

field, and we are quite convinced that that is the place where He desires us to labor, we should not allow any obstacle which can possibly be overcome to keep us from it.

Those of us who are tempted thus to find obstacles hindering us from entering the place of greatest service, can well follow the example of the man of whom we have been reading. He was ready to leave his country, his kinsmen, all that he had known previously, and cross the sea of Galilee to a very different region, in order to follow Christ. Nothing weighed in his mind against that great longing. He was ready to count all things but loss in order that he might follow Him.

Yet we find this man very disappointed. He was not hindered by any of the obstacles or difficulties. No human desire kept him from following his vision. The definite command of Christ stopped him. He was told not to follow Him into the distant lands but to return to his own house and to show there what God had done for him. If we are convinced that a distant field of labor, that some enterprise in the far corners of the earth is the place where we can be of greatest service for God, we should let no obstacle keep us from going there but we must not think that the distant place is necessarily the one. Some who have had great visions of service in distant lands have been, like this man, very disappointed to find that it was not God's will that they should do that work. God's place for any particular individual may be right at home.

A second feature about this man was that he was a true witness. Though he was very disappointed at the refusal of his Lord to allow him to follow Him as he desired, he did not sulk nor become despondent. He did not set back and dream of the great service which he might have performed in the distant lands and let himself be overcome with disappointment at the thought that he was doomed to be of little account in the service of his Master. He carried out to the uttermost of his ability the commission that Christ had given him right in the place where he was. I have often been impressed with the attitude taken by many missionary speakers, that the only field for real missionary work is the distant corners of