

**THE DRILLMASTER OF
METHODISM: PRINCIPLES
AND METHODS FOR THE
CLASS LEADER AND PASTOR**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649016303

The drillmaster of Methodism: principles and methods for the class leader and pastor by
Charles L. Goodell

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

CHARLES L. GOODELL

**THE DRILLMASTER OF
METHODISM: PRINCIPLES
AND METHODS FOR THE
CLASS LEADER AND PASTOR**

The Drillmaster of Methodism

PRINCIPLES AND METHODS FOR THE
CLASS LEADER AND PASTOR

BY

Charles L. Goodell

PASTOR OF HANSON FLACK METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

"Every army wheels to victory or defeat around the Drill
Sergeant"—Bishop Fowler



NEW YORK: EATON & MAINS
CINCINNATI: JENNINGS & PYE

BX
8340
G6

EMMANUEL

Copyright, 1902,

by

CHARLES L. GOODELL

16,283

2/2/1904

©

the Memory of
the Hon. JOHN FRENCH, a Class Leader for fifty years,
and to
the Memory of my Father,
the Rev. WARREN GOODELL, a Class Leader for sixty years,
at whose requests these chapters were written,

I Dedicate

the book which they did not live to see completed,
but whose principles they exemplified.

PREFACE

ONE hundred and forty-two years ago the question was asked in open Conference, John Wesley in the chair, "Can nothing be done to make the meetings of the classes more lively and profitable?" From this it will be seen that the questions concerning class meeting which interest us to-day are by no means new questions.

The class meeting, like the Church itself, has had its revival and declension; but in spite of all efforts to abolish it or to provide for it a substitute it still holds its place, second to none, as a means of grace in the development of a noble Christian character. The recent revival of interest in the class meeting throughout the country proves that Methodism is convinced that it must foster and sustain it.

Some two years ago the writer was requested to present a paper on the class meeting before the Brooklyn Preachers' Meeting. The interest of the meeting was so great that a vote was passed arranging for a class meeting convention to be held in the Hanson Place Methodist Church. This convention was presided over by Bishop Andrews,

and addressed by Rev. J. M. Buckley, D.D., Rev. S. F. Upham, D.D., and many other prominent members of the New York East Conference. A permanent organization was formed, of which Hon. John French was made president. The writer was also invited to address the Preachers' Meeting of New York city on the same theme. The Preachers' Meeting appointed a committee to arrange for the holding of a class meeting convention in New York. This meeting was held in Calvary Church, and was addressed by Bishop Andrews, Dr. Upham, Dr. Eckman, Dr. Odell, and others. Under the direction of Dr. Millard, the presiding elder, a permanent organization of the class leaders of New York was effected. This organization immediately began effective work, holding quarterly meetings throughout the city. From these organizations has come the Lay Workers' Institute, which is doing at present an excellent work in the training of class leaders, local preachers, and Sunday school teachers by regular meetings and lectures in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Jersey City. When these conventions were reported through the papers, requests came from all parts of the country for information concerning this new movement, and the increasing demand for suggestions and encouragement to pastors and leaders in the prosecution of this work led to the writing of this book.

Little has been published on the class meeting by our Book Concern for the last twenty-five years, and this book will therefore cover a field which is not touched by any recent publication.

So much fault has been found with class leaders that it seemed to me that a chapter on the noble men of recent years who have magnified and glorified their office would be intensely interesting and profitable. I have, therefore, secured from some of our bishops and pastors of wide experience sketches of famous leaders. The names of the contributors will appear in connection with these sketches, but I wish here to express my grateful thanks for these brief memorials, which make all Methodism debtors to those who have supplied them. Our class meeting literature is so meager that I have found little here that was available. I wish, however, to mention *The Class Meeting: a Series of Prize Essays*, and *The Class Leader*, by John Atkinson. I am indebted for letters or valuable suggestions to Bishops Andrews, Fowler, Vincent, Mallalieu, and Foss, and also to Drs. Banks, Buckley, Cadman, Upham, Hurlbut, Odell, Curnburn, and Willey, and the officers of the Lay Workers' Institute. I wish also to acknowledge editorial courtesies from *The Christian Advocate*, *Zion's Herald*, *The Northern Christian Advocate*, and *The Epworth Herald*.

I know the faithful pastors of Methodism are

praying in their hearts for that spiritual training and development in the Church for which the class meeting stands. I have put down the results of my own experience and that of others, hoping that the spirit and method here set forth may be to them a help in the great work committed to their charge. Those who have sent communications accept full responsibility for their own utterances.

My heart goes out to that noble, intelligent, spiritual, self-denying class of men, the subpastors of Methodism, men of whom Asbury said, "The class leaders have been as helpful as the pastors in the growth of our Church." We are enjoying our great heritage without sufficient gratitude to those who scattered and nurtured the seed.

"There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it: now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man." It is to this man that I call the attention of the Church.

With the prayer that God may bless this book to the encouragement of pastors, class leaders, and members, and make it helpful in increasing the attendance and deepening the intellectual and spiritual life of the Church, I send it forth.

Hanson Place Parsonage, C. L. G.
Brooklyn, N. Y., September 1, 1902.