

Missionary Topics of the Day.

We wish to direct the thought of Christian workers at home and abroad to the points of wide interest among missionary workers, that they may know what to observe, inquire about and form a judgment upon. To this end we have selected from various sources from the hundreds of pressing and special subjects interesting the missionary world at large the following thirty-three missionary topics:

1. The value of orphanages as a missionary agency.
2. The need of special provision for the children of converts.
3. Co-partnership of different societies in college education.
4. Is European education desirable on foreign fields?
5. How far shall missionary societies support native workers?
6. How far should European or American forms of church government be re-produced in native churches?
7. The importance of starting and keeping church expenditure on such scale as will be favorable to early self-support by native churches.
8. What variety of methods is necessary to adapt work to native circumstances, modes of thought and other local conditions?
9. How far should work be concentrated on fields of special readiness, as Japan etc.?
10. Co-operation of different missions on the same or other fields in the production and circulation of Christian, educational and other literature.
11. Which yields the best results, dispensary or hospital work, or general practice of medicine?
12. Women's work, in its relation to home boards and foreign administration.
13. Training schools, their practical value in preparation for foreign work.
14. Comparative methods of raising missionary moneys and rousing the Church to zeal as well as deepening its convictions of duty and increasing its intelligence.
15. Contributions to special objects and the establishment of special funds.
16. The place and power of bequests and devises in regular work, their reliance as resources and their best use, so as not to disturb the stability of general work.
17. The relation of missions and missionary societies to the evils of modern commerce.
18. The relation of missions to the progress of science and general literature.
19. The importance of the Bible Society's work as a missionary agency.
20. The highest form of Christian benevolence as including spontaneous offerings as well as systematic giving.
21. Political changes and tendencies as bearing on mission work and the importance of recognizing some central Protestant power, with which missionaries and missionary societies may co operate to secure political protection and privileges.
22. Literature of Christian nations, favorable and unfavorable to Christianity, in its bearings on foreign native thought and the development of indigenous literature; also as favoring or hindering the progress of missions.
23. How shall returned missionaries render the best service to the cause of missions while at home?
24. Motives for hastening the conversion of the world.
25. Phases of Christian experience of native Christians as compared with that of Christians in Christian lands. Is there the same depth of conviction for sin, or more longing for spiritual rest and relief?
26. The civilizing results of Christianity.
27. The opposition of contiguous Roman Catholic missions as in Africa etc.
28. Personal consecration of home workers and foreign missionaries and helpers the chief hope of the world's speedy conversion.
29. Is Christianity gaining relatively on the world's population?
30. Is Hinduism or Islamism securing new adherents more rapidly than Christianity?
31. The relative economy of administration of home boards and also of missions abroad.
32. The value and place of monetary efforts for the support of missions, and the relation of profound spiritual earnestness and deep and intelligent conviction of duty to the raising of supplies, as tending to produce not spasmodic giving but reliable revenue.
33. The best means of securing the best men and women for the foreign fields.