man, and there is but little room for the employment of the varied talents of the Church. Only by making occasion can they be either known or employed. But by this plan even, the normal condition of things is continually bringing to the surface every form of gift enjoyed by any member of the society. Such has been the fact in connection with the existence of this form of Church life in Methodism. The gifts of prayer, of exhortation, of song, of sympathy, and of sound judgment are all available, and have the best opportunity to be employed for the building up of the Church of God. Herein is found one of the secrets of the progress of Christianity in connection with those who have followed this Scriptural method.