

Opportunity

PERHAPS one may say there is no opportunity for him; another, that opportunity is dependent upon personal influence and helpful environment, both of which he seems to lack. Another has some wonderful opportunity of which he takes advantage, and through which he gains success. Opportunities for service may seem to be opened to some while they are closed to others. Sometimes an individual goes to a country or locality other than his own, seeking opportunity to achieve the goal of his desire, seeking to gain that which to him means happiness and success. Another finds his opportunity at home.

What is opportunity, this thing which aids or hinders the progress of men? In a dictionary the root word is given as "before the harbor;" and a harbor is a port through which one enters a country; therefore, a gateway. The Psalmist said (118:19), "Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord." Is not the gate to righteousness the ability to think rightly? Jesus opened a great doorway of opportunity to his disciples when, as it is written, he "opened . . . their understanding." He taught them how to think rightly; how to know the truth, to understand and to utilize the power of God. He enabled them to realize their oneness with God, hence their oneness with the nature, qualities, and attributes of perfect Being, the result of which was shown when they took advantage of opportunities to heal the sick and cast out devils.

One may always think rightly, and right thinking leads to attainment. In "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" (p. 199) Mary Baker Eddy has written these inspiring words: "The devotion of thought to an honest achievement makes the achievement possible. Exceptions only confirm this rule, proving that failure is occasioned by a too feeble faith."

If one who has not succeeded in some honest endeavor will search his thought, he may find that what he needs in order to gain success is not so much an opportunity as a stronger faith in God, a firmer conviction of His omnipotence, an increased expectation of receiving, which, in turn, inspires greater effort towards attaining the good already provided by the loving Father. The faith which leads to achievement is founded on the

truth that God, good, is all-powerful and His goodness available to all.

It may be that one has for years believed he is the victim of circumstances, or is handicapped by his environment, or, perhaps, is held in bondage to distressful conditions because of lack of health, education, or personal influence. Since God is omnipotent, circumstances have no power to victimize the true thinker; and because God is everywhere, environment or place cannot handicap one who understands the omnipresence of good. And as spiritual man is freeborn, he can never be held in bondage to any material circumstance or condition. Understanding this, no one need remain behind the closed door of false beliefs; he may begin immediately to know and declare the truth regarding the situation. . . . Holding thought steadfastly to the truth leads to realization of the truth, and realization to achievement, thus proving that the door of opportunity is always open.

The gateway of opportunity is open and will ever remain so; but just as there are regulations to be complied with before a ship may enter a harbor, so there are laws to be obeyed as one passes through the gateway of right thinking to the land of opportunity. Not only should one conform his thinking to laws of right, justice, love, but he must obey them. Whatever the door of opportunity one would enter, the requirements are always the same, namely, that the desire be worthy, the purpose honest, and the effort steadfast.

Wherever one is, he may obey the loving counsel of the Master, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;" to which he added the promise, "and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33). Mrs. Eddy has written (The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany, p. 203), "Our thoughts beget our actions; they make us what we are." Conforming one's thoughts to those of God, good, one may go forward to the attainment of genuine success and happiness. Through the gateway of right thinking one may surely reach any high and honest goal.

One who enters the land of right desire through the door of correct thinking, achieving thereby some worthy purpose, will, as did the Psalmist, "praise the Lord;" for he knows that God is his strength and intelligence, and is therefore giving him the ability to progress.—The Christian Science Monitor.

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The simple, old-fashioned chemistry in which water was merely H₂O is a thing of the past. No less than eight other kinds of water exist, mixed together invisibly, and all but inseparably in ordinary water.

DORENA.

June 18.—The Charles Frazier family of Idaho visited J. E. Redford Sun.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hubbard and sons Quentin and Kenneth of Castle Rock, Wash., were overnight guests Sun. at the C. D. VanValin home.

Mr. and Mrs. Fleck left Tuesday for Portland to visit friends. Mrs. Fleck will attend the Relief Corps convention.

Mrs. Ruth England and daughter Robert England is visiting relatives in Creswell this week. Faye, Mary Doolittle, Edna Steele, Wayne Vaughn and Lita Mosby

have employment at Lorane in a pear orchard.

Everett Holstrom of Dexter spent the week end with the Mrs. M. Mosby family.

The annual school meeting was held Mon. evening. Mrs. Thomson was elected director and Mrs. Bettis clerk, both by acclamation.

That's System

"Some folks' idea of playin' a game fair," said Uncle Eben, "is to let every man bring his own loaded dice and wait for his chance to slip 'em into action."



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Loin Steak lb. 23c

Beef Roast . lb. 12½c & 15c

Hamburger lb. 15c

Pork Sausage lb. 18c