

Neighbors Who Inspire

Trinity 1936

Grace Day - Conf. Sun. 1936.

P. T. A. McCleary - Amsterdam - 1938.

Amsterdam 7/20/44

Penicillin August 27, 1944

First Colored - Aug. 1953

Neighbors Who Inspire

I. Introduction - our neighbors

- A. Stealing
- B. Salvation army captain
- C. Drunkard
- D. Helpful
- E. Curious

II. Two guiding principles

- A. Too often we are more interested in having good neighbors than in being good neighbors.

1. This is in accordance with our age to make the world by something of the people.

2. Religion goes beneath the surface and recognizes that the fundamental need of man is to be a better person.

3. Religion makes me a good neighbor

-2-

B. We take the story of the good Samaritan as the ideal of neighborly relationship.

1. The difficulty here is that this is a curious relationship.

2. We lack the imagination to carry the principle of this over into normal relationships.

a. I illustrate this with reference to our church - "good people in action"

"If anything was wrong they would come around!"

b. The fact is that our greatest concern should be prevention, not cure.

-3-

III. Christians as must be neighbors who inspire.

"Our deepest need," says Buttrick, "is for neighbors from whom we may gather the contagion of a new life."

"One of those people who are always like themselves from day to day, who are uninfluenced by the weather and neither know melancholy nor high spirits." George Eliot

"The Right to Life"

-4-

IV. Conclusion

Christians makes us better neighbors.

Whether we be Jew or Gentile there is something here that enters into life and makes it better.

We may differ on our interpretation of what happened but we agree that something has happened.

Peace on earth, good will to men is not a prophesy it is a challenge.

"I think them one ideal couple."
That sounds like they might be the only one or close to it, said Elmore, and indeed they are not. I know dozens, Aunt Margaret and Uncle Wesley are another, the Brownlees another, and my mathematics professor and his wife. The world is full of happy people, but no one ever hears of them. You have to fight and make a scandal to get into the papers. No one knows about all the happy people. I am happy myself, and just look how perfectly inconspicuous I am."

--"The Girl of the Limberlost"
Gene Stratton Porter

Neighbors Who Inspire

I. Introduction - Our neighbors

- J. J. Jewell - stealing
- Salvation army captain
- Quarreling
- Helpful
- Curious

II. Two guiding principles

- Too often we are more interested in having good neighbors than in being good neighbors.

Post-war plays - we shall police them!!
1. This is in accordance with our urge to re-make the world by remodeling other people.

- Religion goes beneath the surface and

recognizes that the fundamental need is for me to be a better person.

- Religion should make me a better neighbor.
- How safe is democracy in your hands?
- We take the story of the good Samaritan as the ideal of the neighborly relationship.

- The difficulty is that this is a crisis relationship.
- We lack the imagination to carry the principle of this into normal relationships.

a) A church that said, "great prophetia crisis" "if anything was wrong they would come out."

b) Apply this to

3. Religion should help us to apply the principle of the good Samaritan in our daily relationships.

III. Dr. Buttrick's evidence: -3-
"Our deepest need is for neighbors from whom we may gather the ingredients of a new life."

- George Eliot, "Silent Valley" one of those people who are always like themselves from day to day, who are uninfluenced by the weather and neither know me - unshakably nor high spirits.
- As Christians we must set out to be neighbors who inspire.

1. You and I must not be dragged down by the darkness of our day.

2. You and I must keep high standards.

3. You and I must be like a city set on a hill.

It can do this only through Christ.

Today we are conscious of neighborliness - my experience with ourselves.

We must not only be good, but our goodness must commend itself to others.

"This is not seraphim nor cherubim that transmit the light of life. It is mortals like us" - Rufus Jones.

"But always the emergency, the verbal equivocal of the spirit comes through some human individual or some prepared group. It does not come as lightning out of the sky." - Rufus Jones.

10:30 A.M. - United Services at 1st Meth

THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, COHOES, N. Y.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE ADORATION OF GOD

during which
Organ Prelude *Choir & Minister take places. minister's chair newly located facing altar*
Call to Worship *(people)*

Minister: Seek ye the Lord while He may be found; call ye upon Him while He is near.

People: O Lord, show us Thy mercy; and make clean our hearts within us.

Minister: O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.

People: Let us lift up our hearts and sing praises unto our God.

Hymn # 372

Standing

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

The Prayer of Confession in Unison

Seated

Our Heavenly Father, Who by Thy love hast made us, and through Thy love hast kept us, and in Thy love wouldst make us perfect, we humbly confess that we have not loved Thee with all our heart and soul and mind and strength, and that we have not loved one another as Christ hath loved us. Thy life is within our souls, but our selfishness hath hindered Thee. We have resisted Thy Spirit. We have neglected Thine inspirations. Forgive what we have been; help us to amend what we are; and in Thy Spirit direct what we shall be; that Thou mayest come into the full glory of Thy creation in us and in all men, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Silent Prayers. Words of Assurance *by ministry* The Lord's Prayer *(McLaren said.)* Response

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Anthem

The Scripture Lesson

The Prayer of the Minister and Congregation

~~Anthem~~

Response

Round Lake Meth. Ch.

THE DEDICATION OF LIFE

Announcements *next Sunday the preacher will be Fred Jones*

Offertory *— please get & return plates from you across communion rail.*

Presentation of Offerings with Doxology (Remain Standing)

Hymn # 364

Standing

Sermon

Hymn # 460

Standing

Benediction (Congregation Seated and Bowed)

Organ Postlude

*Announce Hymns & offerings. * Plates in lectern. No prayer before or after offering. I raise plates before Cross during last part of doxology & set them on altar at close of doxology.*