

“Humbler,” Harder,
(and Better?)

“Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.” 1 Thes. 4:11,12 NIV

“This essential lesson of contented industry in the necessary duties of life, however humble, is yet to be learned by the greater portion of Christ’s followers. If there is no human eye to criticize our work, nor voice to praise or blame, it should be done just as well as if the Infinite One Himself were personally to inspect it.” CG 359

“Any honest work is a blessing and faithfulness in it may prove a training for higher trusts. **However lowly, any work done for God with a full surrender of self is as acceptable to Him as the highest service....** Wherever we may be, Christ bids us take up the duty that presents itself.” COL

“In slaying the Egyptian, Moses had fallen into the same error so often committed by his fathers, of taking into their own hands the work that God had promised to do. It was not God’s will to deliver His people by warfare, as Moses thought, but by His own mighty power, that the glory might be ascribed to Him alone.” PP 247

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“But Infinite Wisdom called him who was to become the leader of his people to spend forty years in the humble work of a shepherd.... **No advantage that human training or culture could bestow, could be a substitute for this experience.**” PP 247,248

“Shut in by the bulwarks of the mountains, Moses was alone with God.... Here his pride and self-sufficiency were swept away. In the stern simplicity of his wilderness life, the results of the ease and luxury of Egypt disappeared. Moses became patient, reverent, and humble.” PP 250, 251

“In the school of self-denial and hardship he was to learn patience, to temper his passions. Before he could govern wisely, he must be trained to obey. **His own heart must be fully in harmony with God before he could teach the knowledge of His will to Israel.**” PP 247

“The Divine command given to Moses found him self-distrustful, slow of speech, and timid. He was overwhelmed with a sense of his incapacity to be a mouthpiece for God to Israel.” PP 255

“The more quiet and simple the life of the child, —
the more free from artificial excitement, and the
more in harmony with nature, — the more favorable
is it to physical and mental vigor and to spiritual
strength.” DA 74

“The parents of Jesus were poor, and dependent upon their daily toil. **He was familiar with poverty, self-denial, and privation. This experience was a safeguard to Him.** In His industrious life there were no idle moments to invite temptation. No aimless hours opened the way for corrupting associations. So far as possible, He closed the door to the tempter.” DA 72

“Jesus is our example. There are many who dwell with interest upon the period of His public ministry, while they pass unnoticed the teaching of His early years. But it is in His home life that He is the pattern for all children and youth. The Savior condescended to poverty, that He might teach how closely we in a humble lot may walk with God. **He lived to please, honor, and glorify His Father in the common things of life.** His work began in consecrating the lowly trade of the craftsmen who toil for their daily bread. **He was doing God’s service just as much when laboring at the carpenter’s bench as when working miracles for the multitude.”** DA

“The greater part of our Saviour’s life on earth was spent in patient toil in the carpenter’s shop at Nazareth. Ministering angels attended the Lord of life as He walked side by side with peasants and laborers, unrecognized and unhonored. **He was as faithfully fulfilling His mission while working at His humble trade as when He healed the sick or walked upon the storm-tossed waves of Galilee.** So in the humblest duties and lowliest positions of life, we may walk and work with Jesus.”

SC 81

“Jesus was the fountain of healing mercy for the world; and through all those secluded years at Nazareth, His life flowed out in currents of sympathy and tenderness. The aged, the sorrowing, and the sin-burdened, the children at play in their innocent joy, the little creatures of the groves, the patient beasts of burden,—all were happier for His presence. He whose word of power upheld the worlds would stoop to relieve a wounded bird. There was nothing beneath His notice, nothing to which He disdained to minister.” DA 74

“The humblest and poorest of the disciples of Jesus can be a blessing to others. They may not realize that they are doing any special good, but by their unconscious influence they may start waves of blessing that will widen and deepen, and the blessed results they may never know until the day of final reward. They do not feel or know that they are doing anything great. They are not required to weary themselves with anxiety about success. They have only to go forward quietly, doing faithfully the work that God’s providence assigns, and their life will not be in vain.” SC 83

“The Lord can do more in one hour than we can do in a lifetime, and when He sees that His people are **fully consecrated**, let me tell you a great work will be done in a short time and the message of truth [will] be carried into the dark places of the earth, where it has never been proclaimed.” *Sermons and Talks* Vol. 1, p. 306.

“The subjects of Prince Immanuel are not called to the enjoyment of ease and honor and riches, of titles and possessions; but to a life of conflict with the prince of darkness.... They are called to endure privation, hardship, imprisonment, torture, and death, even as the Captain of their salvation endured before them.” ST July 19, 1883