

**EVERY-DAY
EVANGELISM, PERSONAL,
TRAINED, CO-OPERATIVE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649287222

Every-day evangelism, personal, trained, co-operative by Frederick DeLand Leete

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FREDERICK DELAND LEETE

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OCT 28 1925

EVERY-DAY EVANGELISM

*Personal
Trained
Co-operative*

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THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN
NEW YORK CINCINNATI

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First Edition Printed March, 1909
Reprinted July, September, and December, 1909; April, 1911;
September, 1912; September, 1916; July, 1921

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INTRODUCTION

THE number of books dealing with the different phases of evangelistic work is already large. New ones are constantly coming from the press. But three out of four of these are theoretical rather than practical. The little book which I now have the pleasure of introducing to the Christian public belongs to the latter class. While it is not ostensibly a manual of revival methods, it will, nevertheless, serve that useful purpose. In many years of editorial experience I never examined a manuscript dealing with this vital matter which struck me as more suggestive.

The book in your hands puts emphasis upon pastoral evangelism. That is well. The recognition by the minister of his mission as an evangelist and the renewal of confidence in his ability to lead sinners to Jesus Christ is one of the most urgent needs of the hour.

I have no criticism of the confederation of ministers and Churches in gigantic meetings for mutual inspiration, convocations where Christians come

together in a great tabernacle or hall and for a time listen to some far-famed evangelist and the solos of his equally famous singer. Such meetings often prove to be a great school of Christian culture, and do much good. But the real work of seeking and saving the lost in any community must be done by individual Churches. Indeed, it must be done by individual Christians. And in this work the pastor is the logical leader. Any influences which break down his leadership are to be deplored.

Every normal minister of Jesus Christ is an evangelist. If he is not an evangelist, he is not a normal minister. He may not have the resourcefulness which will enable him to organize forces and manipulate great congregations. *But he will lead sinners to the Savior of the world.* What a field of opportunity the pastor has! The community with its many personal friendships, the congregation with its unsaved members, the young people's society with its buoyant, inspiring young members, many of whom are unconverted, the Sunday-school with its hundreds of boys and girls at an age when the heart is most susceptible to spiritual appeal—the pastor is the center of all this life, and if he will, he may win it for his Lord. I meet pastors who have lost faith in their ability to evangelize. They would like to have revivals,

but the secret seems to have been lost. So with sad hearts they turn to others to lead their unsaved people to decision and salvation. What a pity! By every reason which the logic of the situation suggests, the pastor himself should have the joy of winning these souls. When 80,000 evangelical ministers recognize the truth that they are the 80,000 evangelistic leaders of the Church, we will have such an ingathering as has not been seen for generations! And will not that ingathering be largely of the continuous sort?

It is also true that every real Christian in the ranks of the laity is an evangelist. He must be or he is not a Christian. The philosophy of the world's evangelization is individualism, both in praying and in working. One saved soul going after an unsaved soul with yearning heart and eager step and tender entreaty—this is the Christian's unspeakable privilege. And it is a duty. It is a duty which can not be escaped. It is a duty which no one will seek to escape whose heart has been quickened and illumined by the Holy Spirit. So many of our Christians are such only in name. They are indifferent to spiritual things. The passion of the Christian propaganda is not upon them. They need to be brought under conviction, aroused from their lethargy, renewed by