

Devotion

By Dale Lang

In the Manual of The Mother Church, Mrs. Eddy stipulates that she bears the title of “Leader” – a change made in 1903 from the title of “Mother” that had been subject to misunderstandings and misuse. Most church members explicitly avoid using the term “leader” in any other way.

Such a directive does not, however, preclude the work of individual members in carrying forward the work of CS.

“Each student should seek alone the guidance of our common Father – even the divine Principle which he claims to demonstrate – and especially should he prove his faith by works, ethically, physically, and spiritually.” Mis. 138:10 – 14.

And, in Science and Health 459:19 “The Christian Scientist has enlisted to lessen evil, disease, and death; and he will overcome them by understanding their nothingness and the allness of God, or good.

The healing activity of El Dorado Vista provides a setting for active Christian Scientists to give of their devotion to the Church founded by Mrs. Eddy. It is the gift reciprocally blessed – the gift that forwards healing activity and gives to each participant the opportunity to practice his spiritual understanding. It is an individual experience. It is an experience that returns blessing upon blessing.

It is important for this process to proceed so that the sense of stability and continuation is evident in the activities of El Dorado Vista. A well established basis already exists upon which to build.

The role of each individual can develop the institutions of church and the healing activity of El Dorado Vista.

The one who cares most will have the duty of caring. As Jesus said (John 10:11, 13) “I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep...The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.”

Let us do our part in carrying this cause forward. Development will provide not only financial and material support but the fulfilled mission of healing and regeneration at El Dorado Vista. The tools are at hand and the purpose is significant.

Who will take the lead? We have an individual role in that question. “I will overturn, overturn, overturn it: and it shall be no *more*, until he come whose right it is: and I will give it *him*. (Ezek.21:27)

Picture the children of Israel at the shore of the Red Sea. They were experiencing serious doubts about the enterprise Moses had led them into at this point. The Egyptians were in

hot pursuit and the obstacle of the Red Sea seemed formidable. The situation was fearful. The biblical account translated and transferred to us over many centuries yet vividly expresses God's command to Moses: "...speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward." (Ex. 14:15) No lack of leadership here. In like manner let us also take up our cause and carry it forward to full fruition.