

LESSON FOUR
on
PERSONAL WORK

EXAMPLES OF CHRIST'S PERSONAL WORK

INTRODUCTION

There is no more URGENT NEED IN THE CHURCH TODAY than for Christians who can and will talk to people about the need for their souls. Consider these scriptures:

1. Proverbs 11:30; "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."
2. Daniel 12:3; "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever." We have identified in this verse:

THE STARS OF THE CHURCH

1. They are those who are successful in TURNING MANY TO RIGHTEOUSNESS.
2. They are those who seek to do good to others, the highest good possible in TURNING MANY TO RIGHTEOUSNESS. But let us consider tonight some!

EXAMPLES OF THE WORK OF CHRIST WITH INDIVIDUALS

1. Jesus called Zacchaeus to come down from his perch in the tree. Luke 19:1-10
2. He had time to talk with the woman at Jacob's well while the disciples had gone away to buy meat. John 4:1-26
3. Jesus took time to talk with "the woman taken in adultery" after her accusers had slipped away. John 8:1-11
 1. Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn thee: go and sin no more." John 8:11
 1. Here Jesus condemneth sin and pardoned the sinner.
 2. Here we see Christ's mercy and his tenderness when dealing with the sinner.
 2. We should learn:
 1. Where pitiless severity would harden, where cold contempt would embitter, a few words of human kindness may open the heart.
 2. Nothing thaws the ground more quickly than the warm rains of spring.
 3. Nothing will thaw a frozen heart like the warm rains of Christian sympathy that can weep for the sins, as well as the woes of others. Rom. 12:15
4. It seems that Jesus called the early disciples one by one. John 1:35-51
 1. To these men Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matt. 4:19; Mark 1:17; Luke 5:10
5. The interview that Jesus had with Nicodemus was at night. John 3:1-21
 1. Many have condemned Nicodemus for coming to Jesus at night.
 2. The Lord did not condemn him for coming during the night. WHY SHOULD WE?
 3. Jesus did not name the hour during which men might come to him but I am sure that the following words would be the invitation of Jesus:
 1. "...behold, now is the accepted time;
 2. Behold now is the day of salvation." Isaiah 49:8; 2 Corinthians 6:2
6. Though many were round about, it was a personal work that Jesus did with the lame man at the pool of Bethesda. John 5:1-18
 1. For a miniature picture of the world you should read John 5:3.
 1. This is the condition of the world and the world needs to be saved.
 2. Christian people, those who will "go" with the Word of God are the only workers through which the world may be reached with the gospel of Christ.
7. The blind man healed as we read in John 9:1-38.
 1. Jesus said in John 9:4; "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."
 1. We as individuals must work and work rightly.
 2. We must be prepared for the work and work with all our heart.

