

THE POWER OF SIN

A Program for Young People's Meetings

By Miss Annie Chresfield

A pre-prayer service.
A song service.
Call to service by the leader, "Praise ye the Lord."
Response: "I will praise the Lord with my whole heart."
(This response should be copied and passed to all present before the service begins.)
Prayer.
Singing, "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah."
The leader announces the topic for the evening and reads the Bible from Matthew 26:14-16 and 47-49.
Prayer by the leader.
Singing, "I Need Thee, Precious Saviour."
Discussion of the topic.
Is It I?
Denying Christ.
Ahab's Sin.
Sin's Hard Grip.
Escaping Sin's Power.
1. Does a hypocrite know he is a hypocrite?
2. Tell some ways in which we deny Christ today?
3. What was Ahab's sin?
4. How does sin hold us?
5. Tell how we may escape sin's power.
Memory verse: "He shall be holden with the cords of his sin." Proverbs 5:22.
Prayer to be repeated: "O Lord, put the desire in us to escape from the power of sin, for Christ's sake. Amen."
Singing, "Saved by Grace."
Reports from committees.
Offering.
Prayer: "Help us to be blessed by our gifts to Thee, dear Lord, for Christ's sake. Amen."
Report of Secretary.
Singing: "Do Not Pass Me By."
Benediction.

The Leader's Talk

Sin has terrible power. If Jesus does not help us we are helpless against the power of sin. We need to cry to God earnestly and often in our fight with sin. In the Bible verse read today we see how sin had so much power over Judas that it made him sell Jesus. Not only this, but he betrayed Jesus with a kiss. Then sin kept Judas from repenting and made Judas kill himself.
Sin has the same power over the lives of people today. Judas sold Jesus for money. People are doing the same thing today. They will do anything in order to get money, fine houses, cars, beautiful clothes and to have earthly power and worldly pleasure. Yes, sin has its same awful power and the world and even the church is full of men and women who are selling Jesus for the things they want more.
Is It I?
Think of the sin that made Judas ask that question. He knew that he was a guilty wretch who was even then making plans to betray Christ, yet he asks, Is it I? One can see how full of pretense, blindness and lies Judas was, but how about ourselves? Do we try to fool people into thinking we are living for God? If we do we are like Judas.
There are many who go into the church, saying they are Christians but by their acts they are not lovers of Jesus. They are of that number the Bible tells about when it speaks of a people who draw near to God with their lips while their hearts are far from Him. May we search our minds and lives to see if we are real in our love to God or just making believe. Am I guilty? Lord, is it I?

Denying Christ

Peter loved Jesus but he did not keep close enough to Jesus to be strong. So we see Peter standing with this crowd of people who did not like Jesus and Peter was ashamed and afraid. When asked if he knew Christ Peter answered, no. It must have hurt Christ to have His friend deny Him. Perhaps that is why He turned and looked at Peter.
So many of us deny Christ today. We see men and women who are wolves in sheep's clothing destroying God's church. But we say nothing.

We do nothing. "They are not bothering me," we say, or "I'd hate to say anything about it as Mr. A or Miss B will think I don't like them" or "I don't like to stir up anything though I know somebody ought to do something." We are selfish cowards, denying Christ when we act in this way.

Ahab's Sin

King Ahab seemed to have been a very weak man. In the first place Ahab was weak because he thought he ought to have whatever he wanted. He wanted a vineyard belonging to Naboth who did not want to sell this vineyard. Ahab was angry and sulky because he could not have Naboth's vineyard. He refused to eat. Then when his wicked wife found out the trouble and had Naboth killed Ahab was glad and drove out to see his new vineyard where he heard his death sentence. This weak, cowardly man was perfectly willing to let some one do the dirty, cruel work for him while he acted as though he knew nothing about it. There are many people held fast in sin's awful grip. We see them slipping and hiding behind others, yet slaves to sin.

Sin's Hard Grip

Yes, sin holds men and women, boys and girls in a hard tight grip and they can't get away without God's help. Think of the drunkard and the dope users as helpless and pitiful in their weakness. A young man was once told by his doctor not to smoke any more cigarettes as his heart was bad. He told the doctor he couldn't stop. On his death bed he said, "The cigarette got me." Young men and young women who have been warned of the unclean life they are living have been known to confess, "I know I am wrong, but I can't help it." They are like birds charmed by snakes or flies in a spider's web. They become drunkards, gamblers, thieves, harlots and all kinds of criminals without God's help.

Escaping Sin's Power

There is a way of escape from the power of sin. Jesus, our Saviour and Friend, saves us. If we accept of Him and give our lives into His hands all is well, for He will not let our souls be lost. We are precious in His sight. We must let Him control our life so that we will not lie, steal and hate each other. We need the love of Christ in our hearts that we must pray to God, read our Bibles, and be a regular attendant at church. We should never love earthly friends and things more than we love God and we must always know we are not strong enough to fight our battles without God. The way of escape from sin's power is God's gift to all who will receive it.

LADSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COLUMBIA, S. C.

By Miss Mary L. Coleman

Sunday morning, November 8, the pastor, Rev. A. S. Powe, stirred the hearts of the congregation with an ever memorable sermon. He chose as a theme, "The Jericho Road," from the text, Luke 10:27, "And he answered and said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy strength, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind and thy neighbor as thyself." The pastor pointed out that this kind of love is the proof of redeeming love in the heart of the individual, the only kind of love that can bring peace to the world and the only kind of love that can throw open the gates of heaven.

The prayer meeting last Wednesday night led by Elder F. K. Butler was very impressive. We just want to remind you that the prayer meeting is still alive and we shall be glad to have you come out and spend just a short while with us in prayer. The hour has been changed to 7:30.

The play, "The Bachelor's Dream," presented at First Calvary church Friday evening, November 6, was quite a success and a most enjoyable affair. Miss Charlotte Jackson and Mrs. Bettie E. Roach, the directresses, are to be congratulated. We must not forget to

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express our gratitude to the participants. This play was given in the interest of Ladson.
Service Sunday morning, November 15, was well attended. At 11:30 the pastor ascended the pulpit and took his text from Proverbs 14:10, "The heart knoweth his own bitterness and a stranger does not intermeddle with his joy." He used as a theme, "Life's Bitterness and Its Own Cure." Very vividly he stressed the bitterness of pain, the bitterness of sorrow, the bitterness of disappointment and defeat and the bitterness of sin.
A "Hard Times Party" will be given Friday night, November 20, sponsored by the ladies of the church. Come out and bring a friend. We promise you won't be disappointed. Hot lunches will be served free of charge.
A musical program with Bishop Finley as the principal speaker will be rendered at Ladson Sunday afternoon, December 6, at 5 o'clock. All friends and members are cordially invited to attend.
We were glad to have the following visitors worship with us in the morning services: Misses Sylvia M. Poole, M. L. Forney, M. R. Garrison, Mrs. Gladys T. Daniels and Mr. Rolin P. Greene, Johnson C. Smith University, and Rev. J. D. Condola from the Congo, Africa. Rev. Condola made a very interesting talk after the service. We hope these visitors will come again.

BLACK'S MEMORIAL CHURCH, MONROE

By James C. Williams

Sunday, November 22, our pastor, Dr. C. N. Jenkins, preached a very impressive sermon to a well filled house

from the subject, "Less Love of Material and More Love of Heavenly Things." He said that often we allow our worldly passion to come between us and Christ.
The Sunday school of which Mr. G. O. Barbour is Superintendent, was held just after the morning service.
We were delighted to have Rev. Roberts of the C. M. E. church and his people with us Sunday at three o'clock. Rev. Roberts gave us a splendid sermon from the subject, "The Laborer's Reward."
Our Young People's Meeting was held at six o'clock. The topic discussed was "Two Masters." Mr. Walter Jones was the leader for the evening.
The evening service of worship was largely attended. Dr. Jenkins spoke to us from the subject, "Like a Little Child." Visitors during the day were Mrs. Hubert Creft, Miss Mildred Wilkins, Miss Lucile Henderson and Prof. J. W. Graham, all of the Winchester Avenue High School Faculty; also Mr. Dewey Maxey of Johnson C. Smith University.

DAVIE STREET CHURCH, RALEIGH, N. C.

The Woman's Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. E. R. Ballenger, Tuesday evening at 8:30 o'clock. Following the disposal of business different games were played. Then chicken salad and crackers, cake and coffee were served and enjoyed by all.
Among the 27 who were present were Prof. and Mrs. Mask, Mrs. T. Logan and Miss Ida Austin, of Fayetteville. The amount raised was \$5.

THE STADIUM FUND

The following is a list of the persons who have paid on or subscribed to the Stadium project at Johnson C. Smith University:

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BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LOUISVILLE, MISS.
Sunday, October the 25th, was a beautiful day and as the wonderful breezes blew from the South our pastor, Rev. W. H. Lampley, of West Point, Miss., came to us and delivered a wonderful, soul-stirring message to a very large crowd. In the evening at 6 o'clock a splendid program was rendered by the young people, conducted by Miss Vera Lee Hanna, President, and Miss Abbie Thompson, Secretary of the Junior Society. They were favored with a large audience. We had among our visitors Misses Mary and Nervain Austin who gave some very encouraging remarks. They are of the faculty of R. R. School and are very industrious young ladies. At the close of the exercises our pastor expressed himself as being greatly pleased with the hearty co-operation of the young men in the program.
During the week following Rev. Lampley came before us with some very inspiring messages. On Monday night he brought an interesting sermon. Tuesday night he spoke on the subject, "The Wild Man." The sermon was enjoyed by every one.
On Wednesday afternoon he spoke on "Religion for the Youth and the Aged." This sermon was very inspiring to the young people. I would there had been a great number to hear that sermon. He also delivered a wonderful message that night. Seven souls were added to the church during the day services.
We are few in number but many in Christ. On Wednesday night we all went down from the church filled with joy over the many inspiring and soul-stirring sermons that were given to us during those few days by our beloved pastor. We are hoping that he will continue in Christ.
VIOLA HAIRSTON.

BROAD ST. CHURCH, STATESVILLE, N. C.
It has been quite a while since you have heard anything from Broad St. church, Statesville, and I want to tell you some of the things which have happened since that time.
We have organized a new missionary circle, called No. 2, with quite a number of members and all are doing good work. Mrs. Mildred Ellis is President; Mrs. Mary E. Nesbit is Secretary; Mrs. Macie Wilson, Treasurer, and here are some of the things we are doing: we have made clothing and fitted up a family of six, all boys or men, for school. This man has no wife and his children are needy. We also agreed to pay the janitor, and have already paid him one month's salary and have money on hand to buy coal.
On the 4th Sunday in September Circle No. 2 gave a program at Broad St. church which we will tell you more about later.
There are some other good things happening in our church, too. One is that the men have at last organized a club to meet on Tuesday night of each week.
Mrs. Lethia Gray, one of our older church members, and a member of Circle No. 1, is very sick. We are hoping for her an early recovery.
We hope to have some news real often from Broad Street church, Statesville. Dr. Z. A. Dockery is pastor.

A MEMBER.