

This minister began preparing his people for Billy Sunday's coming, preparing them, training them, in order to meet with the new converts and make them feel at home, and invite them to the church help them grow in grace and in the knowledge of His Word.

Billy Sunday came and over 100 people came to the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburg and joined the church. A year later all but two of them were still members of that church. Preparation is tremendously important for an evangelistic campaign or for anything else in life. It is good for us to be ready for it and do whatever is necessary in order to get the utmost from it. Next Tuesday is the Day of Prayer and you will get far more benefit from the day of prayer if you are prepared for it. So this morning I thought I would speak a little about Preparation for the Day of Prayer.

I would like you to look at certain things, in certain directions in preparation for the Day of Prayer. The first of those and perhaps the most important is to look at God. It is to think of God. How easy it is for us to go through life believing in God but not being conscious of His presence all the time. I remember when R. A. Torrey held a great evangelistic campaign in London, he had a slogan put out "Prepare to Meet God" and he had cards printed with this on it and he had them put on the front of many taxis and street cars and other places. It called people's attention to the fact that God is in control of everything, that God has created all things, that God is not something we read about, not something that did great things once but does not have much to do with our lives but that God is present and powerful and active in everything that happens.

We should be conscious of God that way all the time. But I think particularly in preparation for the coming of the Day of Prayer. It is good for us to think about the great God who created the universe. Think of how all nature reminds us of God. Think of how the tremendous forces that man has invented and man has learned to use is as nothing (compared) to the forces God has created, and God is using constantly. God has ordained all things that come to pass. Yet in such a way that our choices are real choices and what we do and what we decide is tremendously important. God is here; He is everywhere. He is constantly active.

Remember how Moses had his great encounter with God when God called him to his work. How Moses saw the burning bush there which was burning and was not consumed. God spoke to him. You remember how Isaiah was in the temple and there he had his great vision of God. God said, Whom shall I send and who will go for us? Isaiah said, Here am I, send me. You remember how God told Jeremiah that God had known him before he was born and God had prepared him for his work. You remember how God called Ezekiel to go out into the field and to look up. There he looked up and