

INSTRUCTIONS & REGULATIONS.

1.—Visit the inhabitants of the district assigned to you for the purpose of bringing them to an acquaintance with salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, and of doing them good by every means in your power.

2.—Read a portion of the Word of God, and offer up solemn prayer in every house if you have an opportunity; where this cannot be done, introduce into your conversation as much of the Scriptures as possible, and see that the terms used are understood. In reading or speaking, let those portions of the Scriptures which bear upon the depravity of man,—the way of salvation through faith in Christ alone,—the necessity of a change of heart and holiness of life, ever hold a prominent place.

3.—Inculcate upon all the duty of searching the Scriptures, as a revelation of the mind and will of God to mankind generally, and as the standard by which they shall be judged in the day of Final Decision.

4.—Urge upon all persons you visit the necessity of attending the public worship of God. If they are neglecting it, point out to them the special importance and duty of their attending the ministry of the Gospel. Specify no particular church or chapel, leaving to those you visit the selection of the place most accordant with their own views, provided that in that place the great doctrines of the Reformation are faithfully taught.

5.—Inculcate upon parents the duty of training up their children in the way they should go, and the propriety of availing themselves of Week-day and Sabbath School instruction. Point out, as occasion may require, their relative duties. Encourage them in habits of order, regularity, and cleanliness as of great importance to their domestic comfort; and faithfully, but prudently reprove open vice when you see it manifested, such as swearing, intemperance, and the profanation of the Sabbath.

6.—See that those who have not the Scriptures are supplied with them.

7.—Endeavour to hold, at least, three meetings weekly in different parts of your districts, for the purpose of reading the Scriptures, exhortation, and prayer. Make the Word of God the foundation of your remarks at such meetings. These meetings should in general not exceed one hour at a time.

8.—Circulate no tract or book in your district which has not been approved by the Managers.

9.—Avoid all unnecessary controversy upon religious subjects. Do not interfere with the peculiar tenets of any individual respecting Church Government. Cautiously avoid all topics of an irritating tendency, and seek by a simple manifestation of the truth to commend yourself to every man's conscience.

10.—Studiously avoid entering upon subjects of a political nature, as foreign to the purpose of your visits.

11.—Devote yourself entirely to the objects of the Mission and abstain from all secular employment ; spend thirty-six hours every week in visiting and holding meetings. The number of visits should not be fewer than one hundred each week. Give yourself to study of the Scriptures and to prayer.

12.—Write the journal of your proceedings day by day with the strictest accuracy as to facts and circumstances, and submit it once a week to the Superintendent for inspection.

13.—You are required to abstain from preaching or conducting religious worship in any church, chapel, or meeting house, except with the written consent of the Superintendent, and to give yourself wholly to the work to which you are appointed by the Society.

14.—Conduct yourself in such a manner as will prove to the persons you visit that you are in earnest in seeking their benefit. Beware of the appearance of self importance ; you will most effectually commend the Saviour by addressing those you call on as fellow-sinners ; be courteous and affectionate. Go to your district with prayerfulness, and with earnest desire that every person you visit may be brought to a saving acquaintance with the Lord Jesus Christ. Your work is awfully important ; you have to deal with immortal souls, many of whom may never hear the Gospel but from you and whose eternal happiness may depend upon the message you deliver to them. Be faithful, be simple, keep the Lord Jesus continually before your own mind and commend Him and His great salvation to the people.

Go forth daily to your work with your heart lifted up to God for the assistance and direction of His Holy Spirit, relying upon His promise for wisdom and strength, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay or resist. Let the glory of God and the salvation of souls be your chief—your only end.

15.—Your district will be assigned to you by the Superintendent, and you are expected to accept with cheerfulness and alacrity all changes of work.

16.—No Mission Hall business to be done on any morning of the week.

17.—Missionaries to visit every morning from 9.30 to 12.30, and in the afternoon from 2 to 5. When they have meetings in their Halls, to leave off at 4. Deaconesses to visit from 10 to 12.30, and in the afternoon from 2 to 4.30. When having to attend meetings in the Halls to leave off at 3.30. Of course there must be “give and take” in this, according to the district and the habits of the people.

18.—On Friday afternoons, Missionaries and Deaconesses to be at the Office and in their places five minutes before three. Saturday no visitation. On Sunday five hours are to be given to the work on the district, in which the time occupied in meetings may be counted.

19.—Each Missionary to average 100 visits per week with three meetings, Each Deaconess to average 75 visits and two meetings per week. (*See page 4*)

20.—All arrangements for Missionaries' services at any of the Halls ; and all special services including Anniversaries, Flower Services, Harvest Festivals, Special Missions, etc., to be made with the Secretary and entered in the office diary. No Missionary or Deaconess to enter into any private engagement.

21.—All Journals to be changed on Friday afternoon, and only under *very* special circumstances can an Abstract be admitted except from the Country Missionaries, and they are to bring their Journals to the Office once a month, the other weeks to send an Abstract. When there is no meeting on Friday all Journals to be changed before 3 o'clock.

22.—Missionaries to record in their Journals any interesting cases they may meet with in visitation.

23.—Missionaries are to address all their permanent meetings *themselves*, and are not at liberty to ask others to speak at them except in a case of sudden sickness, or other emergency. All substitutes' names to be submitted to the Secretary for approval.

24.—No Missionary to come to the Office on other than very urgent business, and then only at 9.45, so as to get back at once to his district. If a Missionary wishes a lengthened interview with the Secretary he must send a post card asking for such; the Secretary will then fix such time as will best suit his own and the Missionary's convenience and work.

25.—Proof of all printed matter to be submitted to the Office for approval.

26.—No member of the staff to remove his dwelling without first consulting with and obtaining the Secretary's approval of the locality of the change.

27.—No workshop or other permanent meeting to be begun or given up without consultation with the Secretary.

28.—All political, secular, and controversial subjects to be carefully avoided, both in the Mission Halls and also at Open-Air Services in the streets.

29.—None of our Mission Halls to be lent or hired for any purpose whatever except with the consent in writing of the Secretary.

30.—No work is to be done in the Mission Halls on a Sunday morning so that Missionaries and workers can attend a place of worship.

31.—One of the strictest rules of the Mission is attendance at the Friday meeting of the staff. No one is allowed to be absent without permission except from sudden illness. No leave of absence will be given except on account of some very important matter. In case of unexpected absence a post card must be sent by Friday's post to the Secretary stating the cause of the absence.

32.—Those who wish a short interview with the Secretary on Friday, will enter their names on the interview sheet, and they will be seen in rotation after the meeting.

33.—Country Missionaries will come to the Friday meeting on the second Friday in each month, except notice be sent them not to do so, when their salaries will be remitted them.

34.—No meeting to be held on the following Fridays, viz :—Friday after New Year's day, Good Friday, Friday in Whit week, Friday in Christmas week.

35.—As the denomination to which the Missionary belongs is an element in his appointment, his intention to change his denomination must be intimated (if possible in a personal interview) to the Secretary.

“Inasmuch as the City Mission engages the whole time of its agents, it is an instruction to the members of its staff that any monies received by them in return for services rendered as city missionaries, must be paid over to the Mission funds.”—*Board Minute*.

Revised Rules authorized by the Board, May, 1901.

The number of visits required to be made by the Missionaries unattached to Mission Halls is 100 per week, except in those cases where the hours are shortened, in consequence of the age of the Missionary, by the arrangement of the Secretary.

Deaconesses unattached to Mission Halls are expected to make 75 visits per week, unless there is a specific reason to the contrary by arrangement with the Secretary.

The Missionaries associated with the Mission Halls will be expected to make 75 visits per week, and to devote each morning exclusively to district house-to-house visitation. This at five mornings per week—Monday to Friday inclusive—will enable at least 60 house-to-house visits per week to be made. No other visitation or Mission Hall work or meetings are to be substituted for or counted instead of morning visitation. The additional number of visits over the 60 may be undertaken in the afternoon or evening and may be among the people attending the halls.

The Deaconesses attached to the Mission Halls will be expected to make 60 visits per week, and to devote their mornings exclusively to house-to-house visitation.

When the number of visits does not reach the required total, the reason is to be stated on the form of weekly returns. It is to be understood that any satisfactory reason, arising from special cases or otherwise, will be accepted when stated as requested, but explanations are always to be given in writing, even if the Secretary has been previously consulted.

In recording the meetings at the halls, the usual practice is to remain of reckoning all the meetings taken, no matter by whom, but two members of the Staff must not count the same meeting, though the time occupied may be reckoned.

In District Visitation—unless in exceptional cases such as the dying or the deaf—do not include in your record of full visits any where Scripture is not read. They are to go under the heading of Conversations. These conversations are not equivalent to full visits and should be in addition to them. In special cases and in different kinds of work such as dinner-hour work, Hospitals, Workhouses, Railway men, Canal work and so on, it must of course be left to the conscientious judgment of the Staff as to the heading under which the work is to be recorded.