

woman who received it happy for the day, and every task easy. Its writer was another woman who understood not only the difficulty of the struggle but the value of the written word. Through all of one winter she wrote daily to the woman who was out in the arena—splendid, hopeful letters, full of counsel and encouragement, and of the wisdom which perceived both the meaning of the fight and the direction in which victory was sure to follow. When for the woman at home, a day came too full of other obligations for a letter of any length, there was no question in her mind of letting the written word go entirely over. And this is just what the majority of us would have done. We would have argued to ourselves that this one day did not count, that to-morrow a letter would follow, the waiting would not be long. But the waiting is sometimes long—long and wearisome too, and the absence of the written word robs this waiting of its only gleam of light.—From "The Joy of Life."

Picture Postal Cards

of the man in front. After service he waits to speak to some one he knows and lets the visitor in his pew pass out without a word of greeting. The visitor goes home and says the church is cold. It is cold to him. We wonder whose fault it is!

"Mr. Thoughtless is a Sabbath-school teacher. He reaches his class late. He hasn't fully prepared his lesson. He teaches year after year without having heart-to-heart talks with his pupils on the welfare of their souls. Then wonders why none join the church. Is it any wonder!"

The Privilege of Holy Service

BISHOP W. F. MALLALIEU.

JESUS taught many important lessons, and illustrated His teaching by His example. He says of Himself: "The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many." He "went about doing good." His hands were full of blessings for all kinds of people. He fed the hungry, he gave sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, speech to the dumb, and comforted breaking hearts by calling back to life the widow's son, and also the brother of Mary and Martha. From His earliest miracle in Cana of Galilee to the committal of His mother to the care of the beloved disciple amid the darkness and agony of His death upon the cross, He was constantly ministering to those about Him.

And this is equally true whether we consider the numberless acts of mercy and help wrought in behalf of the poor, the outcasts, and of all who having faith in His power ask for His compassionate help; or whether we consider Him as the supreme teacher of the human race. He was minister to the needs, not only of those who saw His bodily presence while in His earthly form, and listened to the Sermon on the Mount, but ever since; and even now He has ministered and is ministering to the countless millions of souls that need His words of comfort, encouragement and direction far more than they need any earthly good.

We have the words of Jesus; we have His example. The vital question that confronts us is this: will we listen to His words; will we treasure them in our minds and hearts; and will we follow His example? There were never more hungry souls in the world than now. As Jesus breaks to us the bread of life, will we share it with others? Will we remember it is not so much what we have as what we share with others that brings us into closest touch with the Lord Jesus Christ?

How can any one who professes to be a follower of Jesus be content to live a careless, self-indulgent life? How can he dream of finding acceptance at the day of judgment when on earth he clothes himself in purple and fine linen, and lives sumptuously every day, while poor Lazarus at his gate has no sympathetic friends but the stray dogs of the street, and not a morsel of food except an occasional crust that is thrown to him by the careless hand of the passer-by, or of a well-fed servant?

If God's people could learn what a blessed privilege it is to serve rather than to be served, what floods of light and blessing would overflow this world! The surest way to learn this precious lesson is to go to God in prayer, and ask Him for Jesus' sake to fill our hearts with the Holy Spirit's presence and power, driving out forever all carelessness and sloth, and conforming us to the likeness of Christ, until it shall be our chief joy to "do good to all men, as we have opportunity." Why not pray every day for the impartation of the Holy Spirit, filling us completely for the exercise of the privilege of holy service?

Sunshine

"With him the old sunshine returned to the home," says one friend of another who had been away in a strange land for some years, and then at last was free to return. With him the sunshine came back. "It is a different home when you are in it, mother," said a son. There are people who carry sunshine with them wherever they go. There are others who cloud what sunshine is already shining. We would all do well to heed the admonition of one of our young people's songs of the day which bids us to "scatter sunshine." It is a poor and profitless life that does not bring brightness to some one.

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