

in the largest city in the neighborhood. Another one had ~~responsibility~~ responsibility for the work in the ~~ne~~ town in which they lived. Another one had the responsibility for missionary work south of there, and another one for missionary work north of there. And each of the four had a specific responsibility. Then they would ask the others to help them in their specific responsibility, and they all worked together. But if the work wasn't done in the particular area, that man was responsible. It was up to him to do it himself or to get ~~some~~ somebody to do it, and they found that the work went ahead twice as fast as it had before. ~~And~~ And everyone was happier. there was a fixed ~~responsibility~~ responsibility.

And so that is a principle which we find in human experience. And a principle which we find to be in line with the general working of the Spirit of God in the Bible. That ordinarily specific responsibility needs to be fixed and specific, in administration. Now, of course, there is a difference between administration and policy-making. In policy ~~fixing~~ fixing it is good to have a group which thinks of all possible angles, come to agreement on a general policy. But on details ^{of} ~~fixing~~ carrying out the policy, ~~which~~ which aspect of it is good to stress at a particular time, and which aspects may be held back for a particular time, what particular steps may be taken in carrying it out and so ~~on~~ on, if you get the whole group to try to decide ~~all~~ all these things, you usually slow up procedure so much that little is accomplished. But if you give one man a task, give him freedom to go ahead and work. And if he doesn't do it satisfactorily, then get somebody else. But don't try to hamper him with dictating to him on details. Ordinarily work goes forward much faster.

And so this is the general experience of God's Word, and it is the general experience of human life. And I would say that the Lord knew very well that those movements which ~~proceeded~~ proceeded, those churches which went forward, those areas in which there was progress, would in the main be areas in which there would be one individual who was leading and directing. And He knew that that would work so definitely, that there was no need of stressing it in the Acts and the ~~epistles~~ epistles. And yet on the other hand there are various dangers connected with it. When the man makes it a hereditary thing, and passes it on to his sons, or when the man becomes old and weak and still keeps up the authority