

Every Presbyterian man, woman, and child, young man and maiden—every one of us is pledged most solemnly to live and labor for Christ! We are his soldiers; he has an unlimited right to do with us as he pleases; and if we skulk from duty or desert our post or ignore His authority, He may deal with you as with mutineers, or cowards or base deserters. We must not leave the work to be done by ministers and elders. To do so were as unreasonable as for the rank and file of an army to leave battles to be fought by commanders and captains. Work with your minister. Love your minister and speak well of him and kindly to him. Pray for him earnestly and reward him liberally. Do not let him starve. Do not let his soul be crushed to the ground with debt and pinching poverty. Honor the elders. Obey the session in the fear of God.

Train up your own family in the good old Christian and Presbyterian way. Teach them their Bible and Catechism. Lead them early to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

But be not content with this. You are a priest to God—you are also a witness for Christ; your influence for good or evil must extend to your neighbours. Make the most of this fact, and speak a word for your Saviour and do a good deed in his name whenever you can. Let your children be so impregnated with Christian faith, love and knowledge, that on leaving the parental roof they may be missionaries for Christ wherever their lot is cast. Thus will the circle of Christian influence widen and intensify until it reaches every member of the community. When in the summer time a fire is lighted in our great forests it seizes on withered leaf, and stunted bush, and stately tree; limb lends the spark to limb, and tree to tree, till the whole hill-side is a sea of smoke and flame. Christ came to kindle a fire on the earth, a beneficent, purifying fire which, fanned by the breath of the Holy Spirit, should pass from heart to heart, from family to family, till congregations and communities should be purged from dross, raised to newness of life, and become burning and shining lights in the world. It is the duty of every individual Christian to warn them that are unruly, comfort the feeble-minded and support the weak—to make known the unsearchable riches of Christ and spread abroad the savor of his name. As a Presbyterian you are bound to do all this—to love and support your own church and bring as many within its fold as you can influence. Obey the Session, the Presbytery, the Synod,—for God has set them over you for your good. Support diligently every scheme of the Church that the treasury of the Lord may overflow and that the building of His glorious temple may not be hindered for lack of silver and gold. Support her Colleges, her Home Missions, her Foreign Missions. Do all as unto Jesus Christ whose servants we all are. Then, there are weak stations where places of worship require to be built: forget not these; help them out of your abundance, or if it so be—out of your poverty!

Satan and his angels, human and demoniacal, are busy all around, thwarting us, marring our work, opposing every movement for the salvation of men. Death and sin are ever active. Multitudes are, year by year, hidden in hopeless graves and swallowed down the voracious jaws of Hell. Are not these considerations more than sufficient to rouse us to energetic action, lest any should perish through our culpable neglect! The importance of the work God has given us to do, cannot be exaggerated and our zeal in its performance cannot be too ardent. We cannot support his cause too liberally or labour too diligently in his service. Ministers, elders, communicants, those who are Christ's through the baptismal covenant, all, all are bound to do what they can! God records in Heaven every shilling you pay, every prayer you breathe,