

"I KNOW SOMETHING GOOD"

Manual

Lessons in Soul winning with
Laws for Finding the "Path to the Heart"

Compiled

By

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"God's plan is first to get at the heart." Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 400

"Christ crucified; talk it, pray it, sing it, and it will break and win hearts." Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 67

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I Know Something Good!

"GOOD SUCCESS"

A most thrilling experience came to us only a few days ago. A lady who had backslidden from Christ, recently came to our classes where we studied the laws of soul winning contained in this text book. She found a new life, and immediately began to lovingly labor for her relatives and friends.

A letter from her this past week was full of enthusiasm and appreciation for the principles she had learned in the soul winning classes. As she began to put these laws into effect, some of her most prejudiced loved ones almost immediately turned to the Lord: It was amazing!

The promise of the Lord was fulfilled in her life: "But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night . . . and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." The law referred to here is the Book—the Bible, containing the laws of all human behaviour, including the laws of soul winning. To conform to these laws brings prosperity in winning others to Christ. In Joshua 1:8 we are assured that if we meditate upon these rules, we shall have "good success."

This lady is having wonderful success because she has learned wonderful principles which guide her in her soul winning efforts. No longer is she planning to work for souls by impulse, or force, but by the laws of redemption; not by nagging or condemning, but by Bible principles. You too will have "good success", and whatsoever you do to win your friends "shall prosper" as you meditate upon the laws of soul winning contained in the great and wonderful Book—the Bible. As you follow the lessons in this text-book, may you with others exclaim, "when law is love, duty is delight."

PURPOSE OF THIS MANUAL

The purpose of the lessons in this manual is to prepare God's people for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and to participate in reaping earth's last great spiritual harvest.

Before Pentecost, came the unity of God's children. Before the last great season of refreshing the latter rain there will again be displayed the spirit of complete unity and harmony among God's people. The prayer of Christ "that they may be one, even as we are one," will then be answered. This spirit of unity and harmony creates an atmosphere in which the Spirit of God can operate. The conversion of men and women from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of His dear Son, will be the result.

We strongly urge that these lessons be studied and perused oftenonce every month would not be too often. Ample space has been provided for personal notations, both in the margins and at the close of each lesson.

And may the Spirit of the living God enlighten the minds of all who study and seek for more effective and Christlike methods of soul-winning.

- - - The Author

LESSON I

"JESUS ONLY"

The Central Law of Soul winning

I. The Secret of Winning 3,000 in a Day

1. As the glorious scene of Christ's transfiguration faded away, Whom only did the disciples see?

"And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only." Matthew 17:8.

"Jesus only—in these words is contained the secret of the life and power that marked the history of the early church." Acts of the Apostles, p. 64.

2. What experience was needed to prepare them to present "Jesus only"?

"Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me." Acts 1:8.

"Why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Spirit, since this is the means by which we are to receive power: Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, preach concerning it? The Lord is more willing to give the Holy Spirit to us than parents are to give good gifts to their children." Testimonies, Vol. 8, p. 22.

"For the daily baptism of the Spirit, every worker should offer his petition to God." Acts of the Apostles, p. 50.

3. How many were added unto the early church in one day?

"And the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." Acts 2:41, last part.

II. Always the Secret

1. Whom are we invited to behold, and why?

"Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29, last part.

2. What is said to be the secret of the success of the life of Moses?

"For he endured, as seeing him who is invisible." Hebrews 11:27, last part.

"Moses did not merely think of God, he saw Him. God was the constant vision before him. Never did he lose sight of His face." Education, p. 63.

3. What is the result of continually looking to God?

"Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth." Isaiah 45:22.

4. As we teach individuals to look to Jesus for forgiveness and cleansing, what also must we teach them to do?

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9.

5. How can we teach men they may be kept from sin?

"I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved." Psalms 16:8.

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"When the disciples first heard the words of Christ, they felt their need of Him. They sought, they found, they followed Him. They were with Him in the temple, at the table, on the mountain-side, in the field. ... After the Saviour's ascension, the sense of the divine presence, full of love and light, was still with them. IT WAS PERSONAL PRESENCE." Acts of the Apostles, pp. 64, 65.

III. Men Are Saved as They Become Acquainted with Jesus

1. Through knowledge of Whom does eternal life come?

"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." John 17:3.

2. What will Christ declare of those who are lost?

"Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Matthew 7:22, 23.

IV. Satan's Desire Is to Deceive the World

1. How are men lost?

"And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth." Revelation 13:14, first part.

2. What caused Eve to sin?

"Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression." 1 Timothy 2:14.

V. Doctrine and Jesus Go Together—they Cannot be Separated

1. Should we attempt to teach doctrine without Jesus?

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life." John 14:6.

2. What statement shows that all doctrine, when properly presented, is truth about Christ?

"I say the truth in Christ." Romans 9:1.

"Christ presented the principles of truth in the gospel." Testimonies, Vol. 8, p. 309.

"Let the repenting sinner fix his eyes upon 'the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world;' and by beholding, he becomes changed." Desire of Ages, p. 439.

3. What statement shows that it is necessary to have the "truth of Christ"—not merely abstract doctrine?

"As the truth of Christ is in me." 2 Corinthians 11:10.

4. What shows that it is not abstract truth which we are commissioned to give?

"I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not." 1 Timothy 2:7.

VI. Our Need Today

1. What invitation is extended to the church of Laodicea by a Christ who is kept outside?

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Revelation 3:20.

Reflection

Jesus declared that there is none good but one, and that is God. If, therefore, we would begin the philosophy of "I Know Something Good," we must begin with God. In the foregoing lesson we have learned that the disciples of Jesus, by beholding Him, carrying His personal presence with them, were able to live positive, happy and joyful lives. Threatenings, imprisonment, persecution, none of these could check their happiness.

Shall it not be our rule of life to so set Christ before our eyes that we shall no longer behold the weaknesses, faults and sins of others, but that we shall, by beholding Christ, be changed into positive, happy, joyful Christians?

LESSON II

"ENAMORED" WITH JESUS

How the Law of Choice Operates

I. Christ Is Altogether Lovely

1. How is Christ described by the wise man?

"His mouth is most sweet: yea, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend." Song of Solomon 5:16.

II. We Are to Learn Christ's Way of Winning Souls

1. How successful was Christ in attracting audiences?

"There was gathered unto him a great multitude." Mark 4:1.

2. What was Christ's favorite theme?

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

"Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." Psalms 103:13.

"Christ's favorite theme was the paternal character and abundant love of God. This knowledge of God was Christ's own gift to men, and this gift He has committed to His people to be communicated by them to the world." Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 55.

3. What invitation does Jesus give to His followers?

"Come ... learn of me." Matthew 11:28, 29.

"Those who will study the manner of Christ's teaching, and educate themselves to follow His way, will attract and hold large numbers now, as Christ held the people in His day." Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 57.

4. What was the result of the early church following Christ's method?

"And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women." Acts 5:14.

"The church beheld converts flocking to her from all directions. Backsliders were reconverted. Sinners united with believers in seeking the pearl of great price. Some who had been the bitterest opponents of the gospel became its champions." Acts of the Apostles, p. 48.

III. We Must Recognize the Law of Choice

1. How does the Lord make clear to us that we are not to exert human pressure in seeking to cause people to serve the Lord?

"Choose you this day whom ye will serve." Joshua 24:15.

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." Philippians 2:5.

"Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God." Romans 12:1, 2.

IV. We are Not to Use Fear, or Other Methods of Human Pressure

1. What does the Lord teach us concerning efforts to try to frighten people into making decisions for Christ?

"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love." 1 John 4:18.

"The young are often urged to do duty, to speak or pray in meeting; urged to die to pride. Every step they are urged. Such religion is worth nothing." Testimonies, Vol. 1, p. 162.

"Love to God is the very foundation of religion. To engage in his service merely from hope of reward or fear of punishment, would avail nothing. Open apostasy would not be more offensive to God than hypocrisy and mere formal worship." Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 523.

V. Christ's Method was to Make Truth So Attractive that People Would Choose It.

1. Whose way shall we follow in our efforts to win souls: Our's, of frightening, belittling, denouncing; or Christ's?

"I am the way." John 14:6.

"Learn of me." Matthew 11:29.

2. What does the Bible say is the Lord's way of securing the choice of the sinner?

"I will allure her, ... and speak comfortably unto her." (Margin: "to her heart, or, friendly") Hosea 2:14.

"His blessings He presents in the most alluring terms. He is not content merely to announce these blessings; He presents them in the most attractive way, to excite a desire to possess them." Desire of Ages, p. 826.

"If Christ be in us the hope of glory, we shall discover such matchless charms in him that the soul will be enamored." Testimonies, Vol. 1, p. 162.

"If we are Christ's, our sweetest thoughts will be of Him. We shall love to talk of Him; and as we speak to one another of His love, our hearts will be softened by divine influences." Desire of Ages, p. 83.

"This is the theme of conversation—the preciousness of Christ." Testimonies to Ministers, p. 81.

VI. We Must Change Our Methods of Soul -winning to Conform to Those Christ Used

1. What does the Bible say should be done with evil methods?

"Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness." Romans 13:12.

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"That religion which will not exert a regenerating power upon the world, is of no value. We cannot trust it for our own salvation. The sooner we cast it away the better; for it is powerless and spurious." Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 389.

"The ambition of the believers was to reveal the likeness of Christ's character. Acts of the Apostles, p. 48.

VII. The Holy Spirit Our Guide

1. How only can we win in the great struggle to allure sinners to Christ?

"But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me." John 15:26.

"My brethren and sisters, plead for the Holy Spirit. God stands back of every promise He has made. With your Bibles in your hands, say: 'I have done as Thou hast said. I present Thy promise, 'Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.'" Testimonies, Vol. 8, p. 23.

Reflection

Would you like to join the author in the resolve to never belittle, over-urge, or denounce people; but on the other hand, to reflect Jesus in all His beauty in such a manner as will woo others to Him?

LESSON III

JESUS PREPARES YOU

The Law of Humility in Action

I. Christ Reveals Importance of Humility

1. How did Jesus emphasize the importance of humility?

"I can of mine own self do nothing." John 5:30.

2. How important is it that we assume Christ's attitude:

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Philippians 2:5-8.

3. Why is it essential for soul-winners to come down, in attitude, to the level of those for whom they labor?

"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." Hebrews 2:14, 15.

II. First Lesson to be Learned by Soul-winners

1. How did Peter express his humility, and with what result?

"I am a sinful man, O Lord," exclaimed Peter. Luke 5:8.

"Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men," replied Jesus. Verse 10.

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2. When Isaiah caught a real picture of Christ, and of self, how did he express his humility,, and with what result?

"Woe is me: for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips," Isaiah exclaimed. Isaiah 6:5.

Then God said, "Go." Isaiah 6:9.

3. When Daniel recognized the presence of God, how did he show his humility, and with what result?

"My comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength," declared Daniel. Daniel 10:8.

And the answer came back, "O Daniel, a man greatly beloved." Daniel 10:11.

III. Humility—A Condition of Success

1. When God looks for channels of blessing, to what class does He turn?

"Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: . . . but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word." Isaiah 66:1, 2.

"The Lord can work most effectually through those who are most sensible of their own insufficiency, and who will rely upon Him as their leader and source of strength. He will make them strong by uniting their weakness to His might, and wise by connecting their ignorance with His wisdom."Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 553.

"The first thing to be learned by all who would become workers together with God is the lesson of self-distrust; then they are prepared to have imparted to them the character of Christ."Desire of Ages, p. 250.

"The tenor of the Bible is to inculcate distrust of human power and to encourage trust in divine power."Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 717.

"Only through realizing our own weakness and looking steadfastly unto Jesus can we walk securely."Desire of Ages, p. 382.

"The most childlike disciple is the most efficient in labor for God. The heavenly intelligences can cooperate with him who is seeking, not to exalt self, but to save souls." Desire of Ages, p. 436.

"You who feel the most unworthy, fear not to commit your case to God."Christ's Object Lessons, p. 177.

2. What did Jesus say of the high standing of John the Baptist?

"Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist." Matthew 11:11.

3. What spirit of self-distrust characterized John's life? "Whose shoes I am not worthy to bear." Matthew 3:11.

"John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven. . . . He must increase, but I must decrease." John 3:27-30.

"Those who have had the deepest experience in the things of God, are the farthest removed from pride or self-exaltation. They have the humblest thoughts of self, and the most exalted conceptions of the glory and excellence of Christ. They feel that the lowest place in His service is too honorable for them."Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 223.

4. How was the apostle Paul highly honored by the Lord?

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"I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord ... such an one caught up to the third heaven." 2 Corinthians 12:1, 2.

5. How did this greatest of New Testament missionaries view himself?

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." 1 Timothy 1:15.

6. How great a prophet was Moses?

"And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face." Deuteronomy 34:10.

7. And yet how meek was he?

"Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth." Numbers 12:3.

8. What spirit of the Master is to be learned?

"Come unto me, . . . and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart." Matthew 11:28-30.

"It is love of self that brings unrest." Desire of Ages, p. 330.

9. What will bring true rest to the soul?

"My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest." Exodus 33:14.

IV. How Self-Renunciation Is Acquired

1. Is it possible for us to empty ourselves of self?

"O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Jeremiah 10:23.

"But no man can empty himself of self." Christ's Object Lessons, p. 161.

2. What is our part in getting rid of self?

"Yield yourselves unto God." Romans 6:13.

"We can only consent for Christ to accomplish the work. Then the language of the soul will be, 'Lord, take my heart; for I cannot give it. It is Thy property. Keep it pure, for I cannot keep it for Thee. Save me in spite of myself, my weak, un-Christlike self. Mold me, fashion me, raise me into a pure and holy atmosphere, where the rich current of Thy love can flow through my soul.'" Christ's Object Lessons, p. 161.

3. How often must this surrender of self be made to God?

"I die daily." 1 Corinthians 15:31, last part.

"It is not only at the beginning of the Christian life that this renunciation of self is to be made. At every advance step heavenward it is to be renewed. All our good works are dependent on a power outside of ourselves. Therefore there needs to be a continual reaching out of the heart after God, a continual, earnest, heartbreaking confession of sin and humbling of the soul before Him. Only by constant renunciation of self and dependence on Christ can we walk safely." Christ's Object Lessons, p. 161.

V. How the Humble Soul-winner Acts

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1. How will humility cause the soul winner to relate himself to others?

"Honour all men." 1 Peter 2:17.

"Let each esteem other better than themselves." Philippians 2:3.

"Speak evil of no man." Titus 3:2.

"If they would cherish true humility, the Lord could do much more for His people; but there are few who can be trusted with any large measure of responsibility or success without becoming self-confident, and forgetful of their dependence upon God. This is why, in choosing the instruments for his work, the Lord passes by those whom the world honors as great, talented, and brilliant. They are too often proud and self-sufficient. They feel competent to act without counsel from God." Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 553, 554.

VI. Guidance Is Promised

1. When we thus renounce self, what great promise has God given to us?

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones." Proverbs 3:5-7

"Every one must now search the Bible for himself upon his knees before God, with the humble, teachable heart of a child, if he would know what the Lord requires of him." Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 214.

2. What was it that made the disciples adequate?

"When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth." John 16:13.

"The Holy Spirit did for them that which they could not have accomplished for themselves in a lifetime." Acts of the Apostles, pp. 39, 40.

"Morning by morning, as the heralds of the gospel kneel before the Lord and renew their vows of consecration to Him, He will grant them the presence of His Spirit, with its reviving, sanctifying power. As they go forth to the day's duties, they have the assurance that the unseen agency of the Holy Spirit enables them to be 'laborers together with God.'" Acts of the Apostles, p. 56.

3. What is God's promise to all who distrust self and rely wholly upon Him?

"The Lord put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth." Jeremiah 1:9.

4. What is God's command?

"Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say." Exodus 4:12.

Reflection

Since nothing is so offensive to God as pride and self-sufficiency, is it your determination, with the author, to keep self low at the foot of the cross, and make the following rule your own?

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Philippians 4:8.

LESSON IV

JESUS—THE ARGUMENT

The Law of Persuasion Through Love

I. The Great Argument

1. How did Christ state the great key to soul winning:

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35.

"A kind, courteous Christian is the most powerful argument that can be produced in favor of Christianity." Gospel Workers, p. 122.

"The strongest argument in favor of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian." Ministry of Healing, p. 470.

"Men may combat and defy our logic, they may resist our appeals; but a life of disinterested love is an argument they cannot gainsay. A consistent life, characterized by the meekness of Christ, is a power in the world." Desire of Ages, p. 142.

2. What relation to Christ does the church have?

"Now ye are the body of Christ." 1 Corinthians 12:27.

3. What kind of harmony in the body will convince the world that we are actually the people of God?

"I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me." John 17:23.

"The secret of our success in the work of God will be found in the harmonious working of our people. There must be concentrated action. Every member of the body of Christ must act his part in the cause of God, according to the ability that God has given him. We must press together against obstructions and difficulties, shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart." Review and Herald, December 2, 1890.

"If the world sees a perfect harmony existing in the church of God, it will be a powerful evidence to them in favor of the Christian religion." Testimonies, Vol. 4, p. 19.

II. Christ Set Us an Example in Soul-winning

1. How did Christ set us an example in soul winning?

"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example that ye should follow his steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously." 1 Peter 2:21-23.

"In the advocacy of truth the bitterest opponents should be treated with respect and deference." Gospel Workers, p. 373.

2. When Christ was reviled by the devil, how did He respond?

"Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation." Jude 9.

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"Remember that you are to represent Christ in His meekness and gentleness and love," Gospel Workers, p. 372.

3. What is Christ to us?

"For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you." John 13:15,

"Let the prayer constantly ascend, 'Lord, teach me how to do as Jesus would do, were He in my place.'" Gospel Workers, p. 373.

III. Early Christians Presented Jesus

1. What kind of an argument did the early disciples use to combat prejudice?

"And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see." John 1:46.

2. When Nathanael met Jesus and conversed with Him a few moments, what did he exclaim?

"Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the king of Israel." John 1:49.

3. When the early church was persecuted, what did their enemies have to admit?

"And they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus." Acts 4:13.

"They were of 'one accord', 'of one heart and of one soul'. Christ filled their thoughts; the advancement of His kingdom was their aim. In mind and character they had become like their Master." Acts of the Apostles, P. 437

IV. Reward of the Spirit

1. If we display the meekness of Christ toward the bitterest opponents, what may we expect God to do?

"And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth." 2 Timothy 2:24, 25.

2. For what aid may we look to God?

"If I depart I will send him (the Comforter) unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." John 16:7, last part, verse 8.

"The Saviour knew that no argument, however logical, would melt hard hearts, or break through the crust of worldliness and selfishness. He knew that His disciples must receive the heavenly endowment." Acts of the Apostles, p. 31.

"The Spirit is given as a regenerating agency, to make effectual the salvation wrought by the death of our Redeemer. The Spirit is constantly seeking to draw the attention of men to the great offering that was made on the cross of Calvary, to unfold to the world the love of God, and to open to the convicted soul the precious things of the Scriptures.

"Having brought conviction of sin, and presented before the mind the standard of righteousness, the Holy Spirit withdraws the affections from the things of this earth, and fills the soul with a desire for holiness." Acts of the Apostles, pp. 52, 53.

Reflection

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A great preacher was once asked by a Christian woman, who stated that she had talked and talked and talked to her husband about being a Christian, just what he would advise her to do more than she had done.

To her question, the wise preacher replied, "Lady, if I were you, I would talk to God more about my husband than to my husband about God."

"The harmony and unity of the church are the credentials that they present to the world that Jesus is the Son of God." Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 279.

"The consistent life, the patient forbearance, the spirit unruffled under provocation, is always the most conclusive argument and the most solemn appeal." Ministry of Healing, p. 49.

LESSON V

JESUS—NOT CONDEMNATION

The Law of Positiveness

I. Christ's Mission

1. How does Christ sum up His mission?

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

2. For what purpose did He not come?

"For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." John 3:17.

"The Lord wants His people to follow other methods than that of condemning wrong, even though the condemnation is just." Gospel Workers, p. 373.

II. Classes Christ Did Not Condemn

1. Name some of the classes of individuals Christ has forbidden us to condemn.

a. Christians of other groups than our own. Mark 9:38-4C. b. Christians of our own group. Romans 14:13. c. Those who have fallen into sin. John 8:3-11. d. Anyone who preaches the Word of God. 1 Timothy 5:17, 19.

III. Classes Christ Does Condemn

1. Those who condemn others. Matthew 7:1, 2; Romans 2:1.

a. They are guilty also of hypocrisy. Matthew 7:5.

b. All judgment is committed to Christ. John 5:22.

c. Therefore, those who try to take His place are associated with anti-christ.

2 Thessalonians 2:2-4; 1 John 2:18.

2. Those who "debate" and have "strife" and oppress others, we are to "cry aloud" against and "spare not." Isaiah 58:1, 4.

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3. The proud, self-satisfied, etc. Proverbs 6:16-19; Revelation 3:14-20.

4. Not the sinner, but the sin. Romans 8:3.

IV. Christ Understood

1. How did Christ show the woman of Samaria that He knew all about her life?

"For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband." John 4:18.

2. Instead of condemning her for this unfortunate life, what did Jesus do for her?

"The woman saith unto him, I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ: . . . Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he." John 4:25, 26.

"Jesus had convinced her that He read the secrets of her life; yet she felt that He was her friend, pitying and loving her. While the very purity of His presence condemned her sin, He had spoken no word of denunciation, but had told her of His grace, that could renew the soul." *Desire of Ages*, p. 189.

3. Do we have a record of Jesus ever revealing Himself in this way to the Pharisees?

"I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes." Matthew 11:25.

"The plain statement made by Christ to this woman could not have been made to the self-righteous Jews. . . . That which had been withheld from the Jews, and which the disciples were afterward enjoined to keep secret, was revealed to her." *Desire of Ages*, p. 190.

4. In what words does the Bible picture Christ's understanding of our pitiful condition?

"Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust." Psalms 103:13, 14.

V. Christ Kept Alive the Spark of Self-respect

1. How did Christ value the human soul?

"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Mark 8:36.

"When one at fault becomes conscious of his error, be careful not to destroy his self-respect." *Ministry of Healing*, p. 167.

"Most pitiable is the condition of him who is suffering under remorse; he is as one stunned, staggering, sinking into the dust. He can see nothing clearly. The mind is beclouded, he knows not what steps to take. Many a poor soul is misunderstood, unappreciated, full of distress and agony, a lost, straying sheep. He can not find God; yet he has an intense longing for pardon and peace.

"O, let no word be spoken to cause deeper pain: To the soul weary of a life of sin, but knowing not where to find relief, present the compassionate Saviour." *Ministry of Healing*, p. 168.

VI. The Human Heart Longs to be Understood

1. What expression of Job shows that he longed for his friends to understand rather than to condemn him?

"Miserable comforters are ye all. Shall vain words have an end? or what emboldeneth thee that thou answerest? I also could speak as ye do: if your soul were in my soul's stead, I could heap up words

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against you, and shake mine head at you. But I would strengthen you with my mouth, and the moving of my lips should assuage your grief." Job 16:2-5.

2. How did David express his belief that humanity's sin is that of condemnation?

"Let me not fall into the hand of man." 2 Samuel 24:14, last part.

"The inhumanity of man toward man is our greatest sin. Many think that they are representing the justice of God, while they wholly fail of representing His tenderness and His great love. Often the ones whom they meet with sternness and severity are under the stress of temptation. Satan is wrestling with these souls, and harsh, unsympathetic words discourage them, and cause them to fall a prey to the tempter's power." Ministry of Healing, p. 163.

3. For what did Solomon make request of God?

"Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart." 1 Kings 3:9.

4. Did Solomon's request please God, and did He grant his request?

"And the speech pleased the Lord. . . . And God said unto him, . . . Behold, I have done according to thy words." 1 Kings 3:10-12.

"And remember that if by your spirit or your words you close the door to even one soul, that soul will confront you in the judgment." Gospel Workers, p. 374.

"One drop of gall in it will be poison to the hearer or the reader. Because of that drop of poison, one will discard all your good and acceptable words." Gospel Workers, p. 375.

VII. How to Bring the Tempted Soul to Christ

1. What invitation of Christ are we to extend to the sin-weary heart?

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28.

"And let him that heareth say come." Revelation 22:17.

"Everywhere men are unsatisfied. They long for something to supply the need of the soul. Only One can meet that want." Desire of Ages, p. 187.

"Go to Him, saying, 'Lord, my burdens are too heavy for me to carry. Wilt thou bear them for me? I And He will answer: 'I will take them. With everlasting kindness will I have mercy upon thee. I will take your sins, and will give you peace. Banish no longer your self-respect; for I have bought you with the price of My own blood. You are Mine. Your weakened will I will strengthen. Your remorse for sin I will remove." Testimonies to Ministers, pp. 519, 520.

2. What ministry has God committed unto us, instead of that of condemnation?

"And hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation." 2 Corinthians 5:18.

"And hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." Verse 19.

"We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." Verse 20.

Reflection

Since men and women, boys and girls, are not helped by belittling them, condemning them, or denouncing them; shall we not resolve from this time forward to "speak evil of no man," even as God

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has commanded us? (Titus 3:2) Will you become a promoter of the "I Know Something Good" philosophy?

"Remember that your brethren are fallible creatures like yourself, and regard their mistakes and errors with the same mercy and forbearance that you wish them to exercise toward you. They should not be watched, and their defects paraded to the front for the world to exult over. Those who dare to do this have climbed upon the judgment-seat and made themselves judges, while they have neglected the garden of their own hearts, and have allowed poisonous weeds to obtain a rank growth." Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 279.

LESSON VI

WITNESSING FOR JESUS

Law of the Spiritual Court-room

I. Christ Witnessed Unto His Father

1. For what cause was Christ born?

"To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world; that I should bear witness unto the truth." John 18:37.

"He did not command the disciples to do this or that, but said, 'Follow me.'" Acts of the Apostles, p. 18.

"On His journeys through country and cities, He took them with Him, that they might see how He taught the people. . . . They saw Him in every phase of life." Acts of the Apostles, p. 18.

2. What shows that it was not merely the testimony of words, but His life that was the real witness of Jesus?

"The works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me." John 10:25.

II. Christ's Followers are His 'Witnesses'

1. What promise did Christ give His early church before He departed from them?

"Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me." Acts 1:8.

In the court-room of the universe we are not judges but witnesses. "A legal religion can never lead souls to Christ; for it is a loveless, Christless religion. Fasting or prayer that is actuated by a self-justifying spirit is an abomination in the sight of God." Desire of Ages, p. 280.

2. What shows that the witness plan has always been God's ideal?

"Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, that I am God." Isaiah 43:12, last part.

"This also we shall be in eternity." Education, p. 3081.

3. Is it true that our witnessing in this life is merely preliminary to our eternal witnessing in the great beyond?

"That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." Ephesians 2:7.

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"The science of redemption is the science of all sciences; . . . the science that will be the study of God's redeemed throughout endless ages." Education, p. 126.

III. How We Can Witness for, or against, Christ?

1. What great science should we study?

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15.

"Great is the responsibility of those who take upon themselves the guidance of a human soul." Education, p. 280.

"The highest of all sciences is the science of soul-saving. ... For the accomplishment of this work, a broad foundation must be laid. A comprehensive education is needed." Ministry of Healing, p. 398.

"He who begins with a little knowledge, in a humble way, and tells what he knows, while seeking diligently for further knowledge, will find the whole heavenly treasure awaiting his demand. . . . The more one tries to explain the word of God to others, with a love for souls, the plainer it becomes to himself." Christ's Object Lessons, p. 357.

2. How can we witness for Jesus?

"Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee." Mark 5:19.

3. What great promise does God give us?

"If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life." 1 John 5:16.

"One petition offered up to God in faith has more power than a wealth of human intellect." Testimonies, Vol. 2, p. 279.

4. How personal will be our witness of Jesus?

"My beloved is mine, and I am his." Song of Solomon 2:16.

"If we are Christ's, our sweetest thoughts will be of Him. We shall love to talk of Him; and as we speak to one another of His love, our hearts will be softened by divine influences." Desire of Ages, p. 83.

"Far more than we do, we need to speak of the precious chapters in our experience, of the mercy and Loving-kindness of God, of the matchless depths of the Saviour's love. When mind and heart are filled with the love of God, it will not be difficult to impart that which enters into the spiritual life." Prophets and Kings, p. 317.

5. Is it possible to deny Christ?

"But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 10:33.

"They may deny Him by shunning life's burdens, by the pursuit of sinful pleasure. They may deny Him by conforming to the world, by uncourteous behavior, by the love of their own opinions, by justifying self, by cherishing doubt, borrowing trouble, and dwelling in darkness. In all these ways they declare that Christ is not in them. And 'whosoever shall deny me before men,' He says, 'him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.'" Desire of Ages, p. 357.

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6. How joyful should be our witness?

"Rejoice evermore." 1 Thessalonians 5:16.

"The joy of the Lord is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10.

"Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations." James 1:2.

"In everything give thanks." 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

"True religion brings man into harmony with the laws of God, physical, mental, and moral. It teaches self-control, serenity, temperance. Religion ennobles the mind, refines the taste, and sanctifies the judgment. It makes the soul a partaker of the purity of heaven. Faith in God's love and overruling providence lightens the burdens of anxiety and care. It fills the heart with joy and contentment in the highest or the lowliest lot. Religion tends directly to promote health, to lengthen life, and to heighten our enjoyment of all its blessings. It opens to the soul a never-failing fountain of happiness." Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 600.

7. If we feel our inadequacy, what has God given to us?

"Exceeding great and precious promises." 2 Peter 1:4.

"He rejoiced in the consciousness that He could and would do more for His followers than He had promised." Acts of the Apostles, p. 23.

"Although they feel the magnitude of the work, and are led to exclaim, 'Who is sufficient for these things?' yet they will not shirk from labor and toil, but will labor earnestly and unselfishly to save souls." Testimonies, Vol. 2, p. 152.

"He will guide His people and give skill and understanding in the work they are called to do. In answer to earnest prayer, He will give wisdom to those who strive to do their duty conscientiously and intelligently." Testimonies, Vol. 7, p. 61.

When in faith we take hold of His strength, He will change, wonderfully change the most hopeless, discouraging outlook. He will do this for the glory of His name." Prophets and Kings, p. 260.

"Do not neglect earnest prayer that you may possess a lowly mind, and that angels of God may go before you to work upon the hearts you are trying to reach, and so soften them by heavenly impressions that your efforts may avail." Testimonies, Vol. 2, p. 53.

8. In order to make us witnesses unto Him, what promise is left us?

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me." Acts 1:8.

"It is not always the most learned presentation of God's truth that convicts and converts the soul. Not by eloquence or logic are men's hearts reached, but by the sweet influences of the Holy Spirit, which operates quietly yet surely in transforming and developing character. It is the still small voice of the Spirit of God that has power to change the heart." Prophets and Kings, p. 169.

"There is no limit to the usefulness of the one who, putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart, and lives a life wholly consecrated to God." Southern Watchman, August 1, 1905.

Reflection

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Will you join the author in the resolve to be a positive witness of the truth as it is in Christ, rather than a judge or a prosecuting attorney? Kindly look at the certificate of membership appearing in the back of this manual, and decide whether you would like to become a member of the "I Know Something Good Fellowship." If so, you may remove the certificate at the perforation, and frame it, after you have affixed your name to the pledge.

"Help those who have erred, by telling them of your experiences. Show how, when you made grave mistakes, patience, kindness, and helpfulness on the part of your fellow workers gave you courage and hope." Ministry of Healing, p . 49.

LESSON VII

JESUS INSPIRES HOPE

A Law of Salvation

I. Jesus Saves By Hope

1. How are we saved?

"For we are saved by hope." Romans 8:24

"The Lord is keeping alive the spark of hope in their hearts." Testimonies to Ministers, p. 354.

2. What is Satan's desire to bring to the human heart?

"That at that time ye were without Christ, . . . having no hope, and without God in the world." Ephesians 2:12.

"Satan . . . desires to take every glimmer of hope and every ray of light from the soul." Steps to Christ, p. 56.

II. Jesus' Ministry of Hope

1. Cite some characters whose lives Christ inspired with hope.

a. Saul, greatest of New Testament missionaries. Acts 9:11, 13, 15.

"The martyrdom of Stephen made a deep impression upon all who witnessed it. The memory of the signet of God upon his face; his words, which touched the very souls of those who heard them, remained in the minds of the beholders, and testified to the truth of that which he had proclaimed. His death was a sore trial to the church, but it resulted in the conviction of Saul, who could not efface from his memory the faith and constancy of the martyr, and the glory that had rested on his countenance.

"At the scene of Stephen's trial and death, Saul had seemed to be imbued with a frenzied zeal. Afterward he was angered by his own secret conviction that Stephen had been honored by God at the very time when he was dishonored by men. . . . Saul was elected a member of the Sanhedrin council, in consideration of the part he had acted on this occasion. For a time he was a mighty instrument in the hands of Satan to carry out his rebellion against the Son of God. . . . A Mightier than Satan had chosen Saul to take the place of the martyred Stephen, to preach and suffer for His name, and to spread far and wide the tidings of salvation through His blood." Acts of the Apostles, pp. 101, 102.

b. Mary Magdalene, first at the Saviour's tomb. Mark 16:9.

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"There are souls in their darkness, full of remorse and pain and anguish, who still feel that God is just and good. The Lord is keeping alive the spark of hope in their hearts. . . . The soul wrenched with human agony turns away from the misjudgment and condemnation of men who can not read the heart, yet have taken it upon them to judge their fellow men. He turns to One who is without a shadow of misapprehension, One who knows all the impulses of the heart, who is acquainted with all the circumstances of temptation." Testimonies to Ministers, p. 354.

c. The woman of Samaria, who had had five husbands. John 4:18, 39.

"Jesus had convinced her that He read the secrets of her life; yet she felt that He was her friend, pitying and loving her." Desire of Ages, p. 189.

d. The thief on the cross who confessed Christ when His own disciples forsook Him. Luke 23:42.

"He had seen and heard Jesus, and had been convicted by His teaching, but he had been turned away from Him by the priests and rulers. Seeking to stifle conviction, he had plunged deeper and deeper into sin, until he was arrested, tried as a criminal, and condemned to die on the cross. . . . For long hours of agony, reviling and mockery have fallen upon the ears of Jesus. As He hangs upon the cross, there floats up to Him still the sound of jeers and curses. With longing heart He had listened for some expression of faith from His disciples. He has heard only the mournful words, 'We trusted that it had been He which should have redeemed Israel.' How grateful then to the Saviour was the utterance of faith and love from the dying thief. While the leading Jews deny Him, and even the disciples doubt His divinity, the poor thief, upon the brink of eternity, calls Jesus Lord. Many were ready to call Him Lord when He wrought miracles, and after He had risen from the grave; but none acknowledged Him as He hung dying upon the cross save the penitent thief who was saved at the eleventh hour." Desire of Ages, pp. 749, 750.

III. Lasting Victory Comes By Inspiring Hope

1. What is the purpose of the Scriptures?

"That we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." Romans 15:4, last part.

2. How did hope in the prodigal spring up?

"But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him." Luke 15:20.

"In the parable there is no taunting, no casting up to the prodigal of his evil course. The son feels that the past is forgiven and forgotten, blotted out forever." Christ's Object Lessons, p. 204.

3. What does hope do to the soul?

"And hope maketh not ashamed." Romans 5:5.

"He sought to inspire with hope the most rough and unpromising, setting before them the assurance that they might become blameless and harmless, attaining such a character as would make them manifest as the children of God. Often He met those who had drifted under Satan's control, and who had no power to break from his snare. To such a one, discouraged, sick, tempted, and fallen, Jesus would speak words of tenderest pity, words that were needed and could be understood. Others He met who were fighting a hand-to-hand battle with the adversary of souls. These He encouraged to persevere, assuring them that they would win; for angels of God were on their side, and would give them the victory. Those whom He thus helped were convinced that here was One in whom they could trust with perfect confidence. He would not betray the secrets they poured into His sympathizing ear." Desire of Ages, pp. 91, 92.

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IV. Jesus—the Basis of Hope

1. Who is our hope?

"For thou art my hope, O Lord God." Psalms 71:5.

2. What is it that gives us hope in this dark hour?

"The Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee." Isaiah 60:2.

3. What hope is there in the name of Jesus?

"Thou shalt call his name JESUS; for he shall save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21.

4. While men's hearts are failing them for fear, through looking at things coming on the earth, where, and to Whom, are we to look?

"Look up." Luke 21:28.

"Look unto me, and be ye saved." Isaiah 45:22. 5. The promises of God are likened to what?

"Which hope we have an anchor to the soul, both sure and stedfast." Hebrews 6:19.

V. How to Receive this Hope with which to Inspire Others

1. How only can we receive, and then give this hope to others?

"And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." Romans 5:5.

"If all were willing, all would be filled with the Spirit. Wherever the need of the Holy Spirit is a matter little thought of, there is seen spiritual drought, spiritual darkness, spiritual declension and death. Whenever minor matters occupy the attention, the divine power which is necessary for the growth and prosperity of the church, and which would bring all other blessings in its train, is lacking, though offered in infinite plentitude." Acts of the Apostles, p 50

2. How full of hope is the Holy Spirit when He comes to the human heart and is admitted as our guide?

"Ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance." Ephesians 1:13, last part; 14, first part.

"The gift of this Holy Spirit, rich, full, and abundant, is to be to His church as an encompassing wall of fire, which the powers of hell shall not prevail against." Testimonies to Ministers, p. 18.

Jesus

Wonderful story of Jesus:

Whisper it softly to me. Give me a hope in His mercy;
Hand me His pardon so free.

Tell me for all of my longings,
All of my strivings for peace,
All of my heart-aches and sighings,

Jesus will bring me release.
Freedom is found in a person
Theory alone cannot do.
What I now need is a Saviour.
Friend, what has Christ done for you?

Reflection

Since men are "saved by hope," is it your determination to inspire the most rough and unpromising with hope?

LESSON VIII

JESUS QUICKENS FAITH

The Law of Victory

I. The Kind of Men Jesus Chose as Leaders of His Church

1. How many apostles did Jesus first choose?

"Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve," John 6:70, first part.

2. How is one of the twelve described?

"And one of you is a devil?" John 6:70, last part.

3. Which one was a faithless doubter?

"Then saith he to Thomas . . . be not faithless, but believing." John 20:27.

4. Which one was a denier of Jesus?

"And Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. They said therefore unto him, Art not thou also one of his disciples? He denied it, and said, I am not." John 18:25.

5. What were James and John called?

"And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James: and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder." Mark 3:17.

6. What was often the condition of the twelve disciples?

"And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest." Luke 22:24.

II. Jesus had Faith in these Erring Men

1. What did Jesus do and say to quicken the faith of Peter?

"But I have prayed for thee that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." Luke 22:32.

2. What words of Jesus to these men (excepting Judas) shows that He had confidence that they would let the Holy Spirit enter their hearts?

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Acts 1:8.

3. What world-wide commission did Jesus give these erring men?

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Matthew 28:19.

"Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven." Matthew 18:18.

Which authority was subject to the following simple rules which He laid down: Matthew 18:15-18; Matthew 28:20.

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4. How great was the faith of Jesus in His human followers?

"He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied." Isaiah 53:11.

III. Christ Wants to Break Down Our Prejudice of One Another

1. When Christ calls a man to service, what are we liable to say?

"I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done." Acts 9:13.

2. How does Christ reply to our prejudices?

"Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name." Acts 9:15, middle part.

"Feeling the terrible power of temptation, the drawing of desire that leads to indulgence, many a man cries in despair, 'I can not resist evil.' Tell him that he can, that he must resist. He may have been overcome again and again, but it need not be always thus. He is weak in moral power, controlled by the habits of a life of sin. His promises and resolutions are like ropes of sand. The knowledge of his broken promises and forfeited pledges weakens his confidence in his own sincerity, and causes him to feel that God can not accept him or work with his efforts. But he need not despair." Ministry of Healing, pp. 174, 175.

3. If one errs from the faith, what are we to do?

"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." Galatians 6:1.

"You will watch over and encourage them, and your sympathy and confidence will make it hard for them to fall from their steadfastness." Christ's Object Lessons, p. 197.

"He honored man with His confidence, and thus placed him on his honor." Testimonies to Ministers, p. 190.

IV. Reward of Confidence

1. What wonderful, almost unbelievable promise has Christ left us concerning our erring brothers?

"If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life." 1 John 5:16.

"Jesus sees His true church on the earth, whose greatest ambition is to cooperate with Him in the grand work of saving souls. He hears their prayers, presented in contrition and power, and Omnipotence can not resist their plea for the salvation of any tried, tempted member of Christ's body." Testimonies to Ministers, pp. 19, 20.

2. How fully will Christ's confidence in His people be justified?

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy." Jude 24.

"For they are without fault before the throne of God." Revelation 14:5, last part.

"The Lord Jesus is making experiments on human hearts through the exhibition of His mercy and abundant grace. He is effecting transformations so amazing that Satan, with all his triumphant boasting, with all his confederacy of evil united against God and the laws of His government, stands viewing them as a fortress impregnable to his sophistries and delusions. They are to him an incomprehensible mystery. The angels of God . . . look on with astonishment and joy, that fallen men, once children of

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wrath, are through the training of Christ developing characters after the divine similitude, to be sons and daughters of God, to act an important part in the occupations and pleasures of heaven." Testimonies to Ministers, p. 18.

V. Practical Ways to Express Faith in Others

1. Parents express faith in young child who plans to be baptized, rather than expressing doubt by saying, "I don't know whether you realize what you are doing."
2. Wife or husband express faith in mate by saying, "I believe you want to decide for Jesus."
3. Church member to express faith in one who has fallen by saying, "God will bring you through."
4. For the sick, instead of saying, "You look bad:" rather say, "I believe you will soon be well."
5. To the apparently careless say, "Way down in your heart, I know there is a real longing to do right, and I will stick by you and not fail you."

VI. Our Appeal to God

1. What prayer should be ours for our brethren?

"O Lord, be gracious unto us; we have waited for thee: be thou their arm every morning, our salvation also in the time of trouble." Isaiah 33:2.

"The Spirit furnishes the strength that sustains striving, wrestling souls in every emergency, amidst the hatred of the world, and the realization of their own failures and mistakes." Acts of the Apostles, p. 51.

Reflection

Will you join the author in quickening faith in one another, even in those who have stumbled again and again?

"All dissension, all differences and fault-finding, should be put away, with all evil speaking and bitterness; kindness, love, and compassion for one another should be cherished, that the prayer of Christ that his disciples might be one as he is one with the Father, may be answered." Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 279.

LESSON IX

JESUS LOVES

A Law of Courtship

I. Soul winning Is a Love Affair

1. Why do we love Jesus?

"We love him, because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19.

2. What attitude toward God do we have before His love is realized?

"While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8.

"When we were enemies." Romans 5:10.

3. What is God's love for the unlovely called?

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"A great mystery." Ephesians 5:32.

a. To marry we woo. 1 John 4:19.

b. To marry we speak positive words. Philippians 4:6-8.

c. We do not denounce or belittle the sweetheart. Philippians 2:3.

4. A wise person saves souls by doing what?

"He that winneth souls is wise." Proverbs 11:30.

II. The Key to Winning Others

1. Which chapter in the Bible shows that love is the key? Read 1 Corinthians the 13th chapter.

"Love is the key to open hearts." Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 535.

"If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be one hundred conversions to the truth where now there is only one." Testimonies, Vol. 9, p. 189.

"Love will gain the victory when argument and authority are powerless." Testimonies, Vol. 2, p. 135.

"Pure love has special efficacy to do good, and can do nothing but good. It prevents discord and misery, and brings the truest happiness." Testimonies, Vol. 4, p. 138.

III. We Win Others by Reflecting Christ's Love

1. How do we know that we are the real epistles people read?

"Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men." 2 Corinthians 3:2.

"The world will be convinced not so much by what the pulpit teaches as by what the church lives. The preacher announces the theory of the gospel, but the practical piety of the church demonstrates its power." Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 260.

2. What words of Scripture make plain that it is our life that really counts?

"That, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear." 1 Peter 3:1, 2.

IV. Church Members Will Manifest Character of Christ and Win Many.

1. What will love cause us to do with the faults of others?

"He that covereth a transgression seeketh love." Proverbs 17:9.

"Love covereth all sins." Proverbs 10:12.

2. Will love publish the mistakes of others?

"The beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places: how are the mighty fallen: Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph." 2 Samuel 1:19, 20.

3. How great is Christ's love for His church?

"Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." Ephesians 5:25.

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"Enfeebled and defective, needing constantly to be warned and counseled, the church is nevertheless the object of Christ's supreme regard." Testimonies, Vol. 7, p. 16.

"It is on the earth that His children are to reflect this love through blameless lives. Thus sinners will be led to the cross, to behold the Lamb of God." Acts of the Apostles, p. 334.

4. How great was Christ's love for His disciples, even the traitor?

"Having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end." John 13:1, last part.

5. Will love conceal wrong in a brother to shield him; or will love, while shielding him from human gaze, lead him to repentance?

"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Proverbs 28:13.

"Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins. James 5:20.

Reflection

Since soul Winning is a love affair, will you join us in loving men and women into Christ, while at the same time avoiding "all appearance of evil".

LESSON X

JESUS-THE DRAWING MAGNET

The Law of Attraction

I. Only Way By Which People Accept Christ

1. What does Christ declare is the only way by which people can come to Him?

"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him." John 6:1.4.

"When some who lack the Spirit and power of God enter a new field, they commence denouncing other denominations, thinking that they can convince the people of the truth by presenting the inconsistencies of the popular churches. . . . We are provided with spiritual weapons to fight the 'good fight of faith'; but some seem to have drawn from the armory of Heaven only its thunder-bolts. How long must these defects exist?" Testimonies, Vol. 4, p. 536.

2. How do we know Christ also draws men to Himself?

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." John 12:32.

3. While Christ draws, will all men avail themselves of this magnetic power?

"Ye will not come to me, that he might have life." John 5:4a.

II. Satan is the Counterfeit Magnet

1. When Satan fell from heaven, how many of the stars, or angels, did he draw with him?

"And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth." Revelation 12:4.

III. Two Opposing Fellowships

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1. If we walk in the drawing power of Christ, what takes place in human hearts?

"If we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another." 1 John 1:7.

"Truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ." 1 John 1:3.

"A person who will allow any degree of suspicion or censure to rest upon his fellow workers, while he neither rebukes the complainers nor faithfully presents the matter before the one condemned, is doing the work of the enemy. He is watering the seeds of discord and of strife, the fruit of which he will have to meet in the day of God." Counsels on Health, pp. 297, 298.

"There should be . . . a sacred principle to guard the interest and reputation of every one with whom they are associated, even as they would wish their own reputation guarded." Counsels on Health, p. 298.

2. How does the word of God make clear that there is an opposing fellowship which we should shun?

"What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?" 2 Corinthians 6:14.

3. How are we commanded to stay away from the evil, or counterfeit fellowship?

"Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness." Ephesians 5:11.

"And I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils." 1 Corinthians 10:20.

4. If one compromises with the world in its fellowship, what fellowship does he forfeit?

"If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." 1 John 2:15.

IV. God Helps in Changing Fellowships

1. By what means does the Lord use His drawing power to cause the sinner to desire to change fellowships?

"I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee." Jeremiah 31:3.

2. When Christ saw that sinners wished to change fellowships from that of the world to that of the gospel, what did He do to draw them?

"This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them." Luke 15:2, last part.

3. How did the religious leaders of Christ's day react to this method of drawing the sinner to God?

"And the Pharisees and scribes murmured." Luke 15:2, first part.

V. Following in the Footsteps of Christ

1. What does Christ's example mean to us today?

"I have given you an example." John 13:15.

"Ye should follow his steps." 1 Peter 2:21.

"Remember that you can not read hearts. You do not know the motives which prompted the actions that to you look wrong. There are many who have not received a right education; their characters are warped, they are hard and gnarled, and seem to be crooked in every way. But the grace of Christ can transform them. Never cast them aside, never drive them to discouragement or despair by saying, 'You have disappointed me, and I will not try to help you.' A few words spoken hastily under provocation, just what we think they deserve, may cut the cords of influence that should have bound their hearts to ours." Ministry of Healing, p. 494.

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2. When Christ was reviled, how did He react?

"Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again." 1 Peter 2:23, first part.

"If impatient words are spoken to you, never reply in the same spirit. Remember that a 'soft answer turneth away wrath.' And there is wonderful power in silence. Words spoken in reply to one who is angry sometimes serve only to exasperate. But anger met with silence, in a tender, forbearing spirit, quickly dies away.

"Under a storm of stinging, faultfinding words, keep the mind stayed upon the word of God. Let mind and heart be stored with God's promises. If you are ill-treated or wrongfully accused, instead of returning an angry answer, repeat to yourself the precious promises." Ministry of Healing, p. 486.

3. What did Christ do?

"But commended himself to him that judgeth righteously." 1 Peter 2:23, last part.

"When Christ was living on the earth, how surprised His associates would have been, if, after becoming acquainted with Him, they had heard Him speak one word of accusation, of fault-finding, or of impatience. Let us never forget that those who love Him are to represent Him in character." Ministry of Healing, p. 489.

4. What attitude gives strength in drawing them to Christ?

"The joy of the Lord is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10.

"If you do not feel light-hearted and joyous, do not talk of your feelings. Cast no shadow upon the lives of others. A cold, sunless religion never draws souls to Christ. It drives them away from Him, into the nets that Satan has spread for the feet of the straying." Ministry of Healing, p. 488.

5. How can many a relative win another to Jesus?

"Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives." 1 Peter 3:1.

"Until the Day of Judgment you will never know the influence of a kind, considerate course toward the inconsistent, the unreasonable, the unworthy." Ministry of Healing, p. 495.

6. How may we surprise them?

"When we meet with ingratitude and betrayal of sacred trusts, we are roused to show our contempt or indignation. This the guilty expect, they are prepared for it. But kind forbearance takes them by surprise, and often awakens their better impulses, and arouses a longing for a nobler life." Ministry of Healing p. 495.

7. How are we to be like Him?

"We shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." 1 John 3:2, 3.

"Earnest workers have no time for dwelling upon the faults of others. We can not afford to live on the husks of other's faults or failings. Evil-speaking is a twofold curse, falling most heavily upon the speaker than upon the hearer. He who scatters the seeds of dissension and strife, reaps in his own soul the deadly fruits. The very act of looking for evil in others develops evil in those who look. By dwelling upon the faults of others, we are changed into the same image. But by beholding Jesus, talking of his love and perfection of character, we become changed into his image." Ministry of Healing, p. 492.

8. What should we talk about?

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"I will . . . talk of thy doings." Psalms 77:12.

"Then talk of the promises, talk of Jesus' willingness to bless. He does not forget us for one brief moment. When, notwithstanding disagreeable circumstances, we rest confidently in His love, and shut ourselves in with Him, the sense of His presence will inspire a deep tranquil joy. Of Himself Christ said, 'I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.'" Ministry of Healing, p. 488.

Reflection

"Cultivate the habit of speaking well of others. Dwell upon the good qualities of those with whom you associate, and see as little as possible of their errors and failings. When tempted to complain of what some one has said or done, praise something in that person's life or character." Ministry of Healing, p. 492.

If this is your determination, be free to place your name on the certificate following, that you may keep it ever before you.

SOUL-WINNING SCORE SHEET

Your Score _____

Note: You may check your soul-winning methods by the scientific laws of soul winning contained in the Scriptures.

1. Do I say to the one in error, "You are stubborn and do not want to do what is right"; or, "I believe, down in your heart, there is a longing to do right"?

Law: Speak faith, not doubt. 1 John 5:14; Romans 14:23

2. Do I urge, and urge, and urge the one in error to do right or do I make Christianity so attractive that he will want to do right?

Law: "Adorn the doctrine of God." Titus 2:10.

3. Do I say, "I wish you would stop smoking," "I wish you would keep the Sabbath," "I wish you would join the church"; or, "I believe you are going to decide to do this"?

Law: Individual choice. Joshua 24:15.

4. Do I ask for a minister to come to my place to urge the one in error to do right; or do I ask the Holy Spirit to do the convicting?

Law: "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord." Zechariah 4:6.

5. Do I talk about little misunderstandings in the church before the one I wish to win to the faith; or do I only speak of the good qualities of fellow church members?

Law: "Speak evil of no man." Titus 3:2.

6. Do I speak unkindly of people of other religious faiths or do I respect their convictions?

Law: "Honour all men." 1 Peter 2:17.

7. Do I look at my guests in church when a call is made for decisions; or do I quietly pray for them?

Law: The golden rule. Matthew 7:12.

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8. When I bring friends to the meetings, do I talk doctrine or do I dwell upon the sweetness of the Saviour?

Law: "I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works." Psalms 145:5

9. When I try to help the erring, do I act as though I were a bit more spiritual than they; or do I humble myself ?

Law: "Let each esteem other better than themselves." Phil. 2:3.

10. Do I win the argument with friends who ask me about my faith; or do I win friends to the faith?

Law: "He that winneth souls is wise." Proverbs 11:30.

Note: In determining your grade in soul-winning methods, give yourself 10 per cent for every correct answer. Total percentage gives your score.

If you have relatives or friends who are interested in studying this philosophy of living, and would like to become members of the "I Know Something Good Fellowship; ask for additional textbooks containing certificates, for them."

E-Book Note: A Similar Certificate is available in a separate PDF file where you obtained this E-Book.