

Carl Moore

FUNDAMENTALS OF CHRISTIAN TEACHING

A SYSTEMATIC STUDY OF
CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE IN OUTLINE FORM



Photo by Preston Cochran

RICH AND FERTILE VALLEY OF JORDAN

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PRESTON M. COCHRAN

OUTLINE STUDIES OF CHRISTIAN
DOCTRINE
and
FUNDAMENTALS OF CHRISTIAN
TEACHING

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By

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Introduction

The messages in this volume were prepared originally for teaching in the Bible department of Southeastern Baptist College, of Laurel, Mississippi. They are reproduced in this volume almost word for word as they were given in the class room, with a minimum of editing. For this reason there is some repetition and frequent reviewing of earlier material.

The book begins with God's plan of salvation and why it is important for a person to know he is saved. It begins with the spiritual childhood of carnality and concludes with a mature and fully grown Christian. Life matures as one observes the laws of spiritual growth which are found through-out the pages of the Bible.

The purpose of this little book is to blend the dark things of life with the bright things of life, so that we may learn that the whole of life may be beautiful. You must be equipped with the shock absorbers of faith and an experiential knowledge of God's grace for those times when the going is rough. Happy is the man who has a song to sing along the way.

Much of the material presented herein was gleaned while pastoring the Spring Hill Baptist Church, Big Creek Baptist Church, and the First Baptist Church of Shady Grove. All three located in the area of Laurel, Mississippi. I express my gratitude to these churches for the privilege to serve them and now the readers of this book.

Preston M. Cochran

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Chapter One

SAVED, AND HOW TO KNOW IT

To be a happy Christian one must know he is saved, I John 5:13. God had a purpose in saving you as He had a purpose in creating the world—it was for Christ, Colossians 1:16; John 1:3. God had a purpose in calling Israel out of Egypt as a nation. He wanted her to be a blessing to other nations. Israel, like a Christian, misinterpreted her mission at times and suffered severely. Soul salvation is one part of God's plan for your life. Salvation is eternal, John 3:16; it can't stop—neither can you. Christians will suffer when living out of God's plan for their lives. It cost to live a victorious life—it will cost more not to live one. It cost God something to get the GOSPEL to us—but we thank Him for it.

I. IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO KNOW.

1. It is a tragedy to live and not know, Matt. 7:21-23.
2. People without this knowledge have no desire to work, I John 5:11-15.
3. You will find yourself in one of the four classes:
 - (a) Lost and don't know it, II Corinthians 4:3.
 - (b) Lost and know you are lost, Acts 16:30.
 - (c) Saved and have lost the joys of salvation. Psalms 51:12-13.
 - (d) Saved and know you are saved, Romans 8:16.

II. HOW CAN ONE KNOW HE IS SAVED?

1. The Spirit bears witness of our salvation, Romans 8:16:17.
2. You will have love for Christian people and desire fellowship with them, I John 3:14.
3. You will know when your sins are forgiven, I John 3:5.
4. You will know why you love the Lord, Psalms 116:1.
5. You will know when He answers your prayers, I John 5:15.
6. You will know the whole world lies in darkness, I John 5:19.
7. You will know that this knowledge comes from God, I John 5:20.

III. CAN ONE KNOW WHY HE IS SAVED?

1. Not saved to sit down and be content, Matthew 11:29.
2. Not saved to complain about what we have to do, Matthew 11:30.
3. Not saved as a fire-escape from hell—but to work, Ephesians 2:10.
4. God's plan for your life was not an accident, I Peter 1:2; Romans 8:28-31.
5. Your first call to salvation was "given rest," Matthew 11:28.
6. Your second call to works is "found rest," Matthew 11:29.
7. A Christian will know God has something for him to do, Romans 8:29:30.

8. Lay aside all weights and run this race, Hebrew 12:1. (We can't run anywhere: a zig zag course is too expensive to run).
9. We were saved to worship God in this life, John 4:23.
10. We are saved to worship God in the world to come, Revelation, 4:10-11. God must have worshippers.

IV. CAN ONE KNOW HOW LONG GOD WANTS HIM TO WORK?

1. Death found Paul still running, I Timothy 4:17.
2. At death he found an incorruptible crown awaiting, I Corinthians, 9:25-26.
3. The Christian will have the opportunity to wear a crown or crowns as a result of service here, Revelation 4:4.
4. The Christian will have opportunity to lay his crown at Christ's feet, Revelation 4:10-12.
5. The Christian will have opportunity to watch His crown decked head go forth to destroy the forces of evil, which you and I cannot overcome today, Revelation 19:12.
6. A Christian will be happier in the center of His will than out of it. You can serve Him from your home, work, sick bed, prison, etc., but let us serve Him.

STUDY NOTES

Chapter Two

HOW TO KNOW GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE

God's plan for your life is superior to all other plans. His plan is perfect and devoid of errors and blunders. His plan is better than ours because He fully understands us. His plan is better, for He has the power to carry out His plan and we don't. His plan is better for He approaches it sympathetic and desires our success in life. Before we can succeed as a Christian worker—we must know His will for our life.

I. GOD DID PLAN EVERYTHING.

1. The universe is a result of His planning, Psalms 24:1-2.
2. He planned day and night of the universe for man and nature, Genesis 1:3-5.
3. All things were made by Him and for Him, Colossians 1:16.

II. GOD HAS A SPECIAL PLAN FOR MAN.

1. Man is the highest of God's creation—God gave him dominion over the rest, Genesis 1:28.
2. Man's high position calls for a Master plan and it has to be from God.
3. The body of man is amazing and it is made that way for a purpose, Romans 12:1.
4. Our eyes were given to see natural and spiritual things; our ears to hear; feet to go places; and mouth to eat and drink to better fulfill God's Will, Psalms 1:1-6.
5. God's plan is the same today as it was yesterday with our forefathers, Hebrews 13:8.
6. We are asked to surrender our will (our plan) to God's Will, (His plan), Luke 22:42; John 6:38; 4:34; Romans 12:12; Ephesians 5:17; Colossians 1:19; Hebrews 10:36; I Peter 2:15; 3:17.

III. THE FIRST STEP NECESSARY TO KNOW GOD'S WILL.

1. You must be saved and know you're saved.
2. You must realize He has a plan and will reveal it to you when you ask Him.
3. You must realize those outside of Christ will scorn His Will and laugh at things of His concern.
4. You must know God desires the best for you.

IV. THE SECOND STEP NECESSARY IS TO BE ACQUAINTED WITH HOLY SPIRIT.

1. Only the Spirit can lead you to know God's Will, Romans 8:26.
2. He came into your heart when you were saved to abide forever, I Corinthians 6:19-20.
3. He is not merely someone to help in time of trouble, but at all times and in all things, John 14:26.
4. He will take the things of Christ and make them real to the believer, John 16:15.
5. He will show you how to lead others to Christ, Mark 1:17.
6. If you know not this Spirit then you are not saved, Romans 8:9.
7. The difference between defeat and victory is the Spirit.

V. THE THIRD STEP IS TO SURRENDER YOUR LIFE TO GOD'S WILL.

1. You must know His Will before you can surrender to it.
2. Refusing to surrender is the greatest tragedy that can happen to you as a Christian, (Jonah is our example).
3. God will not direct a life that refuses to be directed, Ephesians 4:30.
4. He is waiting for you to come and yield yourself to Him, Romans 6:13.
5. To surrender and enjoy His presence, you must confess often.
6. Daily commitment is a good way to remain yielded to His Will.

V. NOW GOD'S MASTER PLAN.

1. The death of Christ was planned before the creation of the world, I Peter 1:19-20.
2. His plan is not inventions, devices of sin, but the eternal salvation of the lost, II Peter 3:9.
3. This is the commissioned work of the church—we must find our place and work, Acts 1:8.
4. You can play a part in this Master plan by helping to reach a man for Christ through the Church, Matthew 28:19-20.

VII. EVERY CHRISTIAN HAS A VITAL PART TO PERFORM.

1. Some questions we have to face:
 - (a) "Where do I fit into God's plan?" Have you asked Him?
 - (b) "What part does He have planned for me?" Have you asked Him?
 - (c) "Where is the place for me to serve?" Have you asked Him?
 - (d) Does God want me as a missionary, pastor, teacher, businessman, etc.?
 - (e) It is His Will for me to enter business to support His Plan?
2. God expresses His willingness to guide you. You do not have to

beg Him to show you His Will, Proverbs 3:5-6; II Timothy 1:12; John 15:4.

3. You must want to be led that you may know His Will, or else you will not know it.

4. In what manner will He make it known? He could choose anyway, but He has chosen His Word. Therefore, be sure to study it.

5. One thing you can be positive about, He will make known His Will.

VIII. YOUR PART IN GOD'S MASTER PLAN.

1. He could have carried out His plan without calling you—man's feeble efforts.

2. He planned that you, His redeemed children in Christ, who are empowered by the Spirit, should bring to pass the purpose of His heart, John 21:15-17.

3. He calls all whom He saves shortly after salvation, II Timothy 1:9.

4. It is not safe for you to be in China, if He wants you in America.

5. God's plan will certainly be hindered if you fail in the service where He has placed you, I Corinthians 15:58.

6. Your place may be a store-keeper, soldier, housewife, streetsweeper, doctor, teacher, pastor, etc.

IX. YOU HAVE SOME RULES TO FOLLOW TO CARRY OUT HIS PLAN.

1. There is no justification in asking for guidance apart from the things taught in the Scripture.

2. His Will will always be "No" when instruction is given as follows:

(a) No shady business deals, Ephesians 4:28.

(b) No stealing, Ephesians 4:28.

(c) Avoid appearance of evil, I Thessalonians, 5:22.

(d) Avoid mixed marriages, II Corinthians, 6:14.

3. There are no short cuts away from God's Master plan for your life.

4. Some make the mistake, "Let God show His Will, then I will consider it."

5. Do not sit and wait for a package of sealed orders to drop into your lap.

X. NOW HEAR THE CONCLUSION OF THE WHOLE MATTER, ECCLESIASTES 12:13.

You might not know it, but God has two Wills for His children. One is His DIRECTIVE WILL, which is far better. The other is His PERMISSIVE WILL which He permits you to exist out of His DIRECTIVE WILL. The second Will never brings happiness, joy, peace, or contentment. The second Will is miserable, sorrowful, and makes a stubborn, ignorant person. (Example: God granted Hezekiah fifteen years through His PERMISSIVE WILL against His DIRECTIVE WILL.

This led to much trouble. The first Will became the second Will when we start meddling with it. Our bodies show much planning for a purpose. Get into the center of God's Will for your life and live as Jonah did.

STUDY NOTES

Chapter Three

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY

One of His disciples said unto Him, Lord, teach us to pray, Luke 11:1. Man may reach heaven without an education, but not without prayer. Prayer is the life-breath of a man's soul—helpless to live without it. Anything worth doing in this life is worth praying about. We don't become good athletes by running once in a while—pray often. Most people will worry twice as much as they pray. Prayer was more important to Christ than rest, (He arose before day). Our failures in life can be traced back to not praying as a Christian, (sickness, business failing, lack of joy, unhappy life, miserable christian, etc.). Many mighty works help up in homes, life, churches, for the lack of prayer, Matthew 13:58. When it is the hardest to pray you should pray the hardest.

I. IT IS A SIN FOR ONE NOT TO PRAY.

1. The Bible states that it is a sin, I Samuel 12:23.
2. Men ought always to pray, Luke 18:1.
3. Men should pray without ceasing, I Thessalonians 5:17.
4. Men should pray to avoid temptations, Mark 14:38.

II. IT WILL COST A CHRISTIAN NOT TO PRAY.

1. Can be in need of many of life's necessities—ought to have, Matthew 6:6; James 4:2-3.
2. We will suffer for the lack of wisdom—not knowing how to do many things, James 1:5.
3. It will lead to trouble in the home, I Peter 3:7.
4. It will relieve affliction, James 5:13-15.
5. It will cause premature death:
 - (a) Asa had foot disease and failed to pray—he died, II Chronicles 16:12-13.
 - (b) Hezekiah's life was spared by praying, II Kings 20:6.
6. It will bring trouble upon others when we fail to pray, Exodus 32:9-14.
7. It will bring much trouble upon churches for not praying, II Chronicles 7:14.
8. Souls will be going to hell, while we refuse to pray, Romans 10:14.

III. GOD IS ANXIOUS TO HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

1. It is His nature to hear and answer prayers, Psalms 65:2.
2. He heard the Saints of old; He will hear us when we pray.
3. It is impossible to please Him without believing that He is able, Hebrews 11:6.

4. He knows our needs and even the needs of nature, Psalms 65:9-13; 104:14-15.

5. The Holy Spirit will make intercession for us if we will follow, Romans 8:26.

IV. MAN HAS TO BE REMINDED TO PRAY.

1. Reminded that God is expecting us to come to Him and not faint, Luke 18:1.

2. Reminded that it is God's way to get the things we need, James 4:2.

3. Reminded that our joys need to be full in Christ, John 16:24.

4. Reminded that it is the way out of much trouble, Philippians 4:6-7; I Peter 5:7; Psalms 34:6.

5. Reminded that it proves to people whom God is, I Kings 18:36-39.

6. Reminded that it is the only way to have power of Holy Spirit, Luke 11:13.

7. Reminded it is the only way for sinners to be saved, Romans 10:13.

V. FOR WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY?

1. We should pray for the right kind of food, Luke 11:2-3; Exodus 16:13; Numbers 20:11.

2. We should pray about our business, (Net brake), Luke 5:4-8.

3. We should pray about material things, Psalms 34:10.

4. We should pray about marriage, II Corinthians 6:14.

5. We should ask for the presence of the Holy Spirit, Luke 11:13.

6. We should ask to be well again for His glory, James 5:13.

7. We should ask for anything we can use to His honor, Mark 11:24; John 15:7; Psalms 37:4.

VI. WE SHOULD BE DEFINITE IN OUR PRAYING.

1. We are definite when we go into a store, cafe, or calling a doctor, etc.

2. We are taught to be definite in Matthew 6:11 when asking for bread.

3. Gideon was definite by placing fleece out, Judges 6:36-39.

4. Abraham's servant wanted to be sure in selecting a bride, Genesis 24:12-14.

5. Joshua prayed for the sun to stand still (that day), Joshua 10:12.

VII. HOW TO PRAY.

1. We must believe His Word—the Word reveals His Will.

2. We must ask the Spirit to lay on our hearts that for which we ask,

Romans 8:26.

3. We must abide in Christ (living close to Him), John 15:7.

4. We must believe we can ask God and He will give it to us, Mark 9:23.

5. We must study His word to increase in faith, Romans, 10:17.

6. We must ask according to His Will, John 5:14-15.

VIII. WHY GOD WILL NOT HEAR AND ANSWER PRAYER.

1. We ask for things, "to consume it upon self," apart from God, James 4:3.

2. Hidden sin will hide His face, Psalms 59:1-2.

3. His face is against them that do evil, I Peter 3:12.

4. He won't hear if iniquity is hidden in ones heart, Psalms 66:18.

5. Wrong home relationship will hinder prayers being answered, I Peter 3:7.

6. Prayers will be blocked by unpaid debts, Matthew 5:23-24; Luke 19:8.

7. Unforgiveness in heart will hinder prayers being answered, Matthew 6:14-15.

8. Many are being tormented for unpaid debts, Matthew 18:21-35.

9. Turning away from God's Word will hinder, Proverbs 28:9.

10. Confessing sin to God will remove them, I John 1:9.

IX. WE SHOULD ASK GOD FOR SOME BIG THINGS.

1. There is nothing too hard for the Lord, Jeremiah 32:17.

2. The Lord has not changed regarding answers prayers, Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8.

3. Joshua ask for the sun to stand still for God's glory, Joshua 10:12-14.

4. Elijah prayed for fire that the people may know who is God, I Kings 18:36.

5. God invites us to ask for big things, Psalms 81:10; Jeremiah 33:3; Matthew 17:20; 21:21-23.

6. Big prayers prospers God's work.

7. Elisha ask for a double portion of God's Spirit and got it, II Kings 2:1-14.

Elijah performed eight miracles while living and Elisha performed sixteen. I will list the eight performed by Elijah and you find the sixteen performed by Elisha.

1. Fed by ravens, I Kings 17:1-6.

2. Widow's oil, I Kings 17:8-16.

3. Raised widow's son, I Kings 17:17-23.

4. Call fire down from Heaven, I Kings 18:36-38.

5. Fed by an angel, I Kings 19:5-7.

6. Call fire down from Heaven, II Kings 1:9-12.

7. Divides waters of Jordon, II Kings 2:8.

8. Went up to Heaven in whirlwind, II Kings 2:11.

WHAT IS SCRIPTURAL BAPTISM?

To be successful as a Christian one must be prepared to fight the forces of evil by putting on Christ in baptism. The Spirit will not lead into deeper truths until one becomes obedient. Christ was not baptized to become the Son of God—He was the Son of God. We are not baptized to be saved, but baptized because we are saved. Baptism does not wash away the filth of the flesh, I Peter 3:21. To please Him we must be baptized scripturally, Matthew 3:17.

I. A PERSON MUST HAVE SCRIPTURAL AUTHORITY.

1. John came with authority to baptize, John 1:33.
2. Christ was baptized by authority, Mark 1:9.
3. It was necessary for Christ and John to fulfill the scriptures, Matthew 3:15.
4. Christ gave the same authority to the church to go into all the world and baptize, Matthew 28:19-20.

II. A PERSON MUST BE A SCRIPTURAL SUBJECT.

1. Must be saved before baptism, Acts 2:41; 8:36-37.
2. Must be baptized into His death, Romans 6:3. (Many people have died in water—the candidate is buried in, and brought out by the proper administrator.)
3. Baptism is the only way into a Spirit led Church.
4. It will not save a soul, but will save a life, I Peter 3:21.

III. A PERSON MUST BE BAPTIZED IN A SCRIPTURAL PLACE.

1. Must be a place of much water. How much? Enough to represent a burial, John 3:23.
2. Enough water to come up and out of as Christ did, Mark 1:10.
3. John baptized in a river of much water, Mark 1:5.

IV. A PERSON MUST HAVE A SCRIPTURAL ADMINISTRATOR.

1. Must be an ordained Minister set aside by the church, Acts 13:2.
2. An ordained minister without church authority is no good.
3. The administrator must be the husband of one wife, Titus 1:6; therefore a woman minister cannot qualify.

HOW TO OBSERVE THE LORD'S SUPPER

Being this is a supper; then the best time to observe it is at night. I Corinthians 11:18-29; Mark 14:22; Luke 22:15; Matthew 26:26-29. Christ will take the supper again with us in the Father's kingdom, Matthew 26:29. It is a church ordinance and is restricted to the individual church.

I. RESTRICTED FOR SAVED PEOPLE OF THE CHURCH.

1. Must be born again individuals, John 3:3.
2. Must be baptized individuals, Acts 2:41.
3. It is a sin to eat before being baptized, I Corinthians 11:29.
4. Unworthily means eating and drinking in the wrong manner, I Corinthians 11:29.
5. Must be in the proper manner when the church comes together, I Corinthians 11:18-29.

II. RESTRICTED TO A SCRIPTURAL MOTIVE.

1. It must represent Christ's broken body and shed blood, I Corinthians 11:29.
2. Must not eat to satisfy our physical hungry, I Corinthians 11:21-22.
3. Must be unleavened bread, I Corinthians 11:21-22.
4. Must be the fruit of the vine, Luke 22:18.

III. WHEN SHOULD A CHURCH EAT THE LORD'S SUPPER.

1. Not to eat when there is heresy within the church, I Corinthians 11:19.
2. Not to eat if the church is not sound in the faith, Acts 2:42.
3. Not to eat when the church has disorderly members within, II Thessalonians 3:6.
4. A church must examine herself before eating, I Corinthians 5:8-13.
5. Individuals must examine self before eating, I Corinthians 11:28.

Chapter Six

THE QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES
OF DEACONS

INTRODUCTION: I have known deacons from early childhood and throughout my ministry. I find that they hold an important position in the New Testament Church. Deacons were placed in the Church by the Holy Spirit after Christ left the earth.

I. ARE DEACONS NEEDED TODAY? (Acts 6:1-7).

1. Would it affect the church if the office were abolished today?
2. The office is ill defined and misunderstood—why many don't serve.
3. The office of a pastor did not change when the office of a deacon was created.
4. The leadership of the Spirit gave rise to the office.
5. Deacons are needed to add force to leadership.
6. They are not needed as a board or bosses of the Church.
7. The Spirit suggested a solution to the twelve to stop some murmuring.
8. They were needed to:
 - (a) To free the minister to do a minister's work, (Prayer and ministry of the Word).
 - (b) To promote church harmony, (A deacon loses forever the privilege to engage in church disputes and forfeits the right to promote a division in the Church).
 - (c) Look out for the welfare of members, (There should be no forgotten members on the church roll).

II. QUALIFICATIONS FOR DEACONS: (I Timothy 3:8-13).

1. Honest report: (What the outside world will say about him).
2. Full of the Holy Spirit: (Covered in every part by the Spirit).
3. Full of Wisdom: (Not necessarily learned men, but willing to learn)
4. Full of Faith: (Men who are tied to God's apron string, regardless of the cost.
5. Business men: (Men who will recognize the Church is in business, Acts 6:3).
6. Not double tongued: (Men who talk one way and act another).
7. Not given to much wine: (How much? **The very appearance of wine is evil**, Proverbs 23:20).
8. Not greedy of filthy lucre: (**Not serving for money or what he can receive by being a deacon**).
9. Grave: (Not the shape of a man's face, but honorable).
10. Holding the mystery of faith: (Be a man of convictions).
11. Proved: (Be not too hasty to ordain, because the Church wants men who will work).
12. Be found blameless: (not perfect; but no charge of wrong doing).
13. Husband of one wife: (If married).

14. Ruling his own house: (Necessary to know how to lead the Church).

Just any man will not do, and the Spirit knew that. Men of little faith, little spirit, and little wisdom make poor deacons.

III. HOW TO BECOME A DEACON:

1. A man must be willing to be all that God wants him to be.
2. He must be determined to be the best deacon that he can be.
3. He must be dissatisfied with what he is.
4. He must be aware of the fact that what he can become is the result of spiritual growth.
5. Methods of selection:
 - (a) Nomination by deacons.
 - (b) Nomination by pastor.
 - (c) Nomination by a committee.
 - (d) Direct nomination by the congregation. (If anything goes wrong with the one selected, then no one is to blame, but the church).
6. There is no place in the church for a part-time deacon—no part-time love, devotion, giving, loyalty, or example).

IV. THE DEACON AND THE CHURCH ADMINISTRATION.

1. They sent relief to the Saints at Jerusalem, Acts 11:29-30.
2. Spiritual qualification is necessary to the handling of the church business, money, and property.
3. Personal soul-winning is necessary to be a good deacon.
4. Should have 20-20 vision toward organizing new churches.
5. Poor service is expected when a deacon will not attend Sunday school or Training Service.
6. Most deacons confess by the size of the church building that they do not expect people to attend with regularity. Most buildings will not hold the membership if they all came at one time.

VII. THE DEACON'S HOME. (Acts 21:8-9).

1. Can an unmarried deacon serve a Church? Yes, if unmarried deacons cannot serve then unmarried ministers cannot serve.
2. A deacon cannot serve with two wives.
3. Unmarried deacons should be careful who they marry, because they can ruin the position of a deacon. Unmarried men for the position of a deacon should be mature men—business men).
4. Deacon's wife:
 - (a) Not a slanderer; Men are prone to be double tongued, while women are more prone to slander.
 - (b) Grave; Be willing to share her husband to the services of the Church.

VIII. THE WAGES OF A DEACON.

1. The wages of a good deacon cannot be reported on income tax forms.
2. Good wages when deacons can see increase growth, Acts 6:7.
3. Good wages when people become obedient to faith, Acts 6:7.
4. Good wages when additions are being seen regularly, Acts 6:7.
5. Good wages when a deacon witnesses good fellowship.

IV. HOW MANY AND HOW LONG ARE DEACONS NEEDED?

1. The first Church selected seven. If seven is the required number, then a church without seven would be unscriptural. Seven means the complete number necessary to see after the necessary business of the Church.

2. The Holy Spirit omitted the number in Paul's letter to Timothy.
3. The size of the Church will determine the number of deacons.
4. The term of office:
 - (a) A life time service—once a deacon always a deacon.
 - (b) A Church can revoke a deacon by wrong conduct.
 - (c) Some churches rotate deacons when they have more than they can use.

(d) Other churches elect deacons on a yearly basis from the number they have.

(e) A Church can receive a man as a deacon but does not have to use until needed. The same thing would apply if a Church had more than one preacher. If the Church grows and more than one preacher is needed, the Church can call for the services of other ministers.

V. THE DEACON AND HIS WORSHIP SERVICE.

1. Can a deacon be recognized in a worship service?
2. Can aid the pastor in baptism and Lord's Supper.
3. Can greet visitors and recognize them.
4. Can make building comfortable for worship service.
5. Nothing a deacon can do will contribute more than his attendance.
6. Some deacons attendance at mid-week prayer service would create a stir.

GOD'S PLAN FOR FINANCING THE CHURCH

I Corinthians 9:7-14

God has ordained all things by His great foreknowledge. He left nothing without a plan to go by or which to operate. He has a plan for creation, a plan for the tabernacle, a plan for the Temple at Jerusalem, a plan for man's salvation, a plan for the church and its function, a plan for the Lord's Supper and baptism, and a plan for financing the church. All of this was planned for man's complete happiness.

Tithing is His plan for supporting the ministry. It existed before the law, Genesis 14:20; 28:22. This with other commandments were brought under the law because of its importance to the ministry. The ministry is full-time employment and should be supported as such, Acts 6:1-4. Man and his full-time service was demanded in the Tabernacle.

The Jews rejected the kingdom and it was given to the Gentiles. They tithed with types and shadows of the real thing to come. We have it today in reality—tithing is needed more now.

I. WILL A MAN ROB GOD? Malachi, 3:7-12.

1. Thieves held up a woman for \$800,000—it was called individual robbery.
2. Thieves robbed a bank of \$1,218,000—it was called corporation robbery.
3. Orville Hodge of Illinois misappropriated two and a half million dollars of government funds—it was called robbery of the Government.
4. Glen E. Smith of Toledo, Ohio, admitted robbing three thousand churches in thirty-five states netting twenty-five thousand dollars—it was called Church robbery.
5. The biggest crook in the world is one that will rob God.

II. GOD ISSUES THE CHARGES OF ROBBERY.

1. Lightness in facing our financial problem is good evidence.
2. "Ye have robbed me in tithes and offerings."
3. The robbery is an act—it takes place and is not given.
4. God is robbed of honor and the first fruits. Proverbs 3:9.
5. Spending God's money is dangerous—it has to be reclaimed as any other robbery.
6. God is not interested primarily in our money, but our lives.

III. GOD ISSUES A COMMAND TO BRING IT IN.

1. God said for you to bring it in—not the pastor or someone else.
2. God said it was holy and it belongs to Him, Leviticus 27:30.

3. We cannot rob God and honor Him at the same time.
4. The tithe is God's plan instead of drives, suppers, sales, etc.
5. Any man made plan will blight a church program.

IV. ISRAEL PAID TITHES AS COMMANDED.

1. They tithed of all their increased income, Deuteronomy 14:22.
2. The tithe was holy unto the Lord, Leviticus 27:30. Holy things do not become unholy.
3. God is holy; the Sabbath day is holy and the tithe is holy.
4. The priest lived off the tithe, Hebrews 7:5.

V. MAN HAS HIS OWN PLAN OF GIVING.

1. His plan blights and brings a curse upon man when carried out.
2. Give as a man purposeth in his heart, I Corinthians 16:1-2. This is for Saints and not for the ministry. Support for Saints comes above the tithes.
3. Some support Saints and needy organizations with tithe money denying the ministry.
4. Many give only when present—the ministry can suffer (Or will it?)

VI. EXCUSES MADE BY MAN FOR NOT TITHING.

1. I can not afford it. (What a shame—God has a plan for you).
2. It is too much to give. (No man can out-give the Lord).
3. It is under the law and we don't have to tithe—we are under grace. (It was done away with no more than ten commandments).
4. It was fulfilled at the cross, Col. 2:14. (Only ordinances and sacrifices were fulfilled, not tithing.)
5. Some will produce Matthew 23:23, and say Christ condemned tithing. He placed more value on soul salvation than tithing.

VII. GOD CHALLENGES US TO LET HIM LOVE US.

1. He asks you to prove Him—give God a chance at your life, Malachi 3:8-10.
2. The windows of heaven are closed to many this day by not proving.
3. God ordained a plan for us by which to live, I Corinthians, 9:14.
4. A cheerful giver is a cheerful liver—given so sweetly.
5. Many are running short by not taking God's part out first.
6. The more given the more you will have for personal income.
7. It will not be regretted in time or eternity.

VIII. PUNISHMENT FOR NOT TITHING.

1. It is a sin when we know what to do and do it not, James 4:17.
2. Many blessings will be withheld, Malachi, 3:10-12.

3. Many chastisements sent as a result of not tithing, Malachi 3:8-9; Amos 4:4-13.

4. Tithe money mis-spent is helping to build beautiful hospitals, etc. while the Church and its ministry are lacking.

IX. THE LESS WE GIVE THE LESS WE WILL HAVE.

1. Honor the Lord with the first fruits of all thine increase, Proverbs, 3:8-10.

2. If God can not be first, He will not be second.

3. Common sense tells us the reason many farmers do not have a large crop to gather—they sow sparingly, LISTEN!

PROVERBS 11:24-25: "There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to proverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself."

LUKE 6:38: "Give and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withall it shall be measured to you again."

HAGGI 1:6: "Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but he have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes."

HAGGI 1:9: "Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. WHY? saith the Lord of host. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye ruin every man unto his own house."

MATTHEW 6:19-20: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal."

Chapter Eight

AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH MANY THINGS

Mark 6:34

I. BEFORE ONE CAN TEACH SUCCESSFULLY HE MUST SEE PEOPLE.

1. See multitudes lost in sin as Christ saw them, He left this work of winning them in our hands.
2. Where can we find lost people to win them? Everywhere, in rural areas, cities, hospitals, jails, etc.
3. Who are the ones that are lost? They are our neighbors, our friends, relatives, and members of our families, etc.
4. Where are they going? They are going up and down in this earth as if to say, "No man cared for my soul," Psalms 142:4.
5. Does the church care enough to go out after them? Yes, but the church must be taught how to reach them.

II. BEFORE ONE CAN REACH PEOPLE HE MUST BE MOVED WITH COMPASSION.

1. God with His compassion wants to reach the masses through us, Psalms 86:15; 145:8.
2. Christ was moved with compassion when He saw the real condition of people, Matthew 9:36.
3. Christ cared enough to die for us. He ask us not to die, but to live for Him, Romans 5:8.
4. Spirit cares enough to go with us and convict men of their sin as we talk, I John 5:6.
5. God cared enough to give the Bible that we might use to point men to Christ, II Timothy 3:16; John 20:31.

III. WHY PEOPLE WILL NOT COME UNLESS WE CARE ENOUGH TO SEEK THEM.

1. They are under the penalty of sin and can not come, Romans 3:23; 6:23.
2. They are helpless to save themselves and must have help of people who are saved, Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5.
3. Satan considers a soul valuable. He will block all efforts by us to reach him with the Word. Matthew 16:26.
4. God has not commanded the sinner to come to us. The command is that we go to them, Psalms 126:6.

IV. WHAT WILL IT TAKE FOR US TO REACH PEOPLE?

1. Some facts and figures on what we are now doing or not doing.
2. Be willing to leave the ninety and nine and go out after the one that is lost rather than stay with the ninety and nine and forget the one that is lost, Matthew 12:11-12.
3. It will take a "Vision of lost people everywhere" to make us go, Proverbs 29:18.

V. WHAT WOULD JESUS DO IF HE WERE PASTOR OF YOUR CHURCH?

1. He would teach the people how to reach others, Mark 6:34; 1:17.
2. He would go out and compel them to come in that he would have a full house, Matthew 9:36-38.
3. He would provide plans for reaching all lost people possible in the community.
4. He would feed them when they came to His Church, Matthew 5:6.
5. He would organize his followers and provide space enough to care for them, Luke 9:12-17.
6. He would not stand back on the cost of reaching a soul, but would leave this message with his hearers, "I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; and no man cared for my soul," Psalms 142:4.

Church members fear the cost of reaching others. If a man were drowning would you consider the cost of your new suit to reach him? Providing more classes, more departments, and more space will enable the church to reach people. People can become discouraged when a building program fails to enlist others. A building alone will not draw people.

STUDY NOTES

Chapter Nine

WINNING OTHERS TO CHRIST

Stop just a moment! Do you really want to win someone to Christ? If you do not desire, there would be no need to read further. You must have a desire to win and then a desire to overcome your hinderances. Your first attempt may be somewhat crude, but you will have to grow in this effort. We must think of soul-winning to become a soul-winner, Proverbs, 23:7. Think of every person you meet as a lost sinner unless you can see proof that Christ lives in his life.

I. WE MUST NOT LOSE OUR FIRST LOVE, Revelation 2:4.

1. After being saved our first love was a desire for others to be saved.
2. One can lose this desire and cease to be a soul-winner.
3. Laymen cannot pay ministers to do their soul-winning any more than they can pay them to do their praying. No one would expect a captain to do the fighting for his men.
4. Majority of Church members have lost their soul-mindedness.
5. God is not pleased with the ninety-and-nine when they forget about the one that is lost.
6. To win others is the highest calling in this life. It is spiritual vitamins for a christian.

II. WE MUST FIGHT AND OVERCOME FEAR.

1. Fear is a deadly enemy to soul-winning.
2. Fear will squeeze the warmth and joy out of our hearts.
3. God's frequent word to us is "Fear Not," Genesis 15:1; Isaiah 41:10; Matthew 14:27; I John 4:18.
4. Of what are we afraid?
 - (a) The fear of not knowing how to win—become ashamed, Timothy, 2:14.
 - (b) We fear our inability—need to let God be the judge of that.
 - (c) We fear because of our inconsistent living.
 - (d) We fear, thinking we might drive the lost away.
 - (e) We fear ridicule, failure, what people might say about us trying being interested in them.
5. To overcome fear we must depend upon His promise, constant prayer, Bible study on how to win, and the leadership of the Spirit, John 15:5.

III. WE MUST PRESENT THE PLAN OF SALVATION.

1. Not necessary to know everything before we begin.
2. Your own experience is the greatest thing to use.
3. Four steps necessary to win a person to Christ:

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(a) Show him that he is a sinner and lost, Romans 3:23; 3:10; 5:8; 6:23.

(b) Show him that he cannot save himself, Ephesians 2:8; Titus 3:5.

(c) Show him that Christ is able to save him now, John 3:16; 3:18.

(d) Show him that Christ will save when he calls upon him, Romans 10:13.

4. After salvation show the new convert that he is secure forever, John 10:28.

5. A vision of Christ brings conviction. Leave it to the Spirit to convict. You're the brush by which the Spirit paints a picture of Christ.

IV. WE MUST CARRY THE CORRECT EQUIPMENT.

1. Carry a prayer list of persons seeking to win—date name when won.

2. Carry a testament with your scriptures plainly marked. Use it skillfully.

3. Carry appropriate tracts to leave if necessary.

4. Carry a good companion—you feel security when with strangers. Christ sent men out in groups of two, Mark 6:7; Luke 10:1.

5. Carry the presence of the Spirit with you for He will give confidence John 16:7.

V. WE MUST LEARN TO DEAL WITH DIFFICULTIES.

1. Know how to open the scriptures as Philip did, Acts 8:35.

2. Use the Word of God, for it is perfect, Psalms 19:7.

3. If they try to side-track you while talking, reply by saying, "remind me to explain that when I have finished."

4. Draw the unsaved out by asking questions—study him individually.

5. Try to answer any excuse with the Scriptures:

(a) I am afraid I cannot hold out, John 10:28-29; Hebrews 7:25.

(b) There are too many hypocrites in the church, John 21:21-22; Romans 14:12.

(c) I do not feel like trusting Christ now, Jeremiah 17:9; Revelations 3:20.

(d) I am not a bad sinner, Romans 3:10-23; John 3:17, 18, 36.

(e) I am too great a sinner, I Timothy 1:15; Luke 10:10.

(f) There is plenty of time for me to decide, Isaiah 55:6; Proverbs 29:1.

(g) I do not believe in a hell, Luke 16:23-26; Revelations 21:8.

(h) I do not believe in the Bible, Matthew 5:18; II Timothy 3:16.

(i) God is too good to send anyone to hell, Ezekiel 33:11; II Peter 3:9.

(j) I will accept Christ some day, but not now, Hebrews 2:1-3; Romans 5:6-8.

(k) I can not give up my evil habits, Luke 13:3; Hebrews 7:25; I Corinthians 10:31.

(l) I am doing the best I can, John 3:3; 3:17-18.

6. People will use excuses as a coverage for their sins, thinking you will leave them alone.

VI. WE MUST PAY THE PRICE AND REAP THE REWARD.

1. The price:

(1) A good christian character.

(2) Be able to endure criticism.

(3) Be a man of prayer.

(4) Be consistent in your Church life.

(5) Be surrendered to God's Will for your life.

2. The reward:

(1) Privilege to work with Christ, I Corinthians 15:58.

(2) Happiness in seeing changes in lives of others.

(3) Developing your own soul and growing in GRACE.

(4) Having joy both earthly and heavenly.

(5) Making friends for the heavenly habitation.

(6) Adding glory to our Lord Jesus Christ, II Thessalonians 2:19-20.

VII. HOW MUCH DO WE CARE FOR THE SOULS OF MEN.

1. God cared enough to give Christ as His unspeakable gift, John 3:16.

2. Christ cared enough to die for everyone, Romans 5:8.

3. The Spirit cares enough to work with men in reaching the lost, John 16:8; Romans 8:26.

4. God cared enough to give us the Bible, His Word, to impart unto lost humanity, John 10:31.

5. Do we care enough to give a little of our time to win them? Now it is depending upon us. Are we ready? Do lost people move you?

6. Is your Church meeting the needs of the people in your area?

7. Is your Church ready to minister to all the people or continue to minister and care for the few that will come?

8. Would we like to see God's house filled by going out and winning them as He desires for us to do? Luke 14:23.

HOW TO WIN OTHERS TO CHRIST

Soul-winning is not the work of the pastor alone, but the responsibility of every christian. It is the business of the whole church, not just a group. The first fruits of a christian is another christian. Have you any fruit? Your first step is to locate your prospect, study your prospect, and then go after him. There are three things a salesman deem necessary in selling: (1) Present your article. (2) Sell your article. (3) Close the sale.

I. HOW TO BEGIN WITH YOUR PROSPECT.

1. You may begin by talking about other things first and ask a lot of questions.
2. You may ask what church they attended before moving to this community. From this you will discover if they are christians.
3. You may ask if they have given much thought about their soul's condition. If called from this life today how would it be with you; soul?
4. You may ask if you could explain to them the plan of salvation. You may begin with your own experience, until your prospect warms up to his condition, by saying, "One day I was in your same condition. . ." Show them what is mean by being saved.

II. HOW TO LEAD YOUR PROSPECT TO ACCEPT CHRIST.

1. Would you like to be a Christian? If the answer is "yes," then proceed with the next question. If the answer is "no," then read a verse of scripture as Romans 3:23 or 3:26 and assure the person that you're interested in him and will continue to remember him in special prayer.
2. Would you like for me to show you how to be saved? Then take your Bible and use it skillfully according to the leadership of the Spirit. When using John 3:16 and Romans 10:13, place the person's name in "whosoever" and ask the following questions:
 - (1) Who did it say God loves?
 - (2) What did God give to the one he loves?
 - (3) How did God say you could have His Son?
 - (4) What did God say you would be saved from if you would accept His Son?
 - (5) Would you like to have this great gift now? Then I will show you how you can have it by calling on His name. Anything you desire in this world you have to ask to receive.

III. HOW TO GET YOUR PROSPECT TO PRAY FOR HIMSELF.

1. If your prospect expresses a desire he is ready to call, then turn to

Romans 10:13 and place his name in the place of "whosoever."

- (1) Who did God say could call upon His name and be saved?
- (2) Do you believe this is God's Word and that it is true?
- (3) Do you believe God would hear you if you should call upon Him now to save you?

(4) NOW, you lead the prayer asking the Spirit to show him how to be saved. After you have prayed ask him to pray and tell the Lord what he wants. It is best to have him pray aloud. You will be able to tell when the Lord saves a person and it will avoid more questions.

IV. HOW TO KNOW YOUR PROSPECT HAS BEEN SAVED.

1. Do you think the Lord has heard your prayers?
2. Has the burden been lifted from your heart?
3. If the answer is "yes," then read John 10:28 and assure him that he has eternal life and it can never be taken away from him.

STUDY NOTES

Chapter Eleven

HOW TO ENLIST AND DEVELOP CHURCH LEADERS

Leadership is guidance in directing a group to work together toward a desired end. It requires the acceptance of a common goal on part of the group and the leader. It is not forcing people to do what they do not want to do.

I. THE NEED FOR LEADERSHIP IS GREAT.

1. The Church through her leaders must preserve the way of living taught by Christ.
2. No other organization can do it like the Church.
3. A well organized Church will do more, go far, and reach many people.
4. The harvest is full, but the laborers are few, Matthew 9:37.
5. If there is not leadership there will be confusion.
6. The industrial world will pay large salaries and huge dividends for ideas that produce greater efficiency.

II. THE PROBLEM OF ENLISTING LEADERS.

1. To enlist and train leaders is not easy.
2. Reasons why many refuse to accept leadership:
 - (1) They lack confidence in self.
 - (2) They fail to understand the work to be done.
 - (3) They lack consecration.
 - (4) The Church fails in employing its members to work. It is one thing to enlist and another thing to put people to work.
3. We should ask the Lord to impress upon people to do things.

III. VARIOUS WAYS OF ENLISTING LEADERS.

1. The pastor can explain the work and workers needed from the pulpit.
2. Personal appeal can be made by going individually.
3. By assuring the leader guidance and help when needed.
4. By attaching appreciation and recognition to a job well done.
5. Any christian service can and must always be exalted.
6. Then last, God does things through prayer that seemingly cannot be done apart from prayer.

IV. DEVELOPING THE LEADER.

1. Christ went not to the Sanhedrin, but to ordinary man and said, "I

will make you. . .", Matthew 4:19.

2. Christ was not searching for leaders already made, but material to make them.

3. Anyone recognizing his failures will know what to do next time.

4. Men who succeed in this world did it in the face of hardships as Ford, Howe, Morse, Etc.

5. A worker must be willing to be taught as in worker's conferences, class meetings, etc.

6. Poor leaders will put off preparation until the last minute.

7. Be not content with doing things any way, but desire the best way.

8. Do not be afraid of doing more than your share.

9. When a class is dwindling do not blame others, but put the blame where it is due.

10. Do not let criticism get the best of you. Let it be a stepping-stone rather than a stumbling-block.

V. SOME PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP.

1. A leader must be sincere. People admire your sincerity if they don't agree with you.

2. A leader must be dependable or he will soon quit.

3. A leader must be humble or he will be overbearing and dominate.

4. A leader must think for himself and not be a "yes man."

5. A leader must be a person of prayer seeking God's guidance.

6. A leader must know the individuals with whom he works.

7. A leader must have 20-20 vision of he will develop spiritual blindness

STUDY NOTES

Chapter Twelve

THE TEACHER AT WORK

I. THE TEACHER'S POSITION.

1. It is a God given position, I Corinthians 12:28.

2. It must be a desired position. Your heart must be in it, Matthew 6:21.

3. Worker's conference, prayer meeting, Bible study and study clinics will not grow old when the heart is in it.

4. You have a position; you can go anywhere and teach as God directs.

II. THE TEACHER'S RESPONSIBILITY.

1. Is to plant the Word in hearts of each individual.

2. Is to prepare children for an early decision in Christ.

3. Is to do the Will of Him that sent me, John 8:29; 4:34.

4. Is the connecting link between the class and the Church.

5. Is placed upon them by the Church, Matthew 28:19-20.

6. Is to visit and build for Christ. Many attractions outside the Church attracts until people have to be invited to come.

III. THE TEACHER'S PREPARATION.

1. Form the habit of daily prayer for your class and Church.

2. Be sure to read your Bible daily.

3. Begin preparing lesson early in week and do not wait until Saturday night or Sunday morning.

4. Read monthly books related to your Sunday School.

5. Attend all training schools featured by your Church.

6. Spend at least one period each week in personal visitation.

7. Try to win at least one person weekly to Christ.

IV. THE TEACHER'S METHOD OF TEACHING.

1. The lecture method—it is the easiest in many respects.

2. The question-and-answer method—this will enable the teacher to know the need of the pupil.

3. The discussion method—the class shares in the discussion.

4. The forum method—this is a lecture followed by a discussion period.

The following method might be typical in your Church. It will account for a diminishing class and a discouraged teacher.

LESSON TOPIC:
JESUS PASSING THROUGH SAMARIA

Teacher: What is the title of today's lesson? Pupils: Jesus passing through Samaria.

Teacher: Very good. Now what place did Jesus pass through?

Pupils: Samaria.

Teacher: Exactly. Now what was Jesus doing in Samaria?

Pupils: Passing through.

Teacher: Now you know your lesson. You are dismissed.

Pupils: Goodbye, teacher.

STUDY NOTES

Chapter Thirteen

WHAT CHRIST EXPECTS OF EVERY
SUNDAY SCHOOL

Christ expects every Sunday School to grow. He has all power in heaven and earth to make it grow. He can enable us to do anything we see the need of doing and let Him help us, Matthew 28:19-20. He ask us to pray the Lord of harvest for more labourers, Luke 10:2.

I. WHY EVERY SUNDAY SCHOOL SHOULD GROW.

1. It has no boundaries and everything is at our disposal to use as a means to have a full house.
2. "Whosoever Will May Come," but they must be invited.
3. Multitudes are without Christ; we have the message they need.
4. The Spirit is ready to take the Word and help us to compel them to come in that the "House of the Lord" might be full, Luke 14:23.

II. WHAT EVERY SUNDAY SCHOOL NEEDS TO HAVE, GROWTH.

1. Need plenty of space for class work. It is difficult to "put-right" Sunday school in a wrong building. it is difficult for a Sunday school to grow beyond its space. A Sunday school will take shape of the building it occupies.
2. Need at least one teacher for each ten pupils in a room no smaller than 10' by 12'.
3. Need departments and departmental workers to meet pupil's age level. This will call for more workers.
4. Need maps, blackboards, etc., and proper furniture that will attract and be comfortable.
5. Need more trained workers while thousands stand idle, Matthew 20:1-11.

III. THE LAW THAT WILL GOVERN GROWTH IN A SUNDAY SCHOOL.

1. More than ten pupils to a class will hinder growth.
2. New classes need to be organized often.
3. Fruit usually comes from new growth on a tree—as roses.
4. Limited number of people is no excuse for growing a strong Sunday school.
5. Following the leadership of the Spirit to discover new ideas.
6. Setting up working units, departments, new classes, enlisting others, training more workers, and a visitation program.
7. Establish a grading system for people of same age level.

8. Grading system provides for an annual promotion day in Sunday school.

9. Visitation will influence people to Sunday school.

10. We must show them through Spirit that they are wanted at the Church.

It is a serious matter for a Church to consider newborn babes in Christ as being full-grown. It is a tragedy for Christians to have this conception. After regeneration the work of the Church is to develop spiritual babes into full-grown spiritual men and women by the use of the Word. So many still do not know very much about the Bible.

STUDY NOTES

Chapter Fourteen

CHURCH VISITATION PROGRAM

Discouragement can be removed from the one visiting and the one visited. Jesus told His disciples to go and He would be with them, Matthew, 18:19-20. Actually, the word "Mission" is derived from the Latin language and it means "visit."

I. WHEN DID VISITATION START?

1. It began in the garden of Eden.
2. God visited many of our forefathers as is recorded in the Bible.
3. Christ made a visit to calvary.
4. Visitation was the method Christ used in the early Church, Matthew 9:35.
5. Christ visited in the homes of people and performed the first miracle in a home where there were people.
6. He sent His disciples into homes of people, Matthew 10:6; 10:12; and Luke 10:5.
7. He visited family groups to encourage them as Martha and Mary.
8. Churches were established as a direct result of visitation, Acts 16:9.
9. Visitation has built large churches and spread christianity.

II. DEVELOPING A SYSTEMATIC PROGRAM.

1. Make your visit in interest of the Church.
2. The pastor should supervise the visitation program.
3. Examine the Church membership rolls for prospects.
4. Contact visitors signing cards in regular services.
5. Check the homes of those enrolled in Church and you will find buried treasures for the Sunday school.
6. Establish a set time to visit.

III. HOW TO MAKE A VISITATION PROGRAM EFFECTIVE.

1. It must be a permanent program, periodic visitation will not suffice.
2. Give it adequate publicity in bulletin, and from the pulpit.
3. Visit the absentees weekly.
4. Visit the sick and shut-ins. They will come back when they can.
5. Visit the new prospects—they plan to go somewhere.
6. Visit the faithful members in time of trouble.
7. Give instructions at the time of visitation and about every six weeks pull in for discussion of problems.

IV. HOW TO VISIT.

1. We have to learn to make impressive contacts.
2. Time your visit effectively—make the proper approach.
3. Guide your conversation by warming up your prospect.
4. Make a smooth transition and do it naturally in your conversation.
5. Make an appeal and get a committment.
6. Make a graceful exit. Do not shake the dust-off-your-feet. Do not give up.
7. Check your visitation for results.

V. WHY WE SHOULD VISIT.

1. We should visit to enlarge our Sunday school, prayer meeting, Church worship, and all phases of the Church, Luke 14:23; Proverbs 29:18.
2. We should visit to improve our teaching.
3. We should visit to win the lost, Daniel 12:3.
4. We should visit to render spiritual assistance to Christians, Matthew, 25:35-36.
5. We should visit because we love to visit.
6. We should visit for results and not to kill time.

STUDY NOTES

Chapter Fifteen

THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

The Church is in the world for a purpose. Christ commanded them in Matthew 28:20, to "Teach them to observe all things." It is one thing to teach a child there is a "Stop" sign, and another thing to teach him to observe the "Stop" sign. The average Church is experiencing "Labor Trouble" and loss of man hours on the job. We need better organized work and this calls for leadership. This great mission cannot be left successfully in the hands of a few.

I. OBSERVE WHAT THE CHURCH IS.

1. It is more than a building of stone, wood and elaborate organization. I Peter 2:5.
2. It is not to be used as a fire-escape from hell, Matthew 7:22-23; Luke 13:18-19.
3. It is a progressive organization still in a building stage, "I will build," Matthew 16:18.
4. It is a place for soul winning and spiritual fellowship, Acts 2:42.
5. It is the only organization having the authority to teach, Matthew 28:19-20.

II. OBSERVE WHY THE CHURCH EXIST.

1. To fulfill a mission that is requested by Christ, "Teach all nations. . ." Matthew 28:19.
2. He will draw all men to Him if we will lift Him up, John 12:32.
3. To serve as an Educational institution to teach, I Timothy 4:11-15.
4. A place for Christians to find rest, Matthew 11:30.

III. OBSERVE THE WORK OF THE EARLY CHURCH.

1. It had power because their disciples were followers in the sense of learners.
2. Christ used ordinary men (unlearned at the job) to teach the way of living.
3. They were always students and never graudated. Their meetings were informal and many times under a tree.
4. They found that teaching enlarged their tent, Isaiah 54:2.

IV. OBSERVE THE HARVEST FIELD OF OUR DAY.

1. 86% of all converts are saved under 21 years of age.
2. 53% of America belongs to some kind of a Church.

3. About 23% of America are enrolled in Sunday school from 246 denominations.

4. Only one person out of 5,000 becomes a Christian after the age of 18.

5. Only one person out of 25,000 becomes a Christian after the age of 25.

V. OBSERVE OUR NEED TODAY.

1. More labors need for the harvest field, Matthew 9:37-38.
2. Better organized Sunday schools that will reach people.
3. More trained leaders to deal with the souls of men for eternity.
4. Better Church buildings equal to the homes of the community.

VI. OBSERVE WHY MANY REFUSE TO ACCEPT LEADERSHIP.

1. Their responsibility is not explained to them.
2. They lack confidence in self to perform the work.
3. They let "besetting" sins make them indifferent.
4. They lack consecration—trying to serve world and Church at same time.
5. They were not challenged to work—they stood idle throughout the years since salvation.

STUDY NOTES

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