

your own faith which saves you, provided it is faith in the right person. Now, your faith may be weak, or perhaps it may be strong, but whichever it be, you are neither lost or saved on that ground, but if you have faith in the right person, Jesus, then He says to you, Thy faith hath saved thee. Then the holy life comes in afterwards as the effect of being saved. May you be led to look away from yourself and your faith, and others and their faith, and simply trust Jesus as your own personal Saviour, then believe the word which says you are saved.—W. E. Living Streams.

COMPANIONSHIP.

Christian, make Christ your constant companion. Be more under His influence than under any other influence. Five minutes spent in the companionship of Christ every morning—ay, two minutes, if it is face to face and heart to heart—will change the whole day, will make every thought and feeling different, will enable you to do things for His sake that you would not have done for your own sake, or for any one's sake. And the supreme and the sole secret of a sanctified nature and a Christ-like character and life, is to be ever with Christ and reflecting Him—catching His nature, His mind, and spirit, insensibly and unconsciously, by mere proximity and contagion.

You say, "How can a man make Christ, the absent Christ, his most constant companion?" Why; friendship is a spiritual thing. Think over

it for a moment, and you will find that your friend influences you just about as much in his absence as when he is with you. Christ might have influenced us more, perhaps, if He had been here, and yet I do not know. It would have been an ineffable experience to have lived at that time—

"I think when I read that sweet story of old,
How when Jesus was here among men,
He took little children like lambs to His
fold,
I should like to have been with Him then.

I wish that His hand had been laid on my
head,
That His arms had been thrown around
me;
And that I had seen His kind look when He
said

'Let the little ones come unto Me.'

And yet, if Christ were to come into the world again, few of us probably would ever have a chance of seeing Him. I have never seen my own Queen in our little country of Britain. There are millions of her subjects who have never seen her. And there would be thousands of the subjects of the Lord Jesus who could never get within speaking distance of Him if He came to the world now. We remember He said: "It is expedient for you (not for Me) that I go away;" because by going away He could really be nearer to us than He would have been if He had stayed here. It would have been geographically and physically impossible for most of us to have been influenced by His person had He remained. And so our communion with Him is a spiritual companionship; but not different from most companionships, which, when you press them down to the roots, you will find to be essentially spiritual.