

In order to cultivate such an aggressive and intelligent type of piety, good Christian literature is essential. We most heartily commend to you the *Christian Guardian*, the most widely circulated Church paper in the Dominion, and the *Canadian Methodist Magazine*, the only periodical of its class of which our country can boast, and one of the very best produced by the Methodism of the world. Fill your homes with such periodicals and with the choice works of the masters of our noble English tongue, and you will have done much to cultivate in your children that taste for the higher class of reading which is the best safeguard against the insidious influences of a lower and leprous literature.

With all your reading, forget not God's Word. Let it dwell in you richly. Meditate upon it day and night. Study it in the light of all available helps. But, above all, study it prayerfully. Consecrate all your life by prayer. Hold sacred to God the time necessary for secret and family devotions.

Prize and use the class-meeting. In times of revival other Churches are adopting this means of grace under other names and perhaps with slight modifications of method. Let not the service for Christian testimony languish in the Church whose most distinctive means of grace it has been so long. Let leaders endeavor to vary their exercises and to fill them with living forces of attraction. The repetition from week to week of the same "experiences," in the same stereotyped form, is fatal to the enjoyment and to the usefulness of the class-meeting. We affectionately exhort all class-leaders and all members of the Church to give careful and prayerful thought to this service and to make an earnest and persistent effort to render it so fresh, bright, cheerful, and unconventional that all may feel at home in it and be profited by it.

"We beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves." Not every church has secured the pastor whom it desired, nor every minister the Circuit which he would have chosen. Let us remember that we are a Connexion, that the administration of our itinerancy is impossible without much mutual concession, and let us all loyally and in the fear of God labor together for the good of all.

We rejoice to see evidence on every hand of improved taste and growing enterprise in the matter of church building. It is not right that Christian people should beautify and enjoy their own luxurious residences and permit old, uncomfortable, and unsightly places of worship, which have outlived their usefulness, to hinder the progress of God's work. On the other hand, let us be on our guard against that extravagance which begins to build before it has counted the cost, and cripples the spirituality of the Church