

THE GROWING PASTOR

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The Growing Pastor by James G. K. McClure

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JAMES G. K. MCCLURE

**THE GROWING
PASTOR**

The Growing Pastor

By JAMES G. K. McCLURE

AUTHOR OF "LIVING FOR THE BEST," "A MIGHTY MEANS OF
USEFULNESS," "COMMUNICATING," ETC.



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THE APPROACH

This book is written at the request of fellow-pastors. It is a pastor's—not a sermonizer's book. Many other suggestions might be expressed besides those it mentions, but its limited pages give space only for limited statements. Brief and unpretentious as it is, I earnestly hope it will have a mission in glorifying the pastorate to every man now in it and in glorifying it to many a brave heart as yet unconsecrated to it. Observation, alike in largest cities and in smallest villages, convinces me that the church's power and mankind's blessedness rest supremely with pastors. My whole soul enters into this attempt to magnify and halo the inestimable importance of the wise, noble and consecrated pastor.

JAMES G. K. McCLURE

LAKE FOREST, ILLINOIS.

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"Being desirous to please Him, for whom I am and live; and considering with myself that the way to please Him is to feed my flock diligently and faithfully, since our Saviour hath made that the argument of a pastor's love, I have resolved to set down the form and character of a true pastor, that I may have a mark to aim at; which, also, I will set as high as I can, since he shoots higher that threatens the moon, than he that aims at a tree."—George Herbert.

The Growing Pastor

THE PREËMINENT WORK OF THE PASTOR

THERE never has been a time in the history of the Christian church when the pastor, and especially the growing pastor, was more in demand than to-day. A pastor, in the religious use of the word, is one who shepherds souls. His work is thus a distinctively spiritual work, dealing with the motives, ideals, purposes and conduct of those whom he tries to help. He himself is impelled to attempt this work through the inspiration he has received from the gospel. All the benefits Christ came into the world to confer he aims to make applicable to the hearts that are about him. He is a lover of the welfare of his fellows. He would be glad to benefit them in every phase of their living. He stands ready to counsel in household matters, in business perplexities, and in all temporal and material affairs. But his chief desire for men is to reach and bless the seat of all their joy and sorrow, the source of all their ambition and purpose—the soul. He believes that if he can make the fountain right, he will have done much to make the stream right. He therefore