

My Future Neighbors

#0999

Study given by W.D. Frazee—January 30, 1981

The man that invented the electric starter and a number of other things once made this remark that I like very much: "My interest is in the future because that's where I expect to spend the rest of my life."

But this evening it is our privilege to look beyond the future on this planet and look at eternity. I'd like to study with you for a little while tonight and share with you some thoughts on the kind of people we're are going to have as neighbors. In fact, the title of my subject tonight, if you'd like it, is this: "My Future Neighbors."

Now if you were going to buy a piece of property, expecting to live there for 10 or 20 or more years, you would be interested in the neighborhood, wouldn't you? But suppose you're going to be there for a *million* years; that would be even *more* important to know what kind of neighbors you were going to have, wouldn't it? Do you know what kind of neighbors you're going to have in the heavenly abode, in heaven with Jesus for a thousand years, and then here on this earth when God makes it new?

Remember Jesus said He was going to prepare a place for us. Most of you know John 14:1-3 so I'm going to ask you to repeat it with me:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" John 14:1-3.

You and I must be very important to Jesus. He proved that when He came to die for us and then went back to heaven to intercede for us and to *prepare a place* for us. To prepare a place for us. Now anything in this universe that God has created would be worth living in. But although in the Father's house there are many mansions, Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you." Wonderful thought that Jesus is not satisfied with the *ordinary* for His children. They're not ordinary to Him. Each one is *extraordinary*, extraordinary... Oh friends, how wonderful it will be to see Him and to see what He's gotten ready for us. "...I go to prepare a place for you," a *special* place.

The largest city in the nation is all a thrill with the welcome to the returning hostages. Tons of ticker tape and other celebration methods are being used to let those people know that New York City and America are so glad to have them back. But what

will it be to be welcomed by the representatives of the *entire universe* as we enter the pearly gates and are escorted down the streets of gold to share in that welcome from Jesus? It'll be a wonderful thing, won't it? [Audience responds: Amen.] And then, somewhere along the line, He's going to show each one of us the *particular* place He has prepared for us. And I'm sure that I'm going to be interested in who is living in the neighborhood. It would be nice if some of the people I know in *this* world I'll know there, but we'll have the privilege of getting acquainted with a lot of *other* folks, won't we?

As Elder Luther Warren used to put it, speaking of Jesus, "My best Friend has made arrangements for me to become personally acquainted with everybody that has ever lived in this world that's worth knowing."

Enoch's there—he has already arrived. Moses, Elijah, and a host of others that rose with Jesus and ascended with Him, whose names we don't know, and oh, the *millions* of the saved that are welcomed with us at the coming of Jesus, either resurrected or translated, and go with Him and with us to the Father's house. *Every* one is somebody worth knowing—no two alike! Each one is somebody to get acquainted with, somebody whose life story is worth hearing. You just heard Brother [Starns] tell how the Lord prepared him and led him into this message ten years ago. Wonderful story, wonderful story... God used the entering wedge, the right hand, to reach him. Every one of you has a story. Wouldn't it be wonderful to hear, not only from those that we've become somewhat acquainted with in the Bible, but millions of others whose names are not recorded in Holy Writ. Each one of them will have a wonderful story to tell. It'll be worth listening to.

Those are the kind of neighbors we're going to have, dear friends, my future neighbors. I know they're going to be *good* neighbors. There are two texts that convince me of it. The first is Revelation, the 21st chapter and the 17th verse and the next is Revelation 22:14. This is talking about that city with the twelve gates of pearl, the streets of gold, the wall of jasper, beautiful golden city... Revelation 21:26-27.

"And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it" Revelation 21:26.

Brother, read for me verse 27. I want this verse to stand out so I'm going to have my friend read it for me:

"And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life"
Revelation 21:27.

To get in, all my neighbors will have to have their name written where?
[Audience responds: The book of life.] The book of life. There won't be any abomination. There won't be anything that defiles. Good neighbors, aren't they? Now Revelation 22:14:

“Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city” Revelation 22:14.

Isn't that assuring? It will be perfectly safe with those neighbors, aren't we, because they do what with the commandments? They *keep* them. You know, I've been meditating on these commandments as the marks, they show us the marks, of how our neighbors will act in heaven. Think what security it is!

Let's start with the last one, the tenth one. What's that say? [Audience responds: Thou shalt not covet.] Thou shalt not covet, that is, not covet anything that is thy neighbor's. It's all right to covet *good* things that *belong* to you, that God has got your name on. As we were studying not long ago, all through eternity we will see something *more* to acquire, something *more* to study, something *more* to achieve, always Divinely inspired coveting the best gifts. But not once will we arouse the envy or jealousy of a single soul, because *every one* of our neighbors has had written in his heart:

“Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's” Exodus 20:17.

Won't it be nice to know we are not *bothering* anybody; that nobody has any designs on anything we have? Isn't that a *comfortable* feeling? Will we need any locks on the doors? No. Policemen will have to get another job when they go there because we won't need any security forces. The physician will do all that medical work here in *this* world because it's written:

“And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick...” Isaiah 33:24.

No sick neighbors. No danger of getting the flu when you go visiting. The evangelist will be out of a job—no more souls to win. But we'll all enjoy reviewing and reciting the providences of God in our earth life.

Look at some of these other commandments. Let's take a look at that fifth one. Will you all say it with me?

“Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee” Exodus 20:12.

Any unruly children to make problems? No. But can an unruly boy or girl go there? He can *get ready* to go there by having Jesus change his heart and life, can't

he? Now when we get older, do we *still* need this commandment? Yes. It would be too bad if the children were all behaved and obedient up there, but the older folks made trouble, wouldn't it?

[Elder Frazee reads the commandment again.] Let's take a look at that land. Here in this world we may plant a garden, but something may happen and we move away. But *there* the Bible says that we'll build houses and inhabit them and plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them:

“...For as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and Mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands” Isaiah 65:22.

I was looking at that expression, “...Mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.” You mean my neighbors will all enjoy *working*? I won't need to then, will I? They will all bring it to me and share their raspberries and strawberries and grapes and apples and pears. I can sit there under the tree and enjoy while all my neighbors do the work. Is that the picture? Ah friends, I'll enjoy having all the neighbors bring me things, but I'll be so glad they'll find *me* telling them about some *wonderful* watermelon that I've got. You know, really, I have an idea about a special watermelon I'm going to have. It's going to be just the right size to hold in my hand. I got the idea from some of these little round watermelons that they have here. Have any of you seen them? They're cute little things... But mine in heaven in the earth made new are going to be better than that because you'll be able to eat the *whole* thing [laughter]—rind, seeds, and all. And sweet? Oh my!

“Mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.” Yes, I'm glad there won't be a lazy neighbor around. All the laziness has been cured here in *this* life. What do you say? [Audience responds: Amen.] “Mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.”

Well, we can think of these various commandments. I like especially that first one:

“Thou shalt have no other gods before Me” Exodus 20:3.

I'll have the joy of knowing that all my neighbors are making God first. Is that right? There's a lot of safety and security in that. If everybody in *this* world would do it, we could have heaven on earth *right now*, couldn't we? Yes. It's putting *self* in the place of God that makes all our troubles. “Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.”

Then there's that Fourth Commandment. Will all my neighbors keep the Sabbath? Is there a verse in the Bible about that? Why yes. Let's take a look at it in Isaiah the 66th chapter, verses 22 and 23. Last chapter of Isaiah. Isn't this book of Isaiah a wonderful book? What inspiring, inspired descriptions of the glorious future! Isaiah 66:22-23. Brother, read that for me, will you? This is marvelous:

“For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before Me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, saith the LORD” Isaiah 66:22-23.

Wasn't that nice? *All* my neighbors will join in worshiping God in a special way every returning Sabbath day. Well, it's a wonderful law.

Now I want you to turn over to the book of Revelation and take a look at God's photograph of the people that are going to be my neighbors in heaven. Let's see what they look like *now*. Revelation, the 12th chapter and the 17th verse. Now I want you to read this one with me. Revelation 12:17:

“And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” Revelation 12:17.

You remember a little while ago we read Revelation 22:14 that those who have a right to the tree of life and enter in through the gates into that city, all my neighbors that are going to be there, are those who do *what* with the commandments? *Keep* the commandments. But *here* is a picture of them down here in this world and exactly the *same* expression is made concerning them. They *keep* the commandments of God. They keep the commandments of God. You see, it's like this, friends: God lets us have a *taste* of heaven here in this world to see if we like it. It would be too bad to sentence us to an eternity of something that we don't enjoy, wouldn't it? So all my neighbors will be those that *enjoy* the commandments, *enjoy* the law, and *enjoy* keeping it, and they have entered into that experience *where*? [Audience responds: Here.] Right *here* in *this world*. They keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus. Now in Revelation 14:12 we get another picture of them. It's the *same* group, as you'll see. And again, it's clear that they're right here in this world. They *keep* the commandments.

You'll read this one with me too, won't you:

“Here...”

Wait a minute! What's that *first word*? [Audience responds: Here.] Oh, surely not! Have to wait till the cloud appears... Have to wait till Jesus comes... What does it say? [Audience responds: Here.] All right. Again, together:

“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus”
Revelation 14:12.

What word is repeated there? [Audience responds: Here.] Oh, let's *hear* that 'here'! What do you say? "...*Here* are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."

Well, somebody says, "Well, I don't see how a person can do it." I don't either friends, I don't either. In fact, I know we *can't*. You see, if my neighbors are going to be there and they're all going to keep the commandments, I have an idea that God expects it of *me* too. What do you think? Or is He going to have all my neighbors like this, and let me in on some separate plan? What do you think? Really, friends, I'd feel out of place, wouldn't you, to have *everybody* in the neighborhood happy and working and me lazy? Wouldn't I feel out of place? And have *everybody* in the neighborhood happy and loving others and me selfish?

Oh, I thank God that this verse has in it the *secret* of success. What is it? The faith of Jesus. The faith of Jesus. Jesus came down from heaven 2,000 years ago to reveal to us the *secret* of pleasing God and showing us the *beauty* of the heavenly life.

And I want you to turn to John, the 5th chapter and the 30th verse as we examine this matter of the *faith of Jesus*. As we see how *He* kept the commandments, we'll learn how *we* can keep them. There's no other way. John, the 5th chapter and the 30th verse. Brother Boykin, I wish you'd read for me the first line of this, John 5:30:

"I can of Mine own self do nothing..." John 5:30.

What a statement! Did you know that was in the Bible? Jesus said, "I can of Mine own self do..." [Audience responds: Nothing.] Well, if *you* can't do anything by yourself, then you and Jesus have something in common, don't you. Now of course, He was the infinite Son of God, and He *could* have come to this world and simply showed us what a *God* could do in obedience to the commandments. But that wasn't the *plan*. "I can of Mine own self do..." [Audience responds: Nothing.] He *laid aside* His glory. He put Himself *into* the problems that you and I have. He exercised in His own behalf *no* power that is not freely offered to us. "I can of Mine own self do nothing."

Well, where did He *get* the power? Let's look at John 14:12. We were looking at *Revelation* 14:12 and now we're looking at *John* 14:12. This is on the *faith of Jesus*, the faith of Jesus. We'll start reading with the 10th verse. He's talking to His disciples, particularly for Philip in this passage:

"Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself: but the Father that dwelleth in Me, He doeth the works" John 14:10.

Who did the works? [Audience responds: The Father.] You mean Jesus was dependent on His Father? That's what He says. Now this was not some automatic,

computer-like arrangement. No. *Every day*, don't miss this, Jesus had the experience of surrendering *His* wishes, *His* will, *His* plans, to the Father and seeking the Father to know *His* plans for the Son. You remember in the Garden of Gethsemane, the *supreme* example of this situation. Did He have a request of His Father? But what was His greatest, most *earnest*, request?

“...Nevertheless not My will, but thine, be done” Luke 22:42.

Isn't that beautiful, friends? This is the *faith of Jesus*, the faith of Jesus—to let the Father's will be the guiding goal, the Father's will to be the supreme motive.

Do you know what that takes? That takes *love*. Did Jesus love His Father? He *abode* in that love. Now look across the page at John 15:9-10:

“As the Father hath loved Me, so have I loved you: continue ye in My love. If ye keep My commandments, ye shall abide in My love; even as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love” John 15:9-10.

Why did He keep the commandments of His Father? Because He *loved* His Father. Do *you* love Him? “If ye love Me,” He says in John 14:15, you'll do what? [Audience responds: Keep my commandments.] You'll keep My commandments. Love, you see, is a great desire to please. Jesus wanted to please His Father *more than* He wanted to please Himself. In taking our humanity, meeting the temptations of Satan as we must meet them, *every time* He looked up to the Father and said, “Father, what is it You want? That's what I want. Which way do You want Me to go? That's where I choose to go.”

None of us will *ever* be tempted to the degree in the severe way that Christ was tempted. He was tempted in *all* points like as we are, yet without sin. And the secret was His *trust* in His Father in heaven, and His *love* for the Father. And He says, we read it there, “I can of Mine own self do nothing.” Now let's see how much *we* can do without *Him*. John 15:5, the last line:

“...Without Me ye can do nothing” John 15:5.

If I had a blackboard here and put it on the blackboard, what would I write? A big, round goose egg. Zero. That's how much I can do without Jesus. Now don't forget, that's how much Jesus could have done without His Father. I mean, He *put* Himself in that position, in that relationship to His Father and to the world and to Satan and to us. He *made* Himself, in this earthly battle against sin, as dependent on the Father as we are on the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Ah friends, if we'll *believe* that, it'll give us a *world* of courage and faith and trust.

[Long pause in tape].

And that experience was His from beginning to end. It must be *ours* all the way through. We *never* come to the place where we can do it on our own.

Some seem to think that Jesus helped them get started and then expects them to do it by themselves from then on. Oh, no. No, no. No more than Peter could walk on the water without Jesus. And remember *this*: if it depends upon me, I know in advance that I'm whipped, I'm lost, I'm a failure. Isn't that right? That's correct. But Jesus, if I'm depending on Him, will He be stronger next week than He is now? What does Hebrews 13:8 say?

“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever”
Hebrews 13:8.

You see, unless we learn this lesson, we could get anxious—worried when we get to heaven. Where did sin start anyway? It started in heaven, not down here in this world. But we could begin to get anxious or worried or concerned up there; but we will have *learned so fully* the lesson of simply trusting Jesus, that all through eternity our joy will increase as we rest in those arms of love.

Do you suppose there'll be some things we don't understand there to start with? How would we ever *learn* if we knew it all to start with? Wouldn't it be too bad, (oh, don't miss this), if I got so used to listening to people's quibbles and questions and doubts and objections down here in this world, that I got in the habit of using *that* method so that I am never sure of anything? Wouldn't heaven be a queer place for me? I thank God, I thank God, for the simple truth that you and I can have not only the commandments of God, but the faith of Jesus. We can trust the Father as *Jesus* trusted the Father. He put everything in His Father's hands. That was His closing prayer on the cross. With His last breath He said, “Father, into Thy hands I commit My spirit. I put my life in Your hands.” It's a safe place, friends. There's no other.

So let us never think that this is something that we learn like we learn to paint or draw or build or cook. It's not something we *master* as we master some trade or profession. It's true that we are to learn of Jesus, but unless He's living in our hearts, everything we learn only mocks us. Turn over to Ephesians, the 3rd chapter, beginning with the 14th verse:

“For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend” Ephesians 3:14-17.

You and I can be strengthened by His Spirit in the inner man. Where is Christ to dwell? Did the Father dwell with Jesus? He wants to dwell with us. “That Christ may

dwell in your hearts..." *how*? [Audience responds: By faith.] By faith. Did Jesus see the Father? Not day by day, only by faith as *we* do. It's true, He heard the Father speak at the baptism and the transfiguration, but ordinarily Christ's contact with the Father was by what? He *believed*. He believed the Word. You and I can believe. Christ is to dwell in your hearts by faith that ye may being rooted and grounded in love will be able to comprehend with all saints the breadth, length, depth, height, and know the love of Christ. (See Ephesians 3:18-19.)

Now read that 19th verse with me for I want you to notice the *grand climax* of it all:

"And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God" Ephesians 3:19.

Isn't that wonderful? How can I be filled with all the fulness of God? If I have Jesus. Of course, if I don't have Him, I *never* can. But if I *have* Jesus, in *Him* is the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And so Paul wishes us, in the 20th verse:

"Unto Him that is able to do exceeding more abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh..." Ephesians 3:20.

Worketh where? [Audience responds: In us.] In us. Let's take it, what do you say, dear friends? Because I tell you, the *same joy* that's going to fill our hearts in the mansions of the blessed can be ours as we walk this pilgrim way. It is the *assurance* that Jesus is our Savior, our Redeemer, that the One that created us has saved us through the offering of His life upon the cross and His intercession in the sanctuary, that He's living *in us* by His Spirit, constantly working with that *mighty Power* that raised Him from the dead. He's a wonderful Savior, what do you say? [Audience responds: Amen.]

[Elder Frazee begins to sing "Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It" and audience joins in.]

Now, I've saved the best for last. I want to show you my most *wonderful* future neighbor. Revelation, the 21st chapter and the 3rd verse. Revelation 21:3. See if you don't think I'm privileged to have this hope. It's for you too, isn't it? Who's going to be our neighbor? [Audience responds: God.] Isn't that nice?

"And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God" Revelation 21:3.

Won't it be wonderful to have God as our neighbor *all* the time, the Father and the Son joining in fellowship with us as we share that eternal fellowship with Them?

Why, Zephaniah says He's going to be so happy about it that He's going to *sing*. Won't that be wonderful, dear heart, to hear God sing? He's going to sing over *you*; He's so glad to have you home, and so with each one of us. Oh, to hear God sing! What a voice, like the sound of many waters; singing the *reunion* song; singing the *welcome* song; singing the *joy* song.

Oh, we cannot disappoint Him, friends. What a blessed hope we have! What do you say? And remember, we can have as much as we can hold of it right now. As you've heard me say, Heaven is so wonderful that there's no way to get any more at the other end because it'll never end. The only way to have more is to get started sooner. So if you haven't started before, start *tonight*. Let's open up our hearts to have more and more and more, what do you say? And *never*—oh I plead with you, from this night on, if you've ever been troubled with it—never let the Devil *bother* you with the thought that you're weak and you can't do much about it. In fact, we read tonight, "...without Me," Jesus says, "ye can do..." *what?* [Audience responds: Nothing.] Nothing. Well, let's *leave* it there. That's about as bad off as you could get, isn't it?

"...Without Me, ye can do nothing" John 15:5.

But how much can we do *with* Him? [Audience responds: All things.]

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"
Philippians 4:13.

And don't forget, He said that He put Himself in the place where, without the Father, He could do *what?* Nothing. Nothing. So He did it depending upon the Father; you and I can do it depending upon Him and the Father.

"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep
the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus"
Revelation 14:12.

And faith is not something we *see*. It's something we *believe* because God says so. Shall we send Jesus the word that we *do* believe what He says and thank Him for it? Thank the Lord.

If somebody would like to give *your* witness tonight, if so, just come right up and let your mouth confess the faith which your heart has experienced.

[To young man coming to share his testimony, "You want to hear God sing, don't you..." who replies, "You bet!"]

Young man: "I figure it this way: if God can work with such unpromising material as I see myself to be, then it would behoove me to look at others in the same light that I think He looks at me, so when I look at someone else, I wouldn't get irritable. I wouldn't get angry with them or upset with them or impatient with them because I'm looking at

them from the standpoint that *God* does. And if God can make something out of *me*, I suppose I can help Him make something of *someone else*. And I think that might make us a little more patient with one another. I've decided it will help *me*."

[Elder Frazee begins singing another stanza of "Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It" and audience joins in.]

Woman: "Well, I'm having such a nice time enjoying my neighbors *right now*, and when *they* have grown spiritually, and when *I* have, that's going to be a wonderful occasion. I'm looking forward to enjoying it."

Elder Frazee: That's right. Just as well enjoy some of it now, hadn't we.

[Elder Frazee begins singing another stanza of "Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It" and audience joins in.]

Young man: "One thing that comes to *my* mind when I think of the neighborhood in heaven, I don't picture it as a tenement house where we'll all living on top of each other and there's no elbow room, but I *do* think of it as a place where some of our dearest friends on *this* earth are going to be our closest neighbors up in heaven, and I can't think of anything I'd rather have than to have so many of *you* as my neighbors. I want to be there in that neighborhood."

Elder Frazee: Thank the Lord.

Young man: "As a little old lady once wrote, who did a lot of other writing, when we get to heaven we will say as we look back over our trials, "Heaven is cheap enough. Heaven is cheap enough." When I get discouraged and I have trials, and all I have to do is think about Jesus and I say again, "Heaven is cheap enough." I want to rededicate my life tonight and I want to see you all there too."

Man: "Elder Frazee, I know you don't remember this, but as I was baptized, a little group on the bank there at my baptism sang this song, "Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It" [Elder Frazee, "Well, thank the Lord!"] and this has been one of my favorite hymns since that time. I just want to share with you that it's been my experience that there's no excuse for discouragement with the Lord. He loves me, and He does the very best thing for my good now and I know that regardless of what happens in my life, the Lord is trying to teach me something and He's trying to bring something out, or develop me in some way to prepare me for this home that He's promised to prepare me to live as a good neighbor."

Elder Frazee: Thank you. You come on over and eat some watermelon with me, Chuck. [Laughter]

Child: "I'm thankful that God is choosing my neighbors."

Elder Frazee: That's right.

All right, let's sing a song about that glorious land.

“There's a land that is fairer than day,
and by faith we can see it afar;
for the Father waits over the way,
to prepare us a dwelling place there.”
In the Sweet By and By, by Samuel F. Bennett

Before you sing, Brother Boykin has a song for me that I asked him to get ready and I'm ready for it now. “I Will Sing You a Song of That Beautiful Land,” page 552. Turn to 552 and we'll listen while Brother Boykin sings this song. This song has been going through my mind this week, this song that Brother's going to sing for me, and I'll know you'll get a blessing as you hear it.

[Brother Boykin sings.]

Isn't that a beautiful song? Thank the Lord. Now turn back one number, 551. We're going to stand and sing this. If there's somebody here tonight that has never given your heart to God and will tonight, come up and give me your hand. If there's somebody that once knew the Master and has lost the way, come back tonight, friend, let's go together to the city of God. Come and give me your hand, let's pray. And if there's somebody here that's been walking the pilgrim way and you've gotten discouraged or disheartened, and you see that there's something that's been impeding your progress, you want to give that to Jesus, come, let's seek the Lord. Page 551.

[Audience sings “Sweet By and By.”]

Now, would you like to kneel with Brother Boykin and me as we pray for these? Is there somebody out there in the audience that wants to be remembered, raise your hand. Thank God for every one.

Brother Boykin: “And now our heavenly Father, we've come to the close of this *beautiful* meeting. We've been meditating on the glorious things about heaven, and surely, Lord, something *far* more precious to us than the streets of gold and all the pearls and the diamonds, will be the saints of God, the angels, the communion of the Father and fellowship with Jesus Himself. We thank Thee that we may even *now* begin to enjoy this fellowship with Thee and with one another. Heaven begins on earth; as the days of heaven upon earth, Moses said, so may we enjoy that *right now*. Thank Thee, Father, that we can make religion attractive and we may invite others to come and *join* with us in this band, marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion. We want to renew our dedication, our consecration. Forgive our sins, dear Jesus, our sins of neglect, of doubting, of giving in to the suggestions of the enemy at times. Thank Thee for Thy glorious arm that is let down to encourage us. Bless these who have come forward,

those who have raised their hands. Give them, Father, what they need this very night. In the name of Jesus, our blessed Lord, Amen.

Elder Frazee: Dear Father, I join with my dear brother and with all these dear ones that have come forward and with these that have raised their hands, and all of us together as a congregation, we thank Thee that we have an audience with the King of kings. We thank Thee that by faith we're already there in our thinking, in our imagination, in our thoughts. We're there tonight, dear Lord, on the sea of glass. We're there tonight before Thy throne. And Jesus our elder Brother is there and we thank Thee. And so we're trusting in His merits and in His prayers for every one of us. We *believe* that He is saying, as He said to Peter, "I have prayed for you." And so we're trusting those prayers tonight, and we go *confident* that Thou hast heard us because we've asked in dear Jesus' name, and we believe Your word, Amen.

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