

Effective Work

Introduction

“ ‘Behold, I will send for many fishermen,’ says the Lord, ‘and they shall fish them; and afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.’ ” Jeremiah 16:16

Effective Work

Introduction

Would you like any of the following?

- A powerful means to move the minds and hearts of the people?
- A powerful instrumentality which God has ordained?
- A way to reach minds that otherwise would remain untouched?
- Would you like to do great good? Would you like to win very many souls for the kingdom?
- Identify where much has been lost?
- Accomplish very much more?
- Be far more effective in your preaching?

Effective Work

Preacher-Paper Duo

“The press is a powerful means to move the minds and hearts of the people.... The press is a powerful instrumentality which God has ordained to be combined with the energies of the living preacher to bring the truth before all nations, kindreds, tongues, and peoples. Many minds can be reached in no other way.” CM 148.2

“No other way!”

Effective Work

Preacher-Paper Duo

“Those who distribute tracts gratuitously should take other publications to sell to all who will purchase them. Persevering efforts will result in great good. Very many souls have been converted to the truth by reading papers and tracts alone, who would not have been reached without them. God has committed to his people great light. This is not for them to selfishly enjoy alone, but to let its rays shine forth to others who are in the darkness of error.” RH November 4, 1875, par. 6

“Very many souls!”

Effective Work

Preacher-Paper Duo

1/20th

“You are not as a people doing one twentieth part of what might be done in spreading the knowledge of the truth. Very much more can be accomplished by the living preacher with the circulation of papers and tracts than by the preaching of the word alone without the publications.”
PM 44.5

“Very much more!”

Effective Work

Preacher-Paper Duo

“The discourses given in the desk would be far more effective if reading matter were circulated, educating the hearers in the doctrines of the Bible. God will make many willing to read, but there will also be many who will refuse to see or hear anything upon the present truth. But we should not even think these cases beyond hope, for Christ is drawing many to Himself.... You should go forth with your hands filled with proper reading matter, and your heart filled with the love of God.” PM 45.2

Far more effective!

Effective Work

Preacher-Paper Duo

“When at our large gatherings, make all the discourses highly reformatory. Arouse the intellect. Bring up the talents possible into the efforts made, and then follow up the effort with tracts and pamphlets, with articles written in simple form, to make the subjects brought before them distinctly stated, that the word spoken may be repeated by the silent agent. Short, interesting articles should be arranged in cheap style, and scattered everywhere. They should be at hand upon every occasion where the truth is brought before the minds of those to whom it is new and strange.” CW 126.1

“everywhere!”

“every occasion!”

Effective Work

Preacher-Paper Duo

“Here is a branch of work in the Lord's vineyard that has not received due attention. I have been shown in these very matters where these things have been neglected much has been lost. There should be more wise generalship manifested in doing the Lord's word. Minds must be arrested and held to the point, else Satan will steal away the seed sown. There will be but a small number in comparison with the rejectors of truth, that will receive it; but one soul is of highest value. The value of all the world sinks into insignificance in comparison to the value of one human soul.”
CW 126.2

Effective Work

Cost vs Value

COST



vs

VALUE



- I have malaria. Without medication I will die. Cost of the medication costs 3.000cfa. What is the value?
- I am lost in the desert and come across a small village. I am dying of thirst. A bottle of water costs 500cfa. What is the value?

Effective Work

Cost vs Value

“I have been shown that our publications should be printed in different languages and sent to every civilized country, at any cost. What is the value of money at this time, in comparison with the value of souls? Every dollar of our means should be considered as the Lord's, not ours; and as a precious trust from God to us; not to be wasted for needless indulgences, but carefully used in the cause of God, in the work of saving men and women from ruin.”

LS 214.1

Effective Work

Cost vs Value



Effective Work

Cost vs Value

“We can understand the value of the human soul only as we realize the greatness of the sacrifice made for its redemption.” ST August 10, 1915, par. 12

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”
Philippians 2:5-8

Effective Work

Cost vs Value

“How can man be led to estimate aright the value of his soul? How can he be led to turn away from the attractions of the world, and fix his eyes upon heaven? Only by studying and striving to understand the great plan of redemption. Those who realize something of the cost of the sacrifice that Christ made in order to uplift and ennoble the human race will count no sacrifice too great that will help them to fulfil His purpose of love to save them, that they should not perish, but have eternal life. They will lay at the feet of Christ all that they are, all that they possess, and their highest aim will be to be doers of His Word. 4LtMs, Ms 10, 1885, par. 4

Effective Work

Cost vs Value

“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” 1 Timothy 2:3-4

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.” 2 Peter 3:9

Effective Work

Cost vs Value

“What if some become poor in investing their means in the work? Christ for your sakes became poor; but you are securing for yourselves eternal riches, a treasure in heaven that faileth not. Your means is far safer there than if deposited in the bank, or invested in houses and lands. It is laid up in bags that wax not old. No thief can approach it, no fire consume it.” HS 292.3

Effective Work

Cost vs Value

Let us value the Word of God for ourselves.

“The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of coins of gold and silver.” Psalm 119:72

Effective Work

Preacher-Paper Duo

“The truth must be published far more extensively than it yet has been. It must be defined in clear, sharp lines before the people. It must be presented in short but conclusive arguments, and plans must be laid that at every meeting where the truth has been set before the people, it may be followed by the distribution of tracts and pamphlets. At the present time it may be found necessary to give these away, but they will be a power for good, and nothing will be lost.” PM 45.1

- Where are our limits, and how may we expand “far more extensively”?
- What plans are we laying?

Plans must be laid

Effective Work

Self-denial

“I have been shown that the press is powerful for good or evil. This agency can reach and influence the public mind as no other means can. The press, controlled by men who are sanctified to God, can be a power indeed for good in bringing men to the knowledge of the truth. The pen is a power in the hands of men who feel the truth burning upon the altar of their hearts, and who have an intelligent zeal for God, balanced with sound judgment. The pen, dipped in the fountain of pure truth, can send the beams of light to dark corners of the earth, which will reflect its rays back, adding new power, and giving increased light to be scattered everywhere.” LS 214.2

Effective Work

Self-denial

“Brethren and sisters, in behalf of our houses of publication we call upon you to take stock in these institutions. You have nothing to fear; invest your means where it will be doing good; scatter rays of light to the darkest parts of the world. There is no such thing as failure in this work. It is your privilege and duty to do now as your brethren did when there were but few friends of the cause of truth. Take stock in our houses of publication, that you may feel that you have an interest in them. Many invest their money in worldly speculations, and in doing this are robbed of every dollar. We ask you to show your liberality by making investments in our publishing work. It will do you good. Your money will not be lost, but will be placed at interest to increase your capital stock in heaven. Christ has given all for you; what will you give for Him? He asks your heart; give it to Him, it is His own. He asks your intellect; give it to Him, it is His own. He asks your money; give it to Him, it is His own. “Ye are not your own; for ye are bought with a price.” God wants you and yours. Let the words of the royal psalmist express the sentiment of your hearts: “All things come of Thee, and of Thine own have we given Thee.” 4T 596.1

Effective Work

Self-denial

“Is not the missionary work that is to be done in our world of sufficient importance to command our influence and support? Should we not deny ourselves of every extravagance, and put our gifts into the treasury of God, that the truth may be sent into other countries, and that home missions may be sustained? Will not this work meet the approval of Heaven? The work for these last days has not been supported by large legacies, or advanced by worldly influence. It has been sustained by gifts that were the result of self-denial, of the spirit of sacrifice. God has given us the privilege of becoming partakers with Christ in His sufferings here, and He has provided that we may have a title to an inheritance in the earth made new.” ChS 221.1

Cost

Bible

As new fields are opened, the calls for means are constantly increasing. If ever we needed to exercise economy it is now. All who labor in the cause should realize the importance of closely following the Saviour's example of self-denial and economy. They should see in the means they handle a trust which God has committed to them, and they should feel under obligation to exercise tact and financial ability in the use of their Lord's money. Every penny should be carefully treasured. A cent seems like a trifle, but a hundred cents make a dollar, and rightly spent may be the means of saving a soul from death. If all the means which has been wasted by our own people in self-gratification had been devoted to the cause of God, there would be no empty treasuries, and missions could be established in all parts of the world. HS 293.2