
**Message from
Mary Baker Eddy**

“Unless one's eyes are opened to the modes of mental malpractice, working so subtly that we mistake its suggestions for the impulses of our own thought, the victim will allow himself to drift in the wrong direction without knowing it. Be ever on guard against this enemy. Watch your thoughts, and see whether they lead you to God and into harmony with His true followers. Guard and strengthen your own citadel more strongly. Thus you will grow wiser and better through every attack of your foe, and the Golden Rule will not rust for lack of use or be misinterpreted by the adverse influence of animal magnetism.”

(from “*Ways That Are Vain*”,
Miscellany)

Church Going

It is a good thing to periodically question why we do things, and attending church services is not an exception. My Roman Catholic house-cleaner gave the perfect answer: “I go to church to thank God for His goodness.” But how does that get expressed in Christian Science? Recently, one of you was surprised to hear that our church service is for one primary purpose, to provide a platform for visitors to come and to be healed, to be introduced to Christian Science, and to be convinced that it is the only way!

The student of Christian Science has no business attending a church service to find healing, comfort, and uplift for

himself! Rather he is required to leave his problems at the door, and do his best in applying the truth he knows in supporting the service, mentally working to remove resistance, declaring on the side of God, good. Doing this he will leave the service healed, comforted, and uplifted on a true basis, instead of as if by a drug, passively soaking up the atmosphere.

Attending Remotely

As many of you attend remotely, one might ask: “Does this apply to me?” Absolutely! There are different challenges to overcome, but the principle is the same. The distractions are more tempting, perhaps, without the formality of entering an especially dedicated building. More effort must be made to eliminate distractions and focus on what is coming in over the phone or internet. But the attitude of working, applying what you know, instead of trying to receive more inspiration, is still essential. These words from our textbook apply to our individual spiritual growth, and church-going is one of the opportunities offered by Church to apprehend more:

“In order to apprehend more, we must put into practice what we already know. We must recollect that Truth is demonstrable when understood, and that good is not understood until demonstrated. If ‘faithful over a few things,’ we shall be made rulers over many; but the one unused talent decays and is lost.” (S&H)

Editor

Overcoming Resistance Getting to Church

I left work late Wednesday night and was a little anxious because I didn't want to miss the Wednesday night Testimony Service. I thought, "Here it is 7:15 PM and it could take me, at least, an hour to get home and I still need to get gas!" I stopped to get gas and, rushing, locked my keys in the car. Rather than get upset, immediately I turned God, knowing that He is "a very present help in trouble." Immediately thereafter, the gentleman behind me spoke and I spoke back, saying, "Hi! I locked my keys in my car." He responded, "Well it's your lucky day!" Then he walked around to the trunk of his car and came back with something called "The Big Easy" unlocking tool and popped my lock. It happened so fast - so-called trouble arose and God was there to help. In Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, Mrs. Eddy tells us that "Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need," and I believe it. This blessing, among many, is more evidence of God's ever-present Love. "He is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." I am forever grateful to God and to Jesus Christ whom He has sent; to Mrs. Eddy; to the Plainfield Church, my Practitioner, and to everyone at the Plainfield Church for their ongoing commitment to Truth and Love.

LaVerne Fields, MD

Roundtable Valuable

The Roundtable discussion yesterday, May 26, was so valuable to advancement that I thought how much I would have missed if for some

reason I had not been able to be there. We were engaged in discussing Christian Scientists' purpose in life, to uplift mankind, not just to seek out as much personal satisfaction and pleasure as possible; instead, the higher enjoyments and mental demands we should make on ourselves were highlighted. Mrs. Eddy was quoted in Miscellany: "let our measure of time and joy be spiritual, not material."

Fairlie Maginnes, MD

From our dear Joseph, in the UK - our ambassador to the world!

Having just started rendering the Lesson in Arabic, we then received this: Just to let you know that an Asian friend named Adeel and I are planning to produce the Lesson in Urdu which is the language of Pakistan and one of the main languages of Muslims in Asia.

Joseph took over the Spanish Lesson for June. On top of his many other duties, but has just had this news from Teresa, in Argentina, who has been recording the Lesson in Spanish.

I was using the Reina Valera version of the Bible but she [Teresa] was explaining that she feels a newer version of the Reina Valera would be much better because South Americans will find it easier to read. She has that version on her PC so she agreed to do it [the Lesson in Spanish.]

And finally, Joseph passed this on:

Sonja, the girl who does the German lesson was telling me that she has a plan to introduce Swedish and French Lessons to you as well. She's been learning Swedish at a night school and

speaks fluent French. I'm not sure what her timescale for that is. I'll have a chat with her about it when I will be talking to her next time.

We also thank Bella, NJ, for doing the Lesson in Chinese, with plans to write some introduction to Mary Baker Eddy and Christian Science in Chinese!!

WANTED! - More Fellowship Opportunities for Plainfield Members.

I know how grateful we all are to have found Independent Christian Science here at the Plainfield Church. As a former member of a local branch church there is very little I miss about my old church since I sure wasn't learning to really live C.S. within the Boston movement nor was my church helping me to grow in my understanding. One thing I have missed, however, is the ability to meet up on Sundays with my fellow members - to enjoy your company and to develop better friendships with you all.

I realize in a virtual church, we can't sit in the pews together, but I would love for us to brainstorm about ways that we can all become closer and forge better connections with one another beyond our services, Bible Study and Round Table classes.

Here are some ideas I had to bring more fellowship into our church:

- A Member's-Only message board or page - This could be a special tab on the plainfieldcs.com website or it could be something like a Facebook page. (We probably could create our own page in Facebook.) Unlike our Bible forum page, this site could just be for us to share messages with each other,

talk about things we're thinking about more casually, let others know when we're going to be in their neck of the woods, etc.

- "Plainfield Annual Meeting." What if we had our own annual meeting where we all come to Plainfield to enjoy a standard weekend or 3-day weekend of fellowship together. How cool would it be for all of us to be in church one Sunday and to enjoy the round table together in the same room? If we planned it during the summer, we could schedule an event or two where we could enjoy each other's company outside of our classes and service, as well.
- Membership Directory - if we publish a membership directory, we'd all have access to each other's phone, address and email info. That way, if one of you were coming, say, to the Atlanta area, you could give me and Tony a call and we could meet up for dinner or host you at our house for the Sunday service, etc.

Let me know what you think about the ideas above? Would you be interested in any or all of them? You won't hurt my feelings if not - this is just a conversation starter! Also, please send me any ideas you have as well and we can add them to the mix to see which one(s) we feel would bless us and our church to implement. My email is: threemooresatl@gmail.com I look forward to hearing everyone's feedback!

Lenni Moore - Atlanta, GA

Watching

Three evenings a week, a good number of us - typically we have at

least 15 states represented – join together on the church teleconference to address some need in the world - love in action!

What Makes A Good Watch

First establish that God is all-powerful (no other power), all-presence (no other presence), all-consciousness (no other consciousness). Then handle the individual claims that come to you – identify, silence, destroy, annihilate, until the truth predominates, and the claim is irrelevant, nonsense, nothing. Finish with the unction of “The Lord God, good, reigneth” and be sure to declare that God’s word cannot be reversed.

God, omnipotent and omnipresent Mind, is in complete control since there is no other power nor presence! Any malicious attempt to rid the world of true Christian Science as revealed by Mary Baker Eddy must go down in flames. Love incinerates hate, leaving nothing behind that can rise up again.

Truth, the activity of divine Mind, is being heard, and ever will be heard. Evil, error has no power to silence or stay Truth’s ongoing revelation of itself. The light of Truth naturally destroys the darkness of error, evil. God is the Light of the world illuminating the universe, leaving no room for spiritual darkness to enter in. The light of Truth never flickers nor fades nor confuses. Evil cannot turn out the light of Truth.

Divine Mind and its Truth – the Word of God, Christian Science - marches on undaunted, unafraid, with confidence and power, and it will not be sidetracked nor derailed. God will not allow it. Truth is victorious and reigns

triumphant over all that would attempt to minimize it or make it relative to the godlessness of the times.

Edy Dowell, AZ

Hymn 198

Now is the time approaching,
By prophets long foretold,
When all shall dwell together,
One Shepherd and one fold.
Now Jew and Gentile, meeting
From many a distant shore,
Around one altar kneeling,
One common Lord adore.

Let all that now divides us
Remove and pass away,
Like shadows of the morning
Before the blaze of day.
Let all that now unites us
More sweet and lasting prove,
A closer bond of union,
In a blest land of love.

– submitted by Connie Abbott, TX

"Sometimes when you do not get any results from your treatment, declare: This treatment is God with us, this treatment is the very essence, presence and power and activity of infinite and perfect God; it does its work because it is God with us, and it does wipe out, blot out, obliterate and reduce to its native nothingness any mortal belief in a power apart from God. God is the only power, God is the only Life. There is no law of reversal. M.M.P. cannot make a law to reverse this treatment, or cause it to do anything that it is not intended to do. There is no such law. The great safety is to treat the impersonality of error (in Science) and keep the claim out of thought."

*Mary Baker Eddy
Lessons of the 7th Day*