
PLAINFIELD INDEPENDENT NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2013

Message from Mary Baker Eddy

Strive it ever so hard, The Church of Christ, Scientist, can never do for its Leader what its Leader has done for this church; but its members can so protect their own thoughts that they are not unwittingly made to deprive their Leader of her rightful place as the revelator to this age of the immortal truths testified to by Jesus and the prophets.

Deeds, not words, are the sound test of love; and the helpfulness of consistent and constant right thinking – intelligent thinking untainted by the emotionalism which is largely self-glorification – is a reasonable service which all Christian Scientists can render their Leader.

(from *Forward to First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, p. vii)

Mrs. Eddy's Rightful Place

One may ask, why is it so important to give Mrs. Eddy the credit for revealing Christian Science. Eustace, Wilcox, Young and others have a very fine understanding, in fact sometimes I find them more helpful than reading Science and Health?

This state of thought would be an honest admission of one's lack of spiritual understanding. As those fine students of Mrs. Eddy would undoubtedly agree, their works are to help jar the reader's thought out of their mental rut, so to speak, so that they could see better what Mrs. Eddy wrote.

In the Forward (excerpted above), Mrs. Eddy listed her achievements which indicate a divine operation, not a human – a single woman in the 19th century! She specifically stated:

“Science and Health does not need to be interpreted to those who are earnestly seeking Truth... that it is not possible to state truth in a simpler or more pleasing form.”

Further in *First Church of Christ, Scientist and Miscellany* she wrote:

“At this period my demonstration of Christian Science cannot be fully understood theoretically; therefore it is best explained by its fruits, and by the life of our Lord as depicted in the chapter Atonement and Eucharist, in ‘Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures.’” (p.136)

How many students of Christian Science have read and studied volumes of metaphysics and yet have completely missed the import of the second chapter of the textbook? No depiction of the life of our Lord is more heartfelt, and we can be sure, more accurate. It could only have been written by one close to Christ Jesus and his experience.

The finest grasp of metaphysics without a due appreciation for Mary Baker Eddy is not Christian Science.

Editor

From A Recent New Member

Growing up I was excited to go to church only if there was hope to go out to eat afterward. Later I found that I wanted to go on special occasions just to be with my family. More recently, as a member of a Christian Science branch church, I would attend service every Sunday, because I felt that it was the right thing to do, I wanted to be obedient and to serve as directed and, more so, I thought it was my best option.

I am so thankful to those at Plainfield for allowing me to see what church

is really about. I've learned that attending church is not about routine, but renewal; each service is fresh with inspired ideas, that are not only uplifting but empowering.

Here, it doesn't matter what you wear, more than likely you won't be seen anyway, and if you are seen, you are being viewed spiritually which is all that matters.

I am still eager to be fed, but now it's *during* service, and not afterward. With God as *our* Father/Mother I can never be without family and what a blessing it is to now know this.

Though what I'm gaining from Plainfield is priceless, I've learned that church is also about giving, giving my whole heart to God and giving all that I can, not out of obligation but in obedience to Him and Him alone.

Thank you Plainfield Christian Science Church Independent for standing strong long enough for people like me to find the true sense of church that we've been seeking. Through weekly lessons, readings, tapes, services, watches and all, you are blessing this world in the most significant way. I'm so grateful for the opportunity to join with others from all over to be a part of the irreversible good that God continuously enables you to do.

Dede Roberts, MD

Radiating Gratitude for God

I recently had lunch with three friends I hadn't seen or talked to for more than six months – not since I've been attending the Plainfield Church. They kept telling me how good I look – that I look peaceful and calm, and that I was glowing. One of the women said that whatever I was doing she wants to do it, and the other women agreed. That was

my “Q” – they didn't have to tell me twice. I saw that as another opportunity to glorify God. So, I told them all about Christian Science and the Plainfield Independent Church. I told them about our Sunday Service broadcast, the Unity Watches, the Roundtable Discussions, and the Bible Studies. I gave them the address to the Plainfield Church website, and told them about your willingness to share your love and teach us real Christian Science. We left the table blessed, filled with joy and hope. I pray that they will join us. I am so grateful to God. I am grateful for Jesus Christ, Mrs. Eddy, and Christian Science. I am grateful for a closer walk with God, for this Church, the Practitioners, the fellowship, the guidance, and the love.

La Verne Fields, MD

“Watching” Online

One Tuesday in September our Unity Watch focused on handling resistance to our great Cause. I prayed during the watch to know what needed to be handled as I had no clue what was 'out there'. I felt a great love for Christian Science - God's Word. I knew that nothing could prevent people from knowing the Truth about their lives. I also felt a strong desire to topple the Boston movement for all the damage it had done. But I reminded myself that not even the wicked bod from the past 100 years could prevent God's Word, His Christ from being discovered. I open the internet and searched for the new website Jeremy is creating. But instead I found:

<http://www.christianway.org/forums/Topic1569-13-7.aspx>

This is a forum dedicated to telling the world why people have left Christian Science! I immediately joined the website and posted that I too have left

the Boston Church and joined Plainfield. I went on to briefly describe Independent CS as 180 degrees opposite of the 'Boston Culture'. This website and others like it, if left unhandled, try to poison the thought of many Christians and create animosity against our Leader, Mrs. Eddy. I thanked God for this unveiling! There are misconceptions all over the internet and they can be neutralized through our watches. Now I can focus on this specific error and annihilate it with Truth! I am so grateful.

- Tony Moore, GA

Error Destroying Itself

Roman has been sending us articles of Wilcox and Young translated into Russian – see the new International menu option on the church website:

My Boston teacher became very angry with me for my translating work, especially for the writings of John Hargreaves and Bicknell Young.

She prohibited me from printing and distributing these books among Christian Scientists in St. Petersburg.

When I asked her why, she said this:

"The writings of Bicknell Young and John Hargreaves are a most dangerous and destructive mesmerism for Christian Scientists, because they believed that there is no great difference between the human mind and mortal mind, while, according to Christian Science, mortal mind has to be destroyed and the human mind is redemptive. Mortal mind is human mind contaminated. Human mind is mortal mind purified." And then she read Miscellaneous Writings 100:19-25 in support of this teaching.

As I see it, such an opinion contradicts Christian Science. All Russian-speaking Christian Scientists in St. Petersburg and in other countries who regularly receive my translations are very grateful for this

work and I promised them that this work will not be stopped.

From Russia with Love,

- Roman, Russia

Bible Study

After a welcome summer break, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the Plainfield Bible Study on Saturday morning at ten o'clock. I grew up in an Episcopal Church Sunday School and certainly heard the most well-known episodes in the New Testament, such as Jesus feeding the 5000, less of the Old Testament, but never really became familiar with the Bible. Finding the Christian Science Church after I left home, for over 30 years in three different Christian Science Churches, I recognized that Christian Science was the truth of our existence, but did not get to know the Bible as I would have liked, because it was just passages in a Bible lesson book that I found hard to get into, and then they were only read in Church. I really learned nothing about the Bible, except that Genesis one gives the truth of man's existence, and Genesis two gives the opposite, the Adam dream, and I understood that Christian Science is the Holy Comforter Christ promised.

Leaving the Christian Science Church, I experienced 5 years of depression, but during that time, at some point, feeling guilty about not knowing the Bible, I decided to start reading it on my own, beginning with Genesis and making notes so I would remember details. However, that was pretty hopeless. I got as far as Exodus 2 and 17 pages of handwritten notes, and gave up.

One year ago this month I found Plainfield. And after a year of the great privilege of attending their Bible lessons with the opportunity to participate on a rotating basis in making up questions to

aid in our study, I feel a sense of relief and fulfillment that I am beginning to know the Bible, the prophets, and all that the Israelites went through, as well as the mission of Christ. I now find it hard to put the Bible down when I start reading. I'm reassured by beginning to know where the various books of the Bible are and about them, and am of course looking forward to continuing with the blessing of Plainfield.

Many thanks,

- Fairlie Maginnes, MD

Serving With Love

In Response to our thanks to Teresa for her faithful recording of the Lesson in Spanish, and compiling of the Spanish Full-text each week:

Today I want to thank you for your beautiful words, and in my meditation I can only think: How could I not be faithful to the Great Love of Christ, whose human sacrifice, redeemed our lives? How could I not be faithful to the generous love of Mrs. Eddy, who worked tirelessly for us so today we have the healing message of Christ? Today our sacred mission is to continue this teaching, healing, and regenerating the human heart through Christian love. Thank God for his indescribable gift!

- Teresa Stolarski, Argentina

Members' News

- 1.) Florence, GA, has prepared the fourth issue of Forum Highlights. This publication is available online, and for anyone who would wish to have it mailed to them, please contact the church.
- 2.) Two more books have been prepared for PDF and ePub format, available on our website, and soon on Kindle:

Sermons and Articles by Doris White Evans and 500 Watching Points by Gilbert C. Carpenter

3.) Jeremy, NJ has been posting Daily Quotes, etc. in Facebook. For those of you with Facebook accounts, please "Like" and "Share" them to support this outreach effort.

Closing Words From Mrs. Eddy

When human thought discerned its idolatrous tendencies, it took a step higher; but it immediately turned to another form of idolatry, and, worshipping person instead of Principle, anchored its faith in troubled waters...

The restoration of pure Christianity rests solely on spiritual understanding, spiritual worship, spiritual power. Ask thyself, Do I enter by the door and worship only Spirit and spiritually, or do I climb up some other way? Do I understand God as Love, the divine Principle of all that really is, the infinite good, than which there is none else and in whom is all? Unless this be so, the blind is leading the blind, and both will stumble into doubt and darkness, even as the ages have shown. To-day, if ye would hear His voice, listen to His Word and serve no other gods. Then the divine Principle of good, that we call God, will be found an ever-present help in all things, and Christian Science will be understood. It will also be seen that this God demands all our faith and love; that matter, man, or woman can never heal you nor pardon a single sin; while God, the divine Principle of nature and man, when understood and demonstrated, is found to be the remote, predisposing, and present cause of all that is rightly done. (P.151-2, *Miscellany*)