

FINDING JOY IN LIFE

LOCAL SEEKERS THANK OXFORD GROUP

PACKED PUBLIC MEETING LAST NIGHT

MEMBERS' STORIES OF SPIRITUAL BATTLES

A packed public meeting of the Oxford Group was held in the Sons of England Hall, Durban, last night.

How the truth about God was learnt was described by numerous speakers, who in simple language stood before the crowd and told of their experiences. The speakers described how the realisation of God's existence and His power to alter their lives for the better came to them. In convincing manner each spoke of living at peace after years of uncertainty and doubt, and how the feeling of the futility of life had given way to a definite building up of strength. Life had assumed a new purpose and a new meaning, they maintained. A power to take away sin had been discovered and a victory over self had been achieved.

Self Honesty

Honesty with one's self had been found to be a great help. Through the Group a divided personality could become unified and an inward peace could be brought about.

One speaker related how, from being a heavy smoker, he had been cured by his belief in Christ. Often, he said, he had tried to overcome the habit but had failed, until he was convinced of the power of God by a friend, who said that he had given up his life to Christ and had found victory.

A woman explained how, from being an atheist, she had been converted. She had learnt from a woman member of the Oxford Group the power of Christ in her life.

Defrauded the Government

The change in his outlook in business was described by another speaker. For many years he had been a Churchman, he said, and recently he had become convinced of the hypocrisy of his life. He had defrauded the Government of £20, and through God he realised his sin. Since the change in himself he had received a letter from a business friend who had paid him a great compliment. A postscript to the letter read: "You are a different man from the one you were two years ago."

The real joy of being finished with selfishness was told by another speaker. He said that, realising that he was in God's hands, he had recently left the planning of his annual holiday to God. God had arranged the holiday, and the speaker had converted others to the knowledge of God.

Other speakers told of their conquest over self-consciousness, irritability, and how they had achieved a growing sense of the companionship of Christ. Some described how they had felt the lacking of an element in their lives: that while God existed they felt an inability to get into touch with Him and to serve Him. The message of the Oxford Group had supplied a new incentive and a new inspiration to life. Relationships between husband and wife, between parents and children, in business and in social life, had been improved out of all knowledge.

Among those who spoke were Mrs. Max Robinson, Mrs. Albert Baumann, Dr. A. Taylor, Mrs. Archdeacon Harris, Mr. J. Cruickshanks, Mr. Stanley de Waal, Mrs. ~~Hamilton~~, the Rev. Ben Evans, Mr. and Mrs. C. Woods and Mr. E. Phipson.