

different names but there is one banner flung out over them all. If they are really Christian churches, the bloodstained banner of the cross. They have one king - he is the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a high and a holy privilege to be a church member.

Because you know quite well since the ascension of our Lord, he left behind him the church, his bride. Sometimes referred to as his body. Each member of the church is a member of the body of Christ. What a high and holy thing it is to be a church member. And we see what a privilege, as well as a terrible responsibility, anyone who takes himself and persuades a person who is not truly converted to join the church.

This is an act of blasphemy that anyone who is not in reality joined to Christ by the mystic union which comes about at the new birth should be a member of the church. When any church admits anyone to membership who is not really a converted person, then to that extent the church ceases to be a Christian church.

Privilege of Being Living Example
The world cannot see Jesus but it can see you. As a professing Christian and as a church member. They expect to see Jesus in you. It may not say so but by the very fact that such bitter criticism is poured by secular society upon the church. And by the fact that the business houses and social circles severe criticism is sometimes poured upon professing

my membership in the church with its opportunities & obligations is one of the most vital & significant relationships of my life.
John 17:15
Introduction

(Jesus prayed) that thou shouldst not take them out of the world. They must live as strangers, as pilgrims among those whose spirit they do not share. Whose way of life they condemn and who, by reason of this, will receive persecution. However Jesus is praying for them that they might be kept from evil.

There is nothing so cheering on a cold night as a beautiful fire. And of all fires, an open campfire with logs crackling on a big open fire is most interesting. Even on a warm night men camping in great open spaces will build a fire and sit around it. And in silence for a long period. And you see the heart of the fire shows and you look into it and dream dreams. Or you stretch out. And then someone else will throw on another log or another armful of sticks. Feeding the flames. One stick set alight will soon die out in smoke. And become a cold, charred ugliness. Showing where a flame once tried to live alone. Two sticks will do a little better. Three sticks still better. Half a dozen will make a fire. An armful will make a glorious blaze. If one goes out the other is soon lighted again. If one is too green to burn well the heat of the others will soon dry up the offending sap and set the stick ablaze. Each helps the other. And each stick can make its contribution better because of its associations with the others.

Now a (campfire) reminds us of a (church). As you think through it, there are some very well meaning folks who imagine that because of their extra super spiritual superiority they do not need to join a church. An organized church. In reality they are making a very serious (mistake). Most folks of that sort go out in smoke, like the old charred stick.

The first gospel sermon was preached and 3000 souls professed conversion. They were at once baptized and joined the church. That is how the church has progressed ever since. It has been fed by the incoming, newly converted men and women and when these additions have not been forthcoming the fire of spirituality and the vigor of the church dies out.

Dr. Torrey once said "I would rather belong to the most imperfect Christian church I ever knew than not belong to any church at all." There is no scriptural warrant for leaving the church. We know the church is not perfect.

If it is on wrong lines, then it is our duty to set it on right lines. After all, we have the privilege of responsibility, in our church. And if we desert our church, then we are like a soldier deserting his army. Because in his judgment the army is fighting along the wrong lines. He will be branded a traitor and a coward. But how can a church ever fulfill its God-given functions if earnest Christians do not flee to it?

We should not forsake a hard task for an easier one. It is like removing stones from the dam. Which would have prevented a flood.

The church of Corinth for instance, had terrible failings and some rather dreadful numbers. But no Christian would told to withdraw his membership. They were told to expel from the membership those who refused to live with chastity and sobriety. What would have happened to that church if all of the morally sober people had left as an act of protest? It would have become a cess-pool of iniquity because of the inconsistent members and would have truly been a source of rotten pollution. In chapter 5 and verse 11-13 you take note how these Christians had to face difficulties within the church. Very similar to those we have to face today. Doctrinal as well as moral.

Yet misguided Christians who in past days actually turned the church over to the very section which they feared. To a large extent suffer themselves.

Young Christians need to find the church, the church which you feel God would have you to join where you may be built up in your faith. You need to find a church where you can do good. Each body of believers forms a part of the true church. These are all regiments in the army of Jesus Christ. And as a child of God and a soldier of Christ, your place is in one of the regiments, one of the denominations of the army. They may have

will never cheat, lie, steal, take advantage, or commit unworthy acts. His prayer has in mind the presence of Christians in the world as salt in the food. Praying, purifying, preserving it, and saving it.

I'm a part of the greatest movement of all time

It is unfortunate that all professing Christians are not respected by people of the world. Nor are all of them trusted for many of them violate the teachings of God's word. Paul in more places than one lays it as a charge on the Christian church that their members stand well with those and without.

We must be living epistles known and read by all men. And how can we be known and read by all men if we withdraw from them.

We are to go into the world. No ship owner would remove his ship from the sea for fear it would get wrecked. And I am satisfied that the Lord Jesus never meant that we should be taken out of the world just because some make shipwrecks of their lives. If we dishonor the name of Christ as we have

relationship of the world, we are not Christians. No matter how we may testify to our conversion of belief in certain doctrines. If any man have not the spirit of Christ he is not of his. (Romans 8:9). Ye that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me. (John 14:21)

There can be absolutely no compromise in this matter. For a man to make a profession of being a Christian and then to take advantage in dishonest ways by cheating his employer out

Christians because of their unChristian conduct. We see that the world expects of them, of those who call themselves by the name of Christ. These people are looking for Jesus in the Christians. And sometimes they are disappointed and disgusted.

It is a high privilege to be a church member because you are able to help the world to see Christ. A missionary went to his first mission station on the South Sea Islands. A great cannibal chief came, bowed to him, whirling a club in his hand and pouring out a stream of unintelligible language.

The English missionary had not yet learned the language but he had by his side who at once translated what the rather startling visitor had said. It was something like this. Touching the missionary on the chest with his forefinger he said,

"You are Jesus Christ." The missionary was horrified and he cried out, "No, no." But the chief insisted with a growing concern which was bewildering. How could the missionary make this untutored savage understand that he was not Jesus Christ?

This was a terrible complication because if this man should literally think that he was Jesus Christ, what would happen in the future? What could he do? Finally the chief cried another

question, ^{shue} "Is Jesus Christ then, if he is not here?" His finger again dropped upon the breast of the missionary. And the native said to the missionary, "He means that if he cannot

see Jesus in you, where can he see him?" That very thrilling

opened to this missionary work and was the keynote of all that followed in his ministry. He realized that the natives looked to him as the embodiment of the Saviour of whom he was speaking.

No Christian can afford to refuse to face up to the very dreadful and wonderful responsibility and privilege which is his. "Ye are the body of Christ." Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost. The body of Christ, the temple of the Holy Ghost. How holy we ought to be. How very careful, how very regular in our seeking out the Bible instruction which shall be embodied in our daily actions relationship.

How jealously we ought to guard our actions and relationships.

How jealously we ought to guard our purity. How watchful we ought to be to cultivate our charity. And how conscientious we ought to be in building up unselfishness so that when people look at us they will not see an imperfect picture of Jesus Christ. This is part of the privilege of church membership.

What a privilege this is. We are to help on the divine work of the divine institution. You will certainly never help it on by criticizing it because of the human faults which it has.

It is the privilege also of testing times. The privilege of church membership means testing. The place for the ship is in the sea. But what will the ship do if the sea gets into it?

The removal of the ship from the water to the dry land as a means of escaping the danger will not answer it. For the place for the ship is in the sea. That was what Jesus was praying for. Not that thou shouldst take them out of the world but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil. The place for the Christian and the church is in the world. And this is the privilege we have as much as the place for the ship in the sea. But God help the Christians and the churches if the world gets into them. Disaster follows if a ship gets water-logged. And spiritual disaster undoubtedly follows if a church or a Christian becomes filled with the spirit of the world. Christians denounce all forms of amusements. They are so afraid, some of them, of disaster coming to professing Christians. Jesus said, "I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world but that thou shouldst keep them from evil." It is easier to think of a Christian as one who is saved and safe. Than it is to think of him as saved and serving. In reality we are saved to serve. And we cannot serve if we do not come in contact with the people whom Jesus wants us to serve. We must remember that the Christian is in the world, not only to be served but to serve. So that the world may see what a difference Christ makes in those who have been born again in his glorious kingdom.

The Christian is there to reveal Christ to an unsaved world by absolute purity, honest, integrity, reliability. He

his, world thy law in thou, wily, free, Today's World.

In verse 22 He prayed, "And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are glory."

And in verse 23 "I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one."

Thus, the Master used the relationship and fellowship that existed between the Father and Himself as an example of the kind of fellowship, love and harmony He desired to exist among His followers. Between the Son and the Father there was perfect love, understanding, unity, accord and peace. There was no dissent, no strife, no contention, no friction. But they were one in love, unity, and purpose.

As we all know, Christianity is a religion of love. The first commandment is to love God, the second commandment is to love our neighbor. And, according to John, a new commandment we have had from the beginning is to love one another as Christ has loved us. Christianity is also a fellowship, a brotherhood, a family closely knit and bound together by one God and Father of us all, one faith, one hope, one Cross, one Saviour, one baptism. So that if there is one place in the whole of today's world where mankind should be able to find a workable example of how men and women can live and work together in harmony and unity and love, it ought to be in the local Christian Church. For if we who make up the membership of our churches, who know the teachings of Christ, who believe in His promises of love and unity and forgiveness, if we allow strife and contention, and discord and enmity to exist among us—the avowed followers of the Prince of Peace—what can we expect of the world at large that knows not our purposes to follow the Man of Galilee? I don't know how it appears to you, but to me it is close to mockery and to the horrid line of the ridiculous to stand up in God's house on His day and pray fervently for the peace of the world, that men and nations will "beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks," while in my own heart is illwill, unkindness and an absence of peace towards a sister or brother in the same building and fellowship with me.

In the past twelve months how many Churches do you know of and have heard about which previous problems have arisen and strife and discord has disrupted the fellowship and destroyed the peace and unity of the Church? The his-

top of all too many of our Churches could well be written around the strife and tension and friction that periodically rears its ugly head within the fellowship. And God can estimate or measure the damage and harm that has been and is being done to the proclamation of His Gospel, to the effectiveness of our witness, and to the total ministry of our Churches by the division, and strife and absence of peace and harmony and love in so many of our Churches. It's small wonder that our Lord kept praying over and over again that "they may be one, even as we are one."

Our churches in today's world have many responsibilities and tasks but is there any greater than for us within the fellowship to practice towards our brothers and sisters in Christ forbearance, love, forgiveness and understanding so that we might present to our communities and to the world a living example of how men and women can live and work together in love and unity and peace.

II. Christ desired, and so prayed, that the fellowship of believers be in the world but not of the world.

In verses 14, 15, and 16 our Lord emphasizes the fact that "they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." Our Master fully realized that one of the great dangers to His people and to His Church would be the inroads of the ways, habits, and patterns of the world into our lives and fellowship. He did not pray that we be taken out of the world but that we have the wisdom and the strength to resist and keep ourselves free from entangling alliances with the world.

I once heard someone say, I can't remember who or where or when, that the danger for a ship is on the sea. The danger is not from being on the sea, but the danger comes when the sea begins to get into the ship. The danger for the Church is in the world. The danger to the Church is not from being in the world but danger and trouble comes when the world begins to get into the Church. The New Testament is filled with warnings about the dangers of the inroads of the ways of the world into our lives and our fellowship. John instructs us to "I love not the world neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world" (1 John 2:15-16). Paul, writing to the Church at Corinth, says, "Wherefore came out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you" (2 Cor. 6:17). And Jesus said, "For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees,

empowered to wield a sword. Not against fellow Christians.
 But against Satan. I must confess that personally I do not
 care to be in the shoes of any man who would slay the church.
Love the church, work for it, pray for it, do your best to
gather others with you to form a spiritual part of the church.

Do not begin by criticizing what this is or (heresy hunting)
 there. One sinner of real power brings fresh warmth and
linked with Resurrection is Comfort & trials
 illumination is of much more value in a darkened house than a
mercements, nothing can take me out of Preacher
 thunderbolt which will destroy the house.

Jesus did not encourage his disciples to be thunderbolts.

Although, at the beginning, they wanted to estroy a village
 that would not receive the Christ. Later on one of those men
 who wanted to be thunderbolt became the most loving and gentle
 of all the disciples. And one night he lay in Jesus's bosom
 and his gospel is beloved by all generations. It is far better
 to have been the writer of the gospel of St. John than to have
 called down thunderbolts on a village of heretics.

It is a privilege to be a reliable member of the church.
 If we are half dead in the church, if there is a coldness and
 it is not a place of spiritual delight, then we ought to
 encourage our minds with true prayer. And if our church is not
all that it ought to be, we ought to change things in the area
where we are and get hold of things that the meeting might be
spiritual. There are always Sunday school work to be done.

of time and money. Or who is exacting or overbearing upon
his neighbor. Or who lives unworthily is not to be a friend of
Christ but he is an enemy of Christ. The Christian life is
 when we have the spirit of the Lord then we have liberty.

It, Privilege of upholding V. 23

These Christian principles that we are in the world to keep
is part of the privilege of our church membership. Our lives
 should be influenced to this old world. As Major Taylor one
 of the greatest bicycle riders of his day, an American who
 refused to ride for the biggest prize ever offered in a race
 on the Lord's Day. Now he was bearing witness that could never
 be forgotten. When he arrived in Australia he presented
 letters of membership to the minister of the church to which he
 belonged and asked that the first Sunday he might stand in the
 pulpit and give a testimony for Christ. When the preacher said
 to him, "Why are you so anxious that on the first Sunday you
are here to give this testimony?" The answer came back quick,
"Because then," he said, "every gambler will understand that
there isn't enough money in the world to buy my honor when it
comes to a bicycle race."

Could there be a more thrilling, effective, wholesome
testimony for the Lord Jesus than that of that sportsman? Or
 think of another, Miss Dorothy Round who made high honors years
 ago in the tennis world. And she established herself as not
 ashamed to witness for the Lord Jesus Christ. And she would

not play a tennis match on the Lord's Day, Is this of no value to the kingdom of God? Is this not the reason that Jesus said, "I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world."

There's always one question people ask. "Well tell me certain things are wrong and certain things are right. If they are wrong, why are they wrong? They're certainly not wrong because they give people pleasure. Or that people indulge in them. Now Christ did not come to kill joy but he came to add joy. And why therefore are some things wrong?"

Take for example three sins that kill. Drink, gambling, and impurity. Even a man of the world who has no religion in his will admit at once that these three things destroy their tens and their tens of thousands. They blast homes, ruin character, destroy careers, fling men into prison, rob widows, starve orphans, and leaves trails of tears and destruction behind them. They are undoubtedly of the devil. And any professing Christian man who dabbles with them is in terrible danger of spiritual disaster. There cannot be any question about it because (Jesus said by their fruits ye shall know them. And the fruits of these things are seen in their poisonous array. (Do they bring good?) If the atmosphere in the midst of terrible temptation. Would you bring (your sister) into such an atmosphere? Would you bring a (weak brother) into such

an atmosphere? Could I ask (my Saviour to bless) me and to (bless the place) and to bless the kind of amusement I'm taking part in? If you hesitate and if there are doubts about it, then give God the benefit of the doubt. And give your soul the benefit of the doubt and keep out of an atmosphere such as that.

III. Privilege of Persecution vs. 14, 15, 16
The privilege of church membership (goes even further). It is the privilege of (persecution). In some parts of the world today the church is passing through terrible fits of persecution again. It is like the Bible and the Jews. No matter what wave or criticism or crushing persecution come, the church, the Bible and the Jews stand as an evidence of the reality of God's promises and the waves of infidelity, criticism, persecution and hatred dashed against them in vain. Nothing can alter the fact. Be very careful though, lest if you join the ranks of those whose Pharissiam is so evident that they are the fault finders of his glorious church. And those who serve in it. And ~~xxx~~ you may be found fighting against God.

(Personally) I believe it is but rarely that God puts a (sword) in a man's hand and says slay. But you may be very sure of this. He (puts a cross) into every Christian's hand and says go out and save.

He will certainly require a very strict account from every soldier, every Christian, every church member that he is

ards and patterns of conduct, of behavior, and their attitudes determined largely, not by the teachings of God's Word, but by the world about us? Spread in your pulpits, or before your Sunday School class, or in other groups in the Church and speak out concerning social drinking, unethical business deals, ~~or~~ ~~making~~ ~~language~~ denigration of the Lord's Day, divorce, prejudice and many other accepted habits of conduct and behaviour and you will find many within the fellowship taking issue with you and, if you persist in teaching these old-fashioned out-moded ideas from the scriptures, you will soon be looked upon as some kind of misanthrope.

R. S. Mc Dowell said,
I was a big boy before I ever saw a can of evaporated milk like Carnation or Das. We lived in the country and all my experience with milk had been with that which comes directly from the cow. One day we visited our uncle who lived in town. Our cousin, a boy about our own age, asked brother and me if we wanted some chocolate milk. Of course, we did. We watched in amazement as he opened a can of milk and poured the milk out of them into a pitcher. We were even more amazed to see him add an equal amount of water to the milk. Then, with some creamer and sugar added it made the finest drink we thought we had ever tasted.

At home the next day, brother and I asked mother if we might make some chocolate milk, assuring her we would need only a little milk. She gave us some milk—strung from the cow—and we poured it into a pitcher and, like our cousin had done, added an equal amount of water. Brother noticed that the mixture looked mighty like but adding the chocolate changed the color. However, even with a lot of sugar added to this mixture it still wasn't fit to drink.

The jaws of the ways, attitudes and behaviour patterns set up by the world dilutes and weakens and makes ineffectual the ministry, the witness, and the power of our Churches.

The Church in today's world has many tasks and obligations, but if it is going to be an effective witness for Christ it must present to the world an example of Christlike living—sincerity, honesty, truthfulness, righteousness — based on the teachings of the Bible and the example of the Master.

the testimony that when he went to the week night meetings he always knew that Sir Alexander Glegg would be there. Whoever else was there, unless it was physically impossible for him to be there, he would be there. If he had returned to the city from a long journey that day he would attend. On the committees that he served he served faithfully. He was an old man and coming home after such a hard day he could have rested by the fireplace. But he never did. If it were the night of his church meeting or church service. He really took part in the service. No one can ever tell what a real source of strength and encouragement such a member of his church is to the minister and to those who strive to do his duty. What a noble tribute. No wonder the church mourned and the Christian world know that one of its distinguished members had gone to his

the Privilege of Worship

The privilege of church membership offers you the opportunity of worship. To be more regular on the Lord's Day. To be more than just nibble along. You need a real feast. To grow spiritually. You need to feed and feast. Sometimes we talk about the weakness of this generation, physically. But what about spiritually?

When I think about men in days gone by like Billy Bray, the king's son as he was called in Cornwall. Who walked and along distance to a mine to work every day. He worked a long

*Family together
Father
mother
bro
sister*

The Privilege of Giving *my ch. xiv. my gifts*

Part of your privilege includes the opportunity of giving of your money for the work of God. Now the Jew was expected to give a tenth of his income to the work of God. And I would like to ask every Christian this question, "Shall a Christian give less than the Jew? Have we not far more than he possesses? He is living in poverty and ignorance because he does not know that the Messiah has come. And that his Saviour has secured his salvation but we do know. Some Christians hide behind the statement that they do not live under the (law) but under (grace). Therefore they are not bound to tithe their income. My reply is again another question Shall we then do less under grace than under law? Surely not. I believe that even as we are not under the law concerning the Sabbath but under grace that therefore those that love the Lord will joyfully give him one day in seven. So with giving our money, our love should be so great that our surrender so complete that we should give him one penny and every tenth. At least this and when we can afford it we will give more. But we will give systematically and regularly. If every Christian did that which would be, there would be no debts in Christian work. No retreat from the mission field, no irritating begging from the pulpit, no half starved workers, no retreating of the army of God. God's work would go forward and literally bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse that there may be meat in my house and prove me

now herewith saith the Lord of hosts. If I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour your out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive. When we do our duty in the matter of giving, God in his wonderful providence makes your nine-tenths go farther than the ten would go, if you neglected the privilege in this respect. Let us put this as one of the first things to take care of. You will find that your heart will grow big with blessings and joy as you realize that you are a steward of God and that you're really helping in his work.

Another thing you will discover that presently you're giving more than some people in your church who are far better off than you are. Of course, you will never parade this. Nor speak about it. But you will soon see what would happen if all Christians did their duty in this respect. And at last you will find it a cause for joy. That you are doing your duty.

The kingdom of God does not come more rapidly because the Christians themselves are unfaithful in the matter of this stewardship. What a privilege of church membership which enables us to give. And we have a tremendous privilege in our church membership of building the new church and this should be and bring added joy.

VI. Privilege to come to Lord's Table
 The privilege of church membership enables us to observe the Lord's Supper. To come to his table; to do this in

remembrance of me. May this time always be a time that we spiritually examine our hearts and as you take the bread, the symbol of his broken body, the cup containing the symbol of his shed blood, may you say in your soul he did this in remembrance of me and gave himself for me.

VI. Privilege of Service
 The privilege of your church membership offers you somewhere to serve. Do not say there is nothing that I can do. Because there is always something you can do. Someone can do. And it can be done. I once read of a deacon in a small village who lived and was ever faithful, ever sure. That was a phrase which was really his name among the people because of his smile, because of his steadiness they gave him that designation. And it was connected with his church because no matter how strong the gale, how cold the night, how hot the dust storm which was raging, if no one else was there, Ever faithful, Ever sure would be there. He could not deliver a sermon, he was not noted for his organizational ability; but he was in reality ever faithful, ever sure. And every soul in that community respected him. Every one loved him. They found in him a friend. And what a glorious record to be known by in his church.

Sir Alexander Glegg of London died in 1933. He was influential and the people gathered to pay him well-deserved respect. And the was paid by his minister who bore the

They remembered then how she had cared for them all their lives. How she had comforted them when they had had trouble., with their father. They remembered how she had watched over them and their mother night and day when she was sick. Sleeping on the floor by her bed. The boys did not scare Aunt Willie that night, but they slipped away from the cabin taking the pumpkin and the bedsheet and went to their own rooms and fell on their own knees and prayer. And soon they were in bed sobbing themselves to sleep. John became a great preacher. But he said he never could get away from the picture of devotion. That every time he thought of Aunt Willie and her prayers it made him a better man. It seems to me there is something greater than that. If we just look into the face of Jesus Christ, we are moved and inspired to become more like him. To grow in grace is a part of our privilege as church members.

IX. Privilege of Repentance
 that a privilege it is to be a church member. *Repentance*
Forgiveness
Forgiveness
 arriving in New York City some years ago, a loud voice called "Citizens to the right, aliens to the left." The people were sorted out. That meant that all classes, distinctions, and everything else disappeared. Those who from Northern Europe, Southern Europe, colored people, educated, uneducated, old and young. And a man and his wife were together. "Why are you going to the left, we're not aliens," And he said I assured her that we were. She looked at some of the people in the long

endurable hours. In the depths. But on Sunday he would walk some 20 miles to small churches preaching and winning people to Christ. Other men in those days worked and toiled all day. And he worked 12 and even 14 hours a day. And carried on the work of God. He did not entertain the thought of robbing God on his day on which he could find recreation. There were no half-holidays; but he worked and rejoiced in his religion. This was one of the privileges of church membership, for this

Privilege of Growth
 One of the most glorious privileges of church membership is growth. In the Bible we read that Moses took the anointing oil and anointed the tabernacle and all that was therein and sanctified them. He set these objects apart for God to use. And at conversion you were set apart for God's use. And you were sanctified and separated for a purpose. For God's plan. To work and serve and grow. During World War II some of the great automobile plants in our nation were changed to wartime production. Instead of making automobiles they were making planes and tanks. In other words they were set apart for a new type of work. The entire purpose of the machines was changed. And so it is when a man is saved and when a man becomes a Christian and a church member. His whole purpose in life is changed. And he is no longer to serve him but to serve God.

Here is a man in his office. He receives a letter from the President. One word "greetings". He answers the call of his country. He's soon in the army. His whole old life has suddenly changed. He has on different clothes, different companions. He lives with a different group of people. Strangers. No longer is he seated at a desk but he's lugging a gun across the plains in a hot sun. His whole purpose is changed. So it is with a man who has been saved and sanctified. He is changed altogether. And God sends him greetings of love and mercy and sends him out into the world. To be used and grow. (2 Peter 3:18) "But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever." Paul pictures a Christian as a child and Jesus as a full grown man. The child looks upon the man. He begins to grow and he looks. And someday he becomes like the grown man. There is a progressive idea. The church member has the privilege of studying God's word like a mirror. To correct situations, to give guidance in his life.

The church member has the privilege of growing and prayer and to change his whole heart and life through prayer and through desires.

The church member has the privilege of growing through faithful duty day by day. He is faithful in his church attendance. I challenge you to show me a person who has grown

in grace who has not been faithful in attending the church. A man will not grow. And as Robert E. Lee once said, "Duty is the sublimest word in the English language." You cannot turn your back upon what you know to be your duty without bringing some harm to your spiritual life. And you ought to do those things that you know God wants you to do. And then you'll grow and be a better man. It was John Sheridan who told the story of Dr. John Rose Stratton, former pastor of Calvary Baptist church, New York City. When Stratton was a little boy, he and his brothers decided to have fun at the expense of Aunt Millie, their faithful old Negro mimmie. One night they secured a pumpkin, hallowed it out, cut holes in it for eyes, and formed a mouth with jagged teeth. In the darkness they went down to Aunt Millie's cabin, put the pumpkin on the post, lighted the candle, wrapped a sheet around the post, and slipped to a cabin window and started rapping on the shutter. They were going to enjoy Aunt Millie's fright when she saw the ghost in the yard. But they heard a voice inside the cabin and they looked through the crack to see who was in there with Aunt Millie. Instead of seeing someone, they saw Aunt Millie down on her knees in prayer. The light of the moon was shining upon her big black face as it was lifted heavenward. They heard her pray, "For the missus who was sick in the big house." They heard her call every boy by name as she prayed to God for them.

TYPES OF CHURCH MEMBERS

An English minister once stated that he had four types of church members. There are the "FUTURISTS," who are always going to church soon, and wish they were not booked up every Sunday; the "SPECIALISTS" who come to church only on special occasions; the "ROADSTERS," who work so hard they must rest on Sunday, the rest consisting of traveling far and fast and returning dead-tired Sunday night; the "REGULARS," who can be depended upon and who are the inspiration and delight of their pastor.

Let us get the right slant on this day of days. Sunday is not a day of gloom and of cold, ritual observance, as many seem to think. This word from the Psalms gathers up and distills the true character of the day: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."

The simple, basic fact to be remembered is that the Christians of the apostolic age kept and observed the first day of the week in sacred and joyous commemoration of their Lord's signal victory over death and the grave. It was to them a positive, radiant day on which those who belonged to Christ met together to "break bread" in his Name.

—The Watchman-Examiner.

line of aliens and said, "But we cannot belong to that group."
 And he said I assured her that we certainly did. I am not a
 foreigner and again I assured her that in the eyes of the
 American law she was as much a foreigner as other people in
 that line. And she listened to them as they questioned them:
Are you a citizen? And yes sure I am. My papers, my passport,
 and the humblest person in the citizen group was soon in shore.
 And he said we still stood in the heat and the atmosphere wait-
 ing for hours our turn to get through the immigration line.
 The citizens had the right and the power to be called the
 children of the United States of America. But on the other hand
 he said those who were from England and other places were kept
 back. You're either a child of God or you are not. What does
 your passport say? Where are your credentials? Who signed
 your papers?

V. 12

Are you just a nominal church member? In your heart you
 must remember that our blessed Lord takes you where he finds
 you. He does not expect you to climb up to him. But in grace
 he speaks to you. And he does for you what you cannot do for
 yourself. If you hyst surrender to him in your helplessness.
Mary years ago a boy was an apprentice on a sailing ship.
 He left home on two different voyages and the one of the
 voyages was a most remarkable adventure. Which any human being
 could experience. The ship was caught in a howling gale. She

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was plunging in a mighty waves of the ocean. And he was sent aloft to make fast a sail. He was high above the deck, possible 80 or 90 feet with his bare feet resting on a rope and his body bent over the upper top (sail's yard arm). Other men were also on the sail. But he had two handful of the seil and was about to pull it up on the yard when a great gust of wind filled the canvas, flapped it over his head and tore him loose from his position, flinging him out into the night. The darkness was intense, the wind was howling through the rigging and every man who was on the yardarm thought that he had been either smashed to pieces on the deck below or lost in the boiling sea.

By God's providence he fell, as he fell the ship rolled and in a most remarkable fashion he fell against the foresail on the other side of the ship. His hands instinctively clutched the rope. By this time he was almost unconscious. And terribly smashed by the fall. His yell of horror as he fell sounded through the ship and startled those even who were asleep. One fellow who admired this boy heard the yell, knew who it was, but did not know where he was. And hwat had happened. He could not conceive. But with a prayer that reached the throne of God he ran out into the night and without stopping to consider what he was doing he climbed up the rigging to the foresail and slid down the very rope on which the injured boy was hanging. He grasped his wrist, hanging on for dear life

he shouted for help. Looking back on the terrible night he marveled at the miracle. How he was guided to the very spot and to the one who did not even believe in prayer. But why he should have slid down the particular rope, no one could possible explain. But the fact remains that he did and gripped his friend by the arm who was suffering as the rope was cutting him. He became a saviour. And the sailors soon climbed down on the rigging and lowered the two boys to safety. To this very day that man carries a terrible scar from that night on his body. But he was saved because his friend came down to where he had fallen and did for him what he could not do for himself.

There is no illustration that is sufficient to cast full light upon the wonder of the saviour-hood of Jesus. But at least it can help us to see that our blessed Saviour who carries the scars in his own body and will throughout all eternity, did for us what we could not do for ourselves. He said to Thomas, "Reach hither thy hand and behold my hands. Reach hither thy hand and thrust it into my side. And be not faithless but believing." He that believeth on the son hath everlasting life.

Handwritten notes:
 8-17-1917 - W.M.R.I.
 11:45 AM