

## Young People's Work.

FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

COMMITTEE ON YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK: W. W. Coulter, *Chairman*; J. J. Smallman, *Mrs. R. H. Cameron*.

### C. E. Prayer-Meeting Notes.

GEO. FOWLER.

APRIL 22. *On guard—over what? How? Neh. iv. 6-23.*

While the returned captives were reconstructing the walls of Jerusalem, they were harassed night and day by the surrounding nations. The wall must be built, and the people must be protected. There was but one way; they were compelled to watch as well as labor. The work was soon accomplished, and Jerusalem was safe.

We as Christians are soldiers in the army of the Lord. A Christian character is to be erected upon the eternal Rock of Ages, that will stand the test of time and eternity. It does not spring suddenly into being, like the lightning flash. It rises slowly and with great labor. Its quality will depend upon the material put into it. Its durability will depend upon the way the materials are cemented together. But while this eternal edifice is rising tier on tier, foes will beset us on every hand. The enemy will take grim delight in continually harassing us, endeavoring to thwart our designs by either completely demolishing the structure, destroying its symmetry or discouraging the heart of the architect. In order to succeed, we must, like Nehemiah, be watchful. We must be on guard over:

1. The appetites of the flesh. These war against the soul. The spiritual must have the ascendancy over the carnal. Rom. viii. 1-14.

2. The spirit of wordliness. This creeps so insidiously into our hearts, our homes, our C. E. societies, and into the Church. Endeavorers should be a guard over the Church. "The friendship of the world is enmity with God."—Jas. iv. 1-5.

3. Over foes within and without. Matt. xxiv. 42-51.

4. Over the first approach towards indifference.

5. Over our tongues. Jas. iii.

How? (1) By prayer; (2) by eternal vigilance; (3) by the study of the Word of God; (4) by full and implicit confidence in God; (5) by active work; (6) by avoiding the very appearance of evil, and by keeping upon us, night and day, the whole armor of God, and grasping firmly the sword of the Spirit.

"The Saviour bids thee watch and pray, Maintain a warrior's strife, O, Christian, hear His voice to-day; Obedience is thy life.

The Saviour bids thee watch and pray,

For soon the hour will come That calls thee from the earth away To thy eternal home.

APRIL 28.—*Communion with Christ.*

John xiv. 18-23.

It is a rare privilege to have communion and fellowship with the children of God; but to have communion with Christ is a privilege, so exalted, that we are unable to appreciate it properly. "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son, Jesus Christ."

Fellowship with the righteous of this world makes us better, and stronger, and purer, and constant communion with Jesus will make us like Himself. "But we all with open face, beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the spirit of the Lord."

"With Him sweet converse I maintain; Great as He is I dare be free; I tell Him all my grief and pain, And He reveals His love to me."

How can I hold communion with Christ?

1. In the study of the Bible. As we read the product of inspiration it is God speaking to us through His Spirit, with reverence and humility, and with a burning desire to understand and accept all of the teachings of the Lord, should we read the precious Bible.

It is ennobling to commune with the master minds and giant intellects of past ages; but to hold communion with God Himself; to understand His dealings with the generations of past dispensations, and to sit at the feet of Jesus Himself and listen to gracious words that He utters is more than ennobling; it transforms us, making us wise unto salvation.

2. We commune with our Saviour in His own ordinance—the Lord's supper. We sit at His table on His invitation, and remember Him, who did so much for us, and watch and wait patiently for His second advent.

3. We commune with "the Great High Priest that has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God," in prayer. We pray with our families in the home, and in public assemblies; but the sweetest communion that we have with our Saviour is in the secret prayer. In our closets, away from the world, we appear face to face with our Redeemer. Our heart is laid bare, and we, like the loving disciple, would recline upon the Saviour's breast.

"Sweet is the pray'r whose holy stream In earnest pleading flows; Devotion dwells upon the theme And warm and warmer glows."

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