

willing to work for Him. He is also willing to instruct us. But do we not, in our haste and enthusiasm, sometimes rush into service for Him without the necessary instructions or training, and the result is *failure* and defeat? Then we begin to wonder *why* the defeat came, when we were so zealous for the Master. But, dear fellow worker, zeal without *knowledge* is sure to come to grief.

A prominent Christian worker has said, that no man or woman of any sense will go into business without some knowledge of that business, or supplying himself or herself with all the auxiliaries at their command to make that business a grand success. Is it not too often the case that we go into business for God in a haphazard sort of way, and try to manage His mighty interests without tools or personal training. The consequence is, that we cannot give to others what we ourselves are not in possession of. We are not on fire about our work, so cannot enthrall other hearts in earnest efforts for the cause of missions. The religious world is said to be full of horrible failures. May the Lord spare our Band workers from being among the failures.

Let us find what talent has been entrusted to us, and strive after perfection in its use. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God; a workman that needeth not to be ashamed." The Lord's work needs our best talents, our brightest gifts, our most cultured young women, and our most promising young men, and shall He not have His own? We cannot attach too much importance to the work of our Mission Bands. Our great hope for missions is in the rising generation. It is much easier to train erect the tender twig, than to straighten the old twisted trees. Our empty treasuries with the absolute necessity of continual pleading for money to carry on the Lord's work at home and abroad, is surely an evidence that the average church member was not trained when young to give the Lord *His own*. The treasuries are not empty owing to the poverty of Canadian Baptists. Is it not because we pay more for the unnecessary decorations and luxuries of our homes than we pay for missions? Do we not find Christian parents that will lay out from one to five dollars in a toy shop for rubbish to amuse their children, and will pay off their annual thank-offering to missions with five cents?

One-fourth of the entire human family are women without the knowledge of Jesus, who are often treated worse than the animals of their country, women who wish every day they rise, that they had never been born; and yet how few of our Christian women who hold in their hands the bread of life, for which these millions are perishing, can be interested in giving them the gospel. The ever recurring, puzzling question is, How can we interest the women of our churches in missions? Does not experience teach us, that interest has its origin in knowledge? There can be no interest in a thing

unknown, and people are slow to learn when not taught in youth. Hence the urgent need of organizing the young people of our churches into Mission Bands, where they will receive a special training as to the need of giving the gospel to the perishing millions of India. While their habits are forming, we can easily instil into them the principle that will ensure their hearty support of God's cause in the time to come. Our Government is training the youth of our land to handle fire-arms for a possible need, at great expense to the country. They are also having "Loyalty to Queen and Country" taught in the public schools. Is the church of God to be less wise in refraining to teach the young true loyalty to our Lord and King, to whom the nations of the earth have been promised as His inheritance. The boys and girls of to-day are to be the merchants, farmers, mechanics, wives and mothers of to-morrow, and if properly trained now, missions and every other Christian enterprise will have all the money needed to carry them on. Right giving will then be considered a privilege, not a burden. We cannot or do not expect parents or S. S. teachers who have not the cause of missions at heart to give this training. The children must be taught by those whose hearts the Lord has opened towards the teeming millions of India, whose dark faces are turned to us, with outstretched arms, pleading for the bread of life. Their sighs and moans have reached the ear of Jehovah, and He is going to raise up a host that will contribute of their means to hasten in that glorious period when "His knowledge shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea." Years later, when Paul's ministry was about at a close, when writing to the church at Philippi, he says, "Help those women who labored with me in the Lord." This call comes to the churches to-day with equal force from the tired and often discouraged workers, who stand weary and care-worn amid the white harvest fields of our Telugu mission. Band leaders do not *always* get the help and encouragement they should from the parents, pastors, deacons, and S. S. staff, and yet we would say to our Band workers, do not be discouraged, "Ye shall reap if ye faint not." Keep on toiling with your little flock, pray, talk, distribute literature. Go to the S. S., ask the Superintendent to allow you to announce the meeting of the Band, invite the young men and the young women, as well as the boys and girls (and do not forget the Superintendent). Talk about your Band at the prayer meetings, ask the brethren to pray the Lord to remove the "stumbling blocks" that hinder you. Hold "parlor meetings," have lawn socials, not for the sake of money making or amusements—(an opportunity for voluntary offerings should always be given),—but with a view to instruct by personal contact. People will sometimes give their lawns for the Telugus if not their parlors; but if both be refused, do not become discouraged. Remember, your Master ~~but~~ not where to