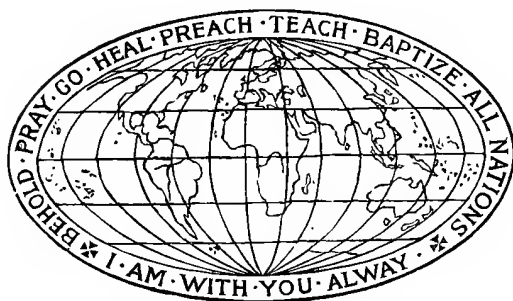


# STUDENTS AND THE MODERN MISSIONARY CRUSADE

ADDRESSES DELIVERED BEFORE THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE STUDENT VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 4, 1906



NEW YORK ·  
STUDENT VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

1906

COPYRIGHT, 1906, BY  
STUDENT VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

## EVANGELISTIC WORK IN MISSIONS

The Duty of Emphasizing Evangelistic Work

Evangelistic Itineration

Personal Dealing the Great Missionary Duty

Evangelistic Work for Women

A Typical Result of Evangelistic Work

Preaching in a Persian Mosque

The Training and Use of Native Evangelists

Relation Between Evangelistic and Other Forms of  
Work

Methods in Evangelistic Work

Principles Underlying Evangelistic Missions

## THE TRAINING AND USE OF NATIVE EVANGELISTS

THE REV. HUNTER CORBETT, D.D., LL.D., CHINA

GOD'S WORD is our authority, and according to it, He gave some apostles and some prophets, and some evangelists and some pastors and teachers, "for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." That is what the missionaries whom you send to the heathen are called to do—to preach the Gospel in every place; and when God blesses our preaching, and converts are given to us, from those converts to train men and women who will work with us. Among the many hundreds whom I have received into the church there is not one of them, so far as I know, who would not willingly lead in public prayer, whether man or woman; and there are none, so far as I know, who would not gladly be witness bearers to others in their own homes, in their places of business, among their kindred and friends, and God has blessed the testimony of those people to the saving of souls.

It is plainly our duty to pray for men and women who have gifts in the spreading of His Gospel. Not only should we bring souls into the church, but it is our duty to train these converts to be useful Christians, able to do God's work in the most efficient manner. As we study the methods by which these evangelists have been able to magnify their work, we get a new idea of the wonderful task committed to us as missionaries. In training these men for this special work, one of the first requisites is to have ourselves a sound conversion and an intense love for Christ. Without this it is not safe to be a witness-bearer for Christ either at home or abroad. When our Savior recommissioned Peter, He said to him again and again, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?" And when Peter had said, "Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee," He said, "Feed my lambs." "Feed my sheep." Not until He had had the full assurance of the apostle's love did He assign him to this duty of being a witness-bearer and a shepherd.

In the special training of these men we must see that they know the Bible and what it teaches. The first convert whom God permitted me to receive, more than forty years ago, was a scholarly man of about forty years. He heard the Gospel for the first time,

and following me to the door, he said: "Please tell me more of this Jesus of whom you speak." I talked with him and gave him the Gospel of Mark, and urged him to read it. He spent the entire night, as he told me, studying that book, and he came to me the next morning to speak with me, and we talked again. Later he followed me to my home, and we studied the Gospel and prayed over it together until the light broke into that man's heart and dispelled the darkness. He became an earnest, faithful and successful preacher, and continued as such until the end of his life, twenty-five years later. Of his family it has been my privilege to receive five generations into the church, all of whom are Christlike witnesses for Him.

In order to make Bible work effective, we must know and study it ourselves before we attempt to teach others how to know and study it. Study both the Old and the New Testaments; study the prophecies relating to Christ in the Old Testament and their fulfillment in the New Testament. Do His will the same as though He were here on earth and we were following in His footsteps, and pray for the Holy Spirit to come for the enlightenment of our hearts.

We must study the teaching of the Scriptures concerning the Holy Spirit—His office, His personality, His power, and the power that we only have through Him. "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" is the last promise that Christ gave His disciples. This we will need abroad. We may not do the work of the Holy Spirit—He will do His own work—but we must be His messengers, so that He shall speak through us, and our lives shall testify of Him, compelling those who cannot read the Bible to read it in our own lives. And having received the grace and the knowledge of God in ourselves, let us train our converts in like manner.

Teach them to pray. John taught his disciples to pray, and so did Christ. Teach a man to study the Bible, to pray for the Holy Spirit to help and teach him, and do you pray for him also, as Jesus Christ prays for us. Pray every day; pray every time you speak or look into the Word of God; pray without ceasing!

Learn to preach by studying the sermons of Christ; the circumstances under which He preached, and the manner in which He preached when the common people heard Him gladly. Cannot we, by the study of Christ's sermons, learn to speak so that the common people will hear us gladly? To speak with power, and not simply to keep repeating texts and creeds in a cold and formal manner, we need to learn every day from a study of God's Word. If we study it earnestly enough, we shall acquire not only the wisdom of serpents, but that wisdom which cometh from above, one statement concerning which reads, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Then we must love the native helpers with whom we work, and sympathize with them. Treat them as brethren; show them kindness. We must teach our evangelists not only in the study of the Bible but in the right way of living. Live as an example of Bible study, of prayer, of speaking in season and out of season, of patience, of doing our duty as we see it, and then expect the blessing to follow.

I have been three times around the world, seven times have I crossed the Pacific, and I have never yet found an unhappy missionary whose heart was in his work and who was doing faithfully the duty to which God had called him. We have our troubles, as do others, and our hearts yearn for our homes and our dear ones; but there is no joy in the world like the joy of winning souls for Christ. In the heathen lands, this great joy is intensified many times. The missionary has the privilege of building, not upon another man's foundation, but he can tell men and women who have never heard before of the unspeakable riches and love of God. It is a joy the angels in heaven would rejoice in, but God has reserved it for us. Let us live for Christ, so that when we go hence our crowns will be full of stars, representing souls saved by the blessing of Christ.

---

## RELATION BETWEEN EVANGELISTIC AND OTHER FORMS OF WORK

THE REV. JAMES B. RODGERS, D.D., PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

I HEARTILY agree with all that has been said by Dr. Zwemer. There are three theories about what are known as educational and medical work in the foreign field. The first theory is that they are a testimony to the real spirit of the Christian religion. On that theory schools are established and hospitals are opened as they are in this country, and grow up according to the needs of the field, giving forth splendid testimony to the effectiveness of the religion of Christ to make men strong and intelligent. Dr. Zwemer spoke of the dangers of having these institutions develop into places where merely splendid surgical skill is shown and the direct evangelical work may be left out entirely, though the maintenance of the hospital is undoubtedly a Christian purpose.

There is a second theory for those who think that they must oppose the first theory; that is, that they are appliances for the propagation of the Gospel alone. In accordance with this theory, in some places men open schools and hospitals merely as an opening wedge, and waste a great deal of time on it. I have seen people in Japan giving their time to the teaching and talking of English