

a housewife, but they studied the Bible and they studied the helps which this minister had brought them in touch with and before very long they had a Bible class meeting in their home, and then soon they had another one, and before very long they had three Bible classes meeting there which this woman taught, and for twenty years every week she had these three Bible classes and the influence went out through the community of the teaching of that woman. The man also took a great interest in Christian work. They hunted around for quite a time before they found a church in the area where they could get the Word of God where they could truly grow in the faith, but everywhere they went their influence was positive for the Word of God. They had three children, three sons; one of them is a graduate of Faith Seminary and is now a foreign missionary, and as I think of the influence that's gone out from that family through what they did themselves and through their children whom they have brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord I often think of that minister who sowed the seed and went away and never knew anything about it and never saw what result has come from perhaps one one-thousandth of the seed that he had sown during his two years in that town. We do not know what the fruits may be of the seed that we distribute. God desires that we should sow beside all waters; wide distribution of the Word is vital. Now, we read here, "The sower went forth to sow," and then Christ explained the parable and He told them that the seed was the Word of the kingdom-- "when anyone heareth the Word of the kingdom". All right, we know what the seed is. Who is the sower? We notice He doesn't say. There is no mention in any one of the three gospels that give the parable of who the sower stands for, and I think that is intentional, because this is not here a picture simply of Christ going forth and sowing, although doubtless much that is said would apply to Him, but that is not the primary thought here. It is any sower who is here described. It is anyone who is sowing seed. The sowing of the seed is a duty for all. It is a duty for all Christians at all times. People think about--"Oh, how wonderful to serve the Lord here or there, or the other place, Crossing the ocean never made a missionary, nor did ordination ever make a man a Christian worker. It