

**CHRISTIAN STANDARDS IN  
LIFE. COLLEGE VOLUNTARY  
STUDY COURSES, FIRST  
YEAR - PART II. [1915]**

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Christian Standards in Life. College Voluntary Study Courses, First Year - Part II. [1915] by J. Lovell Murray & Frederick M. Harris

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**J. LOVELL MURRAY & FREDERICK M. HARRIS**

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COLLEGE VOLUNTARY STUDY COURSES

FIRST YEAR—PART II

# Christian Standards in Life

By

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WRITTEN FROM AN OUTLINE PREPARED BY  
SUB-COMMITTEE ON COLLEGE COURSES  
SUNDAY SCHOOL COUNCIL OF EVANGELICAL  
DENOMINATIONS  
AND  
COMMITTEE ON VOLUNTARY STUDY  
COUNCIL OF NORTH AMERICAN STUDENT MOVEMENTS

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## INTRODUCTION

This text-book is planned for the use of students in colleges, universities, and normal schools, both for personal study and in voluntary discussional classes. Each chapter is divided into three sections: Daily Readings, Study for the Week, and Suggestions for Thought and Discussion. Each week's work gathers round a central theme which is first developed in the daily readings. These are intended as a basis for daily thoughtful Bible reading and prayer, usually known as the Morning Watch. The Study for the Week is a biographical sketch illustrating from some great life the application of the theme of the chapter. The Suggestions for Thought and Discussion present a series of suggestive questions as a review of the week's work.

The authors desire to make special acknowledgment to the members of the Committee on Voluntary Study of the North American Student Council and the Sub-Committee on College Courses of the Sunday School Council of Evangelical Denominations. The assistance of the members of these Committees has been absolutely essential. In addition many others have given extremely valuable suggestions, greatly improving the manuscript.

### COLLEGE VOLUNTARY STUDY COURSES

"Christian Standards in Life" is the second of a series of text-books known as College Voluntary Study Courses. The general outline for this curriculum has been prepared by the Committee on Voluntary Study of the Council of North American Student Movements, representing the Student Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations and the Student Volunteer Movement, and the Sub-Committee on College Courses of the Sunday School Council of Evangelical Denominations, representing twenty-nine com-



## INTRODUCTION

munions. Therefore the text-books are planned for the use of student classes in the Sunday School, as well as for the supplementary groups on the campus. The present text-book has been written under the direction of these Committees.

The text-books are not suitable for use in the academic curriculum, as they have been definitely planned for voluntary study classes.

This series, covering four years, will form a minimum curriculum for the voluntary study of the Bible, foreign missions, and North American problems. Daily Bible Readings will be printed with each text-book. The student viewpoint will be given first emphasis—what are the student interests, what are the student problems?

### SUGGESTIONS TO THE GROUP

The most interesting and effective discussions in the group or class are possible only when the members have studied the lessons personally. The text, first, has brief Daily Readings as the basis of a growing friendship with God. The readings for each week are numbered 1 to 7, intended for the first day, second day, etc. The Study for the Week is intended as the basis of a longer period of study, once a week when more extended and careful attention can be devoted to the week's problem and Bible passages.

The Suggestions for Thought and Discussion are arranged in the order of a lesson plan, with a few main heads and several sub-topics or questions. There are many more of these sub-topics than any group could use; those more pertinent to the local college situation should be selected. In any case, these are intended only as suggestions.

Several quotations have been made from modern versions of the Scripture by permission of the publishers: Weymouth's "New Testament in Modern Speech," Pilgrim Press; James Moffatt's "New Translation of the New Testament," George H. Doran Co.

CHAPTER I  
ENTHUSIASM FOR SERVICE

ARTHUR FRAME JACKSON

DAILY READINGS

Alone among the religions of the world, Christianity is a religion of serviceableness. Indeed service is central in Christianity. The more a Christian directs his life on a service basis the more natural and sincere his religion becomes.

1. *The Christian life is the normal, wholesome life*

There are some men whose Christianity has such simplicity and sincerity and wholesomeness that instinctively we say, "There, that's the kind of a Christian I want to be." Professor Johnston Ross, who was Jackson's pastor, writes of him: "As Arthur and I used to sit together in front of my study fire, talking over the things of the Christian life, I would look at his superb physique and strong simplicity and thank God that I had seen one young man who was the beau ideal of Christian manhood."

Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and such we are. For this cause the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we children of God, and it is not yet made manifest what we shall be. We know that, if he shall be manifested, we shall be like him; for we shall see him even as he is.—I John 3: 1, 2.

It is a most natural thing to be a Christian.

[1-2]      *CHRISTIAN STANDARDS IN LIFE*

2. *What is the secret of a joyous Christian life?*

Jackson found the reality of Christ's companionship. Therefore he could not regard prayer as an empty form nor the study of the Bible as a duty imposed from without. Prayer and meditation and Bible reading were simply normal expressions of a growing friendship with Jesus.

No longer do I call you servants; because a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, because all that I have heard from the Father I have made known to you. It is not you who chose me, but it is I who chose you and appointed you that you might go and be fruitful and that your fruit might remain; so that whatever petition you present to the Father in my name he may give you.—(John 15:15, 16.—Weymouth.)

*Have we found this secret?*

3. *Is service an essential element of friendship?*

Many a student makes a loud claim to friendship but contradicts it by a perpetual demand for the consideration of his own interests. Is such a man ever a real friend? How did Jesus show His friendship?

For the Son of man also came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.—Mark 10:45.

*Can a man be a friend and not serve?*

4. *It is through service that men rise to greatness*

Many, like the sons of Zebedee (Mark 10:35-37), seek greatness through preferment. Jesus held that service was the highroad to real greatness. "Ich dien" is the motto of a prince.