

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE GOSPEL

International Sunday School Lesson for December 10, 1950

Memory Selection: "This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy."—I Corinthians 4: 1-2.

Lesson Text: Acts 8: 4-8; II Corinthians 5: 17-20; Philippians 1: 12-18.

Following our consideration of stewardship as related to money and to dedication of life, we are this week studying about the Christian's responsibility as stewards of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We realize that the word "stewardship" has a strong and intensive meaning and, therefore, the stewardship of the gospel is a solemn responsibility of those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Robert E. Speer has said: "Any man who has a religion is bound to do one of two things with it, change it or spread it. If it isn't true, he must give it up. If it's true, he must give it away . . . There is no proxy religion. Each man has his own. If he hasn't, he has none. No other man can have it for him. And if he has his own, then he must propagate it, if it is true, or repudiate it, if it is false."

Luke tells us, in Acts, that the persecution of the early believers was such that they were "scattered abroad." However, wherever they went, they told the story of Jesus Christ. Philip left Jerusalem and went down to the city of Samaria and there he "proclaimed unto them the Christ," with the result that the "multitudes gave heed with one accord unto the things that were spoken by Philip."

Philip and the early Christians were effective and courageous witnesses for Christ. In spite of the hostility of the leaders of the Jewish ecclesiastical group and their immediate personal peril, they continued to present the good news boldly and persuasively. They felt compelled to tell everyone with whom they came in contact about their savior.

Certainly, this is a day of opportunity for Christians to be active witnesses for Christ. Wherever they go they should tell the story of Jesus and try to win others to Him. This is the way to build the surest foundation for our home life, our community life, our national life, and international life. How effective a witness are you for Christ?

While the gospel of Jesus must be given to those around us, our responsibility does not end with our own community, our own state or our own nation. We must either personally or with our money, help spread the gospel of Jesus Christ all over the world. We should realize that the ultimate goal set before us is the conversion of the world to Jesus Christ and his way of life. Just before his ascension, Jesus declared: "All power is given unto me in Heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." (Matt. 28: 18-20).

Again quoting Robert E. Speer, we agree with him when he says, "Telling men the Gospel, explaining what Christ can be to a man, is preaching, as scriptural as any preaching can be made. It makes no difference if it is done haltingly. A broken testimony to a friend may be more effective than a smooth and conclusive Sunday morning sermon. The true ideal of Christian evangelism is the propagation of Christianity, not by public preaching so much as by private conversation and the testimony of common men."

Are you a "missionary" for Christ? Whether you realize it or not, you are preaching some gospel around you. Every Christian ought to think of himself as a Christian missionary wherever he goes. You can work in the home, church, in your immediate neighborhood or community. Others work in distant jungles. Both are doing the same thing—winning the unsaved to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

BE A BETTER CITIZEN!

GO TO SOME CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY



Remember how we used to "wait up" for Santa! Why Christmas Eve was the longest night of the year.

We couldn't go to sleep for the excitement of anticipation. And when we tried to stay awake, then we always would fall asleep.

But in the morning it was CHRISTMAS! The long, long night was over!

There was a long, long night before that first Christmas in Bethlehem . . . Through centuries of restless yearning the world waited for God's Greatest Gift.

Then in a lowly manger a mother laid her child. And shepherds came to gaze in rapture. And Wise Men from a far-off land brought kingly gifts. It was CHRISTMAS! The long, long night was over!

Come joyously to the church you love best and worship this new-born King. He is God's Greatest Gift.

THE CHURCH FOR ALL . . . ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

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Perquimans Church Services

HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH
C. W. Duling, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Evening Worship, 8 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Wednesday at 8 P. M.

BETHLEHEM CHURCH OF CHRIST
Joe Brickhouse, Pastor
First Sunday
11 A. M. and 8 P. M.

BURGESS BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. J. R. Byerly, Pastor
Church services first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Sunday School at 10:00 A. M.
Church service 7:45 P. M. second and fourth Sundays.

PERQUIMANS CHARGE CHURCHES
J. S. Craffin, Paston

First Sunday:
New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.
Oak Grove Church, 7:30 P. M.

Second Sunday
Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.
Cedar Grove Church, 10 A. M.
Woodland Church, 7:30 P. M.

Third Sunday
Oak Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
New Hope Church, 7:30 P. M.

Fourth Sunday
Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
Woodland Church, 10 A. M.
Winfall Church, 7:30 P. M.

Fifth Sunday
Woodland Church, 11:00 A. M.
Prayer Meeting each Wednesday at Winfall Church at 7:30 P. M.

ANDERSON'S METHODIST CHURCH
E. R. Meekins, Pastor
Church School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 A. M., second and fourth Sundays.

WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Carl Bjork, Pastor
Sunday School, 11 A. M. every Sunday except third Sunday.
Church services every third Sunday at 3 P. M.

UP RIVER FRIENDS CHURCH
Elizabeth White, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Church Services, 11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor, 6:30 P. M.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. E. G. Willis, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Preaching first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Preaching second and fourth Sunday evening at 7:30.

PINEY WOODS FRIENDS CHURCH
Carl J. Yow, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Morning worship—11:00 A. M.
Youth Fellowship, 6:30 P. M.

WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
G. M. Singletary, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:30 A. M. on first and third Sundays and 2:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.
Church services, 8:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.

HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH
A. L. Chaplin, Pastor
Church School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Youth Fellowship, 6:45 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 P. M.
Mid-week Fellowship, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

BAGLEY SWAMP PILGRIM
Coy S. Saunders, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Young People's Meeting, 6:30 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Rev. Charles F. Wulf, Rector.
10:00 A. M., Church School, Every Sunday
9:00 A. M., Holy Communion 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays
11:00 A. M., Morning Prayer 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays
11:00 A. M., Holy Communion Third Sunday

BEREA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Walker Perry, Pastor
2nd and 4th Sunday at 10:30 A. M.
Morning worship on first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Evening worship first and third Sundays at 7:30 P. M.

CHAPPELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
A. H. Outlaw, Pastor
Sunday School, 2 P. M. every first Sunday.
Church Service 3 P. M. every first Sunday.
Sunday School at 11 A. M. every second, third and fourth Sunday.

Go To Church Your Church Any Church But Go