112 and tears, pleading that the power of God might save those who 113 knew not that they needed salvation. We must have the spirit 114 that actuated Christ, that led him to entreat and persuade 115 the rebellious to come unto him. Even when men turn away 116 from us in hardness of heart, refusing the gift of eternal life, we are to imitate the example of Christ. He did not look with in-117 difference upon those who slighted and rejected him. It was a 118 hard struggle for the Saviour to give up the child of his love, 119 even Jerusalem. He had led his chosen people through the 120 121 wilderness, enshrouded in the pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night. He had directed their ways, guided them by his eye, 122 and watched over them continually. Must he now give up his son 123 124 whom he had delivered from slavery in Egypt? O, if the Jewish nation had known the Prince of Life who came to save them, 125 126 they would not have hated him, refused to hear him, and at last crucified him. But knowing that they would work the will of Sa-127 tan against him, he looked upon Jerusalem, saying, "O 128 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest 129 130 them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathered her chickens under 131 132 her wings, and ye would not." {RH July 4, 1893, par. 7}

133 The church must pray in faith, else if the Lord grants success 134 to our work, we shall be ensnared through spiritual pride. Sincere, earnest prayer will be answered. God has pledged his 135 136 word that he will answer the cry of the honest heart. The order will be given in heaven, "Open the windows of heaven, and pour 137 out a blessing upon the earnest suppliant." Let many missionar-138 139 ies enter the field, but let them count the cost before beginning the work. Let each ask himself, Am I prepared to sur-140 render everything for the success of the work? Then as wise 141 men lay your plans that you may devote yourself to the work, 142 that in singleness of purpose you may endure hardness as good 143 soldiers of Jesus Christ, giving yourselves wholly to his service, 144 145 humbly trusting in God, who has said, "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." Go forth to labor in 146 the interests of the truth, and become agents in the hands of God 147 148 for the saving of perishing souls for whom Christ died. {RH July 149 4, 1893, par. 8}-Ellen White, Review and Herald, July 4, 1893

150 Find more resources like this at discipleheart.com

## Ellen White

## The True Missionary's Dependence Is in God

1 There are times when prayer becomes unusually urgent. It is 2 when we are to take a decided position that the church and 3 the world are not to be united, when philosophy and science 4 claim to be the gospel, when men by their own interpretation 5 make the commandments of God and the traditions of men 6 identical. Fervent prayer must go up to God when the church 7 is to show forth in her pure and exalted character the religion of Christ, and by precept and example affirm the difference 8 9 between the teachings of men, purporting to be for the uplift-10 ing of humanity, and the means by which God would purify 11 society. The church is to shine in the world as a light; but she 12 is to do so by depending upon a divine agency, by having a 13 living connection with the living God. This dependence is in-14 dispensable to her success and victory. {RH July 4, 1893, par.  $15 \ 1$ 

16 The true missionary's hope is in God alone, and he makes manifest this fact by importuning the throne of grace. Skepti-17 cal philosophy is easily distinguished from the gospel; for the 18 gospel makes known the Christian's dependence upon God, 19 and requires him to take counsel with God. In this way the 20 Christian becomes a true sign-board, pointing heavenward. He 21 says, "I can do nothing of myself," and makes manifest the fact 22 23 that the rebuke of God is upon the pride of human inventions. He 24 lays claim to a power that is all-sufficient to accomplish the 25 work. {RH July 4, 1893, par. 2}

There will come times when the church will be stirred by divine power, and earnest activity will be the result; for the lifegiving power of the Holy Spirit will inspire its members to go forth and bring souls to Christ. But when this activity is manifested, the most earnest workers will be safe only as they depend upon God through constant, earnest prayer. They will need to make earnest supplication that through the grace of Christ they may be saved from taking pride in their work, or of 34 making a saviour of their activity. They must constantly look to 35 Jesus, that they may realize that it is his power which does 36 the work, and thus be able to ascribe all the glory to God. We 37 shall be called upon to make most decided efforts to extend the 38 work of God, and prayer to our heavenly Father will be most essential. It will be necessary to engage in prayer in the closet, 39 in the family, and in the church. Our households must be set in 40 order, and earnest efforts must be made to interest every member 41 of the family in missionary enterprises. We must seek to engage 42 43 the sympathies of our children in earnest work for the unsaved, 44 that they may do their best at all times and in all places to repre-45 sent Christ. {RH July 4, 1893, par. 3}

46 But let us not forget that as activity increases, and we become 47 successful in doing the work that must be accomplished, there is danger of our trusting in human plans and methods. 48 49 There will be a tendency to pray less, and to have less faith. 50 We shall be in danger of losing our sense of dependence upon God, who alone can make our work succeed; but although this 51 52 is the tendency, let no one think that the human instrument is 53 to do less. No, he is not to do less, but to do more by accepting 54 the heavenly gift, the Holy Spirit. The world in its own wisdom 55 knew not God, and every human power is naturally, to a greater or less degree, opposed to God. We are to look to Jesus, and 56 co-operate with heavenly agencies, offering our petitions to 57 58 the Father in Jesus' name. In this way we shall not turn aside 59 with those who are content to follow the sparks of their own kindling; but by the precept and example we shall make it manifest 60 61 to the world that we are Christ's witnesses. {RH July 4, 1893, 62 par. 4}

63 The Lord has said that his work is to be done, "not by might nor 64 by power; but by my Spirit." The work of God is to be carried 65 on to completion by the co-operation of divine and human 66 agencies. Those who are self-sufficient may be apparently ac-67 tive in the work of God; but if they are prayerless, their ac-68 tivity is of no avail. Could they look into the censer of the angel 69 that stands at the golden altar before the rainbow-circled throne, 70 they would see that the merit of Jesus must be mingled with our 71 prayers and efforts, or they are as worthless as was the offering 72 of Cain. Could we see all the activity of human instrumentality, as it appears before God, we would see that only the work
accomplished by much prayer, which is sanctified by the
merit of Christ, will stand the test of the judgment. When the
grand review shall take place, then shall ye return and discern
between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not. {RH
July 4, 1893, par. 5}

79 To preach to the people will avail nothing unless the worker has a vital connection with God. The minister may attract at-80 tention by his eloquence; but if his spirit and action are not in 81 harmony with his words, they will have little power to convert 82 the soul. Christ sent forth his disciples to preach the gospel 83 not singly, but by twos, that they might labor unitedly in 84 spreading the truth. Jesus saw that this plan would result in 85 86 much more good than if one was sent alone. There is need of two working together; for one can encourage the other, and they 87 can counsel, pray, and search the Bible together. In this they may 88 get a broader light upon the truth; for one will see one phase, and 89 90 the other another phase of the truth. If they are erring, they can 91 correct one another in speech and attitude, so that the truth 92 may not be lightly esteemed because of the defects of its ad-93 vocates. If the workers are sent out alone, there is no one to see 94 or correct their errors; but when two go together, an educating 95 work may be carried on, and each worker become what he 96 should be,-a successful soul-winner. {RH July 4, 1893, par. 97 6}

98 If frequently happens that one of the workers is self-conceited because of his power to interest his hearers, and yet he 99 may not be one who may win souls to Christ. How important 100 that a humble man be set aside, who is a laborer together 101 with God, who watches and prays in simplicity, whom the 102 heavenly Father that seeth in secret can reward openly. In the 103 104 sight of men the self-sufficient worker may seem to be moving 105 the world; but in the sight of God the humble wrestler moves 106 heaven. The hosts of God are interested in the humble, praying man, who dares not make a move without first coming in 107 prayer into the presence of God to counsel with the Omnipo-108 tent. True missionary work can be done only in the spirit of the 109 110 first Missionary who visited our world. He was often in prayer to 111 his Father, and at times presented his petitions with strong crying