

1. Ideals
2. Faith
3. cheerfulness

4<sup>th</sup> in Series of Essentials in Character

I Cor. 15:58. "Always abounding in the work of the Lord."

The <sup>religion of an individual</sup> Xtn rel. is a rel. of growing enthusiasm as the purpose of Christ develops in the individual.

Paul says, "Be not weary in well doing." "Pray without ceasing." "But let your speech Be always with grace." "Epaphras, a servant of X salutes you, always striving forward for you in prayer."

"Rejoice in the Lord always."

"Stand fast in the Lord." "Praying always and watching thereunto with all perseverance."



"Giving thanks always for all things"  
"Stand fast therefore in  
the liberty wherewith Christ  
hath made us free." "See  
that ye abound" in liberality.  
"Watch ye, stand fast, quit ye  
like men, be strong."  
"Therefore, my <sup>beloved</sup> brethren, be ye  
steadfast, unmoveable, always  
abounding in the work of the  
Lord, forasmuch as ye know  
that your labour is not in  
vain in the Lord." These  
admonitions of St. Paul give  
us clearly and exactly the  
way that the Christian should serve  
the Lord. Did you notice how

(2)

many  
"different ways Paul tells us  
to be enthusiastic?" Be  
not weary, always with grace,  
always striving fervently,  
"with all perseverance,  
"abounding in liberality," be  
strong, always abounding  
in the work of the Lord."

There is no place in life where  
the xtu can render a half-  
hearted service. Life to be  
effective must be intense,  
fervent - enthusiastic.

The opposition of enemies,  
The ~~hindrances~~ obstacles  
placed in our way by well  
meaning friends, The lim-



hindrances to our progress caused  
by flaws in our own char-  
acter, make enthusiasm a  
necessary element of the  
character. We can get no  
where without enthusiasm  
if we <sup>are</sup> moving forward. It  
does not take much enthu-  
siasm to fall <sup>backward</sup> into a hole  
or to slide down a muddy  
hillside, and still less to  
fail in an examination.  
Enthusiasm is needed where  
men are pushing onward,  
where there are loads to  
lift, where there is a victory  
to win. Enthusiasm is



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fervor, intensity and  
vehemence joined with  
faith, courage and hope-  
fulness. (It is a composite  
element made up by unit-  
ing certain other elements)

There is a fervor like the  
rays of the burning sun.  
It is so diffused that its  
power is not centered.

These fervor is not suf-  
ficient. They tell us  
that an apparatus has  
been invented by which  
they are converting the  
sun's rays into power.

There must be in a like



manus, a collection of all the fervent rays that emanate from our burning heart, concentrating our fervor into an intelligent field of service - which we call life. This fervent, intent and vehement life is a life of faith, courage and hopefulness - which we call enthusiasm.

No true enthusiasm ever dies. If enthusiasm dies it ~~was~~ not real and true. <sup>The life of</sup> Enthusiasm & life is drawn out of faith, courage and hope. The intensity and fervor of enthusiasm are developed by the



(4)

frictions of life. His  
travels and oppositions  
develop rather than  
kill enthusiasm. It is  
true that many are  
discouraged easily  
because they are not  
grounded deeply. They  
do not know God and  
His power. <sup>They only know Him</sup> superficially.

All young people have  
courage and hope. Young  
people will try anything.  
Young people are weakest  
in faith in God, yet  
not always. David, the  
shepherd boy, heard Goliath



Challenges the armies of God.  
David's courage and hope  
backed by a strong faith  
in God urged him down  
the hillside and as he  
passed over the brook to  
go to the giant, picked up  
a few stones for his  
slings and rushed on  
while the tens of 1000s of  
soldiers looked down upon him.  
He knew <sup>God and knew that God</sup> he could do it,  
and <sup>in that faith</sup> he did it. He slew  
the giant. David did  
not know of the giant  
till the day he had to  
go forth to kill him.  
We never know at 20



(5)

what will occur at 30 or  
40. Life starts out on  
fair day with not a  
single cloud in sight.  
The breezes are pleasant  
and invigorating. Our  
songs flow from rages,  
expectant hearts. Soon  
The clouds begin to gather.  
(The horizon becomes hazy)  
The breezes become a gale.  
Songs are hushed. We  
are in a storm. The  
waves beat and break  
over our rolling ship. We  
are pounded by adversity.  
There is but one thing to do.



We must hold steadfast on  
our way, facing with all  
our strength the onslaught  
of the storm.

We start out on life  
knowing that there are ene-  
mies but little thinking  
that opposition would  
come from just where  
and how it does. <sup>come</sup> The  
trees thrown across our  
path, the bridges destroyed  
before us, is the work  
not of enemies but of  
friends - sometimes as  
Christ has told us of  
our own household.

There is no human organization



6  
perfect. In fact all are  
very imperfect. The  
churches, the lodges, the  
business corporations, the  
mission Boards - all  
have their troubles.

We must ~~not~~ face the  
stern fact that life is  
a struggle. Smiles  
become less frequent,  
laughter loses much of  
its wholesome joy, while  
personal friends become  
fewer as the years  
<sup>increase in number.</sup>  
lengthen. Just here  
lies life's great peril.  
We must be careful not



to allow the opposition to  
betray our ideals and  
to divert us from our  
purpose. When we enter  
a storm we must be  
careful not to allow the  
storm to enter <sup>if it does</sup> us. It  
will blow us to pieces. <sup>if we</sup>  
do. Keep your life calm  
within, push on, the  
storm ~~will~~ cease, if <sup>youself</sup> you  
do not become a storm  
center.

You expect to do a great and  
good work. To live a Xtra  
life is a tremendous task.  
Elizabeth Phelps in the  
"Struggle for Immortality" asks:



(7)

"What do the believers undertake?  
Simply the imitation of the  
most intense life the world  
has known." In following  
the example of Christ you  
will never succeed if you  
expect too much help  
because you will be disappointed.  
from your fellow men. You  
can never succeed if you  
allow yourself to become  
discouraged. You cannot  
allow yourself to meditate  
on your failures longer than  
to see how to avoid them failures  
in the future. You can  
never succeed if you allow  
the temptations to distract



your attention from what  
God has given you to do.

We must always be abounding in the work of the  
Lord."

Enthusiasm is not secured  
on demand. It is compounded  
by long experiences directed  
by experience in intelligence.  
There is an enthusiasm which  
today cries "Hosanna!" and  
tomorrow "Crucify Him!".  
There is an enthusiasm that  
begins the school term, bringing  
everything before it for a  
time. Then it lags and  
the lessons are not prepared.  
There is a temporary enthusiasm



(8)

That lifts you out of the <sup>morning</sup> fogs  
~~of~~ ~~and~~ up into the  
splendours of noontday  
sun, only to drop <sup>you</sup> down  
at evening at eventide  
into the darkness of a  
starless night. And

There is a habitual  
enthusiasm that knows  
no lagging, that refuses  
to be diverted from its  
high purpose, that holds  
steadily on though the way  
seems impossible, that  
will not ~~give~~ turn loose  
though the flesh is  
torn from the hand,



That will die rather than give  
you never saw fire that was not lost. It is  
the nature of fire. ~~Every~~ <sup>you</sup> should always be  
up. ~~It is~~ <sup>the</sup> enthusiasm  
enthusiastic because <sup>it is the nature of</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~we~~ <sup>we</sup> ~~wait~~ <sup>is the</sup> " "

That comes from close  
<sup>in our new life</sup>  
association with Jesus  
<sup>the author of our new life</sup>  
Christ, who said "I must  
work the works of Him who  
sent me" and "how am I  
pained till it be accom-  
plished!"

\*1 from realization that you have passed  
from the old life into a new life. When  
Marie Antoinette came to France to  
be Queen, she put off her Austrian  
clothes and put on new French clothes.  
She had entered a new life. So the <sup>you</sup>  
to have enthusiasm must realize that  
he is in a new life - a new responsibility

and 2<sup>d</sup>



that will die rather than give up. You never saw a cold fire. It is the nature of fire to be hot. You never saw a ~~cold~~ <sup>discouraged</sup> xty. It is the nature of xty to be enthusiastic because it feeds on the faith, courage and hope of the power of God.

The enthusiasm that we want is that which comes from a realization that we have passed from the old life into a new life. When Marie Antoinette came to France to be Queen, she put off her Austrian dress and



put on new French robes.

She had entered a new life.

So the student to secure the student enthusiasm must realize that he is in a new life - old things must be put off.

And 2dly, the enthusiasm that endures must come from close association with ~~and imitation of~~ <sup>with</sup> Jesus Christ, the author of that new life - who said: "I must work the works of Him who sent me," and, "How am I pained till His work be accomplished!"