

MOODY
—CENTER—



D.L. Moody

Prayer Walk

And

Legacy
Experience

Northfield, MA

MOODY CENTER

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ABOUT THE COVER

The cover of this prayer book was designed to imitate the cover of one of Ira D. Sankey's hymn books. Sankey was Moody's constant ministry companion, providing the music for many of Moody's conferences and revivals. The sale of Sankey's hymn books funded aspects of the ministry they had together.

FOR GOD AND THE GOSPEL

“Where one man reads the Bible, a hundred read you and me ... I would not give much for all that can be done by sermons, if we do not preach Christ by our lives. If we do not commend the gospel to people by our holy walk and conversation, we shall not win them to Christ. Some little act of kindness will perhaps do more to influence them than any number of long sermons.”

– D.L. Moody

CONTENTS

1	WELCOME & INTRODUCTION	1
2	THE BIRTHPLACE	4
3	REVELL HALL	8
4	THE HOMESTEAD	12
5	THE DOLL HOUSE	16
6	BETSEY MOODY COTTAGE	19
7	D.L. MOODY AUDITORIUM	22
8	MARTYRS GROVE	26
9	ROUND TOP	29
10	THANK YOU	33
11	THE CHALLENGE OF THE GOSPEL	35
12	MOODY CENTER PROPERTY MAP	37
13	PERSONAL REFLECTIONS	39

ON PRAYER

“All true prayer must be offered in full submission to God. After we have made our requests known to Him, our language should be, ‘Thy will be done.’ I would a thousand times rather that God’s will should be done than my own ... it is a good deal better to let Him choose for me than to choose for myself.”

-D.L. Moody, *Prevailing Prayer*



Rainbow that appeared in Northfield, MA, after the Moody Center's October 2018 launch event held in the Auditorium.

1

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Moody Center in Northfield, Massachusetts! The Moody Center is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to being a catalyst for spiritual renewal in New England and beyond. We are thankful that you are here to learn more about the enduring life and ministry of D.L. Moody. You are about to have an incredible spiritual experience as you participate in the prayer walk and legacy experience.

It would be difficult to offer a better description of D.L. Moody and the Northfield property on which he served the Lord than is found in the 1892 centennial edition of the *Greenfield Gazette*,

“The building up at Northfield, within the last twelve years, of schools devoted to the Christian education of girls and boys is justly regarded as one of the most enduring results of the fruitful life of the town’s most distinguished son, D.L. Moody. It is impossible to view these purely in their local significance, for they belong to the broad world of cultivating and Christianizing influences. They have carried the name of Northfield over the seas and have given to it the association of great and noble usefulness. More than this, they have given an upward turn, intellectually and

spiritually, to the lives of hundreds of young people drawn here from all corners of the world.”

Our Mission: When D.L. Moody held his summer conferences on these grounds his desire was to move those in attendance to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. His agenda was simple: engage God’s people in worship, provide them with opportunities to hear God’s Word, remind them of the urgency of the task at hand, call them to pray, and allow space for discernment, reflection, and the prompting of the Holy Spirit. The Moody Center’s mission is to carry on D.L. Moody’s legacy by providing spaces for people to be inspired and prepared to follow Christ through reflection, interaction, learning, and spiritual renewal.

The Moody Center’s Prayer Walk and Legacy Experience is intended to...

- help you experience the profound beauty and spiritual significance of Moody Center at Northfield
- introduce you to the life and ministry of D.L. Moody, and
- prompt you to see the God who empowered Moody in all his good work.

The Tour Experience: The prayer walk is designed as a walking tour that will allow you to visit the various historic sites on the Moody Center campus. You will see the Birthplace, Revell Hall, Homestead, Doll House, the D.L. Moody Auditorium, Martyrs Grove, and Round Top. If you are feeling a bit more adventurous, you can also continue the prayer walk on the Idyllwood Trails, which span several miles and allow visitors to enjoy more of Northfield’s natural beauty.

Please don’t feel rushed to complete the prayer walk. We’ve included some prayer topics and some specific prayers, but you should feel free to speak with God as you feel led. Use the note pages in this book to write down your thoughts, allow the short devotions from God’s Word to prompt new prayers, and soak in the majesty of God’s creation as you tour the Northfield property.

The Worship Experience: This prayer book also contains several hymns composed by Ira Sankey. The cover design is actually modeled after one of Ira Sankey's hymn books. You may find the desire to sing and worship as you walk the grounds. Please feel free to do so, particularly in the Auditorium and on Round Top. We only ask that you be courteous of other guests who are touring the property and to be mindful of volume.

As you complete the prayer walk, it is our hope that you will understand more deeply the benevolence of the Father, see more clearly the beauty of the Son, and feel more powerfully the presence of the Holy Spirit. We want your time at Northfield to be a precious time of refreshment and personal revival. We want you to leave with a renewed zeal to serve the Lord as He has called you.

After one of the summer meetings in Northfield, D.L. Moody said this to those who participated, "Don't go away and talk so much about these meetings as about Christ; the world needs to know Him." The Moody Center would echo these words and ask that as you leave Northfield, you would hold high the name of Christ ... *the world still needs to know Him.*



2

THE BIRTHPLACE

D.L. Moody was born into humble beginnings. His father died when Moody was young, leaving Betsey Moody with nine children to care for on her own. The landlord took advantage of the family at the time of their loss and made the situation worse by coming in and taking everything that was not nailed down (including the kindling!) to “pay” himself back for the debt Moody’s family owed. When things seemed most desperate, the local Unitarian minister began to visit the family. He connected with each of the children, playing a father-like role, and occasionally bringing gifts to help the family. He encouraged Mrs. Moody to keep her family together despite the death of her husband and their impoverished state. He pledged to assist her in any way that he could.

Looking back on his childhood, D.L. Moody noted,

“It brings tears to my eyes every time I think of it. My father died before I can remember. There was a large family of us. The little twins came after his death, nine of us in all. He died bankrupt, and the creditors came in and took everything as far as the law allowed. We had a hard struggle. Thank God for my mother! She never lost hope.”

When Moody was 17, he set out for Boston to work in his uncle’s shoe

store. While in Boston, he attended Edward Kimball's Sunday school class. Kimball earned the young man's respect. On Moody's first day in class at Mount Vernon Church, Kimball handed him a closed Bible and Moody was unable to turn to the Gospel of John. Recognizing that Moody was having difficulty reading the Scriptures, Kimball gave Moody his Bible, opened to the correct section, and took the closed Bible for himself. It was Kimball who ultimately ended up leading a nineteen-year-old D.L. Moody to the Lord in 1855.

D.L. Moody needed to hear the message of salvation from Edward Kimball. If you have never heard this message (or have never accepted it), you need to know that God is a benevolent, wise, sovereign Creator (Gen 1:1-2:3). God's love overflowed and He created the whole world and everything in it. He designed an environment in which humankind could glorify Him and enjoy Him forever. Unfortunately, humankind did not trust God's kindness. They mistook God's provision for a prison holding them back from achieving their full potential (Gen 3:1-7). They rebelled against God, created a rift between God and humankind, and rejected God's wise rule.

But God did not reject us. Instead, He pursued us. He revealed Himself to us. He sent Jesus, His only Son, to die for us ... to take upon Himself the punishment for the sins that we committed. Because of God's mercy, we may have eternal life by accepting the gracious gift of God and placing our faith in Christ alone (John 3:16; Eph 2:1-10; Rom. 6:5).

Accepting God's free gift of salvation and establishing a personal relationship with Him is as simple as placing your faith in Christ and accepting God's rule in your life. God desires to transform us into His likeness and is ready to accept you into His kingdom. You can speak to God right now and decide to give your life over to Him by praying the following prayer:

Lord, I recognize that you are the one true God. I see that I have been living apart from Your wisdom and according to my own. I now acknowledge that I need You and desire to be a part of Your kingdom, to follow as You lead, and to glorify and enjoy You forever. Lord, please grant me forgiveness through Jesus Christ Your Son who died for my sins and was raised from the dead. He conquered sin and death and now sits at Your right hand. At this moment, I place my faith in Christ, accept Him as my Savior, and commit to serving Him as Lord. Amen.

***A Prayer for Family and for Those who
Do the Work of the Gospel***

God, we pray for our family members, those who influenced us spiritually, and those who are still searching for truth. Please bless and guide them.

We also pray for those we are not related to, but play a significant role in our lives. We thank You for them and pray that You would bless them.

We thank You for the men and women You raise up around the world who are faithful to Your call to “go and make disciples.” We pray that we would be such people and that You would give all those who call You Father the desire to serve You without reserve or regret.

Lord, thank You for loving each of us so much that You made a way for sinners like us to be Your adopted sons and daughters.

In Jesus’ name, amen.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

– Matthew 28:19-20

A Devotional Thought from D.L. Moody

D.L. Moody once said, “There are many of us that are willing to do great things for the Lord, but few of us are willing to do little things.” When D.L. Moody’s family was struggling to survive, it was not a grand gesture by someone of great wealth that spoke to this young man from Northfield ... it was the small acts of kindness by a small town minister that D.L. Moody would always remember.

In Boston, the small kindness of a Sunday school teacher who downplayed Moody’s inability to read made the initial impression that ultimately led D.L. Moody to the Lord.

Doing “big things” can be intoxicating. They have a tangible impact ... a reward of sorts ... that make us feel as though we are really doing something for the kingdom of God. But, the life of faith is not founded on “big things.” It is built upon the small, everyday actions of God’s people who show kindness, extend mercy, remain diligent in study and prayer, and stand ready and willing to share Christ with the world.

May God give us a heart to do the “little things” and trust Him to amplify our small acts of faith into the fine works of the kingdom.



Revell Hall - photo courtesy of Robert Felton.

3

REVELL HALL

Despite of (or perhaps because of) his lowly upbringing and lack of opportunity for formal education, D.L. Moody had a heart for those unable to learn and study. Once again, we see God's hand directing Moody's work, as a man with little formal education was given the passion and opportunity to start three schools in the United States and educate many more people through his publishing efforts.

Moody began to see the potential of using Christian publications through his ministry during the Civil War and in his work with the YMCA. Moody saw it as essential to get resources for biblical training into the hands of lay people in the church. Eventually, Moody would give Fleming Revell, Moody's brother-in-law, the rights to publish D.L. Moody's own sermons and other works.

Moody's efforts in publishing were not motivated by financial gain. The profits from the books were funneled back into the ministry, and Moody was quite clear that he did not want to profit from any of the sales. The monies from the book sales were used to continue the work of the gospel. At one point, a newspaper suggested that Moody was profiting financially from his work. In one of the few responses Moody made to public criticism, he states, "As I know my heart, before God, I have never let the desire for money determine my conduct in any way. I know I am weak and

come short in many ways, but the devil has not that hold upon me. I have never profited personally by a single dollar that has been raised through my work, and it hurts me to be charged with it, above all things. May God forgive those who say this of me.”

Outside of his work with publishing, Moody was also involved in more formal educational endeavors. In 1879, Moody opened an all-girls school called Northfield Seminary. Originally called Recitation Hall, Revell Hall was renamed after Fleming H. Revell, and the associated carriage house was renamed Holton after Fannie C. Holton, who was a teacher during Northfield Seminary’s first decade of operation. Revell Hall served as the first official classroom building for the seminary and was later converted into dormitories, and most recently served as an administrative building.

Moody believed strongly in education and, in part due to the influence of his youngest brother Samuel, had a heart for the underprivileged. Moody opened Northfield Seminary to serve “young women in the humbler walks of life, who never would get a Christian education but for a school like this.”

Moody would also go on to start Mount Hermon School for boys and the Chicago Bible Institute in Chicago, Illinois.

D.L. Moody’s commitment to educating women and men for Christian work was largely motivated by his desire for them to be prepared to go out into the field and serve the Lord. Moody realized that many young men and women who might be used powerfully by God could be hindered by their lack of education. His desire was to see a new generation of Christian workers proclaiming the gospel in word and deed.

Commenting on the students in his various schools, Moody once noted, “All of them succeed in leading persons to Christ, so I feel as if, should I be called away, the work will go on, and there will be a great army of God’s men and women in the field ... The dream of twenty years has at last been reached, and I will look back on 1890 as the year that I reached the top of the hill.” Moody did not simply desire to educate women and men, but to educate them for “usefulness” to the gospel.

For Moody, the gospel ... the message that Christ died for sinners and offers eternal life by the grace of God through faith alone ... was of primary importance. Even his rather vast educational efforts were aimed at the ongoing service of God and the proclamation of the good news to the ends of the earth.

Prayer for the Next Generation of Christian Workers and Those Who Prepare Them

God, we pray for the next generation of Christian workers. Be with them as they face opposition from the world. Give them Your wisdom and unconditional love as they interact with those around them.

We are grateful for those who give their lives to prepare the next generation of men and women for service to You. Grant them wisdom as they shape the minds and hearts of those who desire to serve You.

We pray for all of God's people, as they attempt to walk the path You have laid before them. Give them courage and peace to choose what honors You.

In our weakness, make us strong.

In Jesus' name, amen.

“You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.”

– 2 Timothy 2:1-2

A Devotional Thought from D.L. Moody

In his book, *Pleasures and Profit in Bible Study*, D.L. Moody says, “So few grow, because so few study.” In Moody’s day and age, the Bible had become more accessible, yet he surely could not have predicted just how accessible it would be more than a century later. In today’s world, we have access to the Scriptures on mobile devices, we can get a daily Scripture verse in our email, and we can search the Scriptures without the help of a concordance. Yet, even with all the access we have, there remains a need to grow.

Just because we have access doesn’t mean that we are thinking deeply about God’s Word. We are not simply called to memorize a few verses or even read our Bible daily. We are called to chew on the Word, to meditate on it, to be a people who delight in God’s instruction. As Psalm 1 states,

*Blessed is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
but his delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law he meditates day and night.*

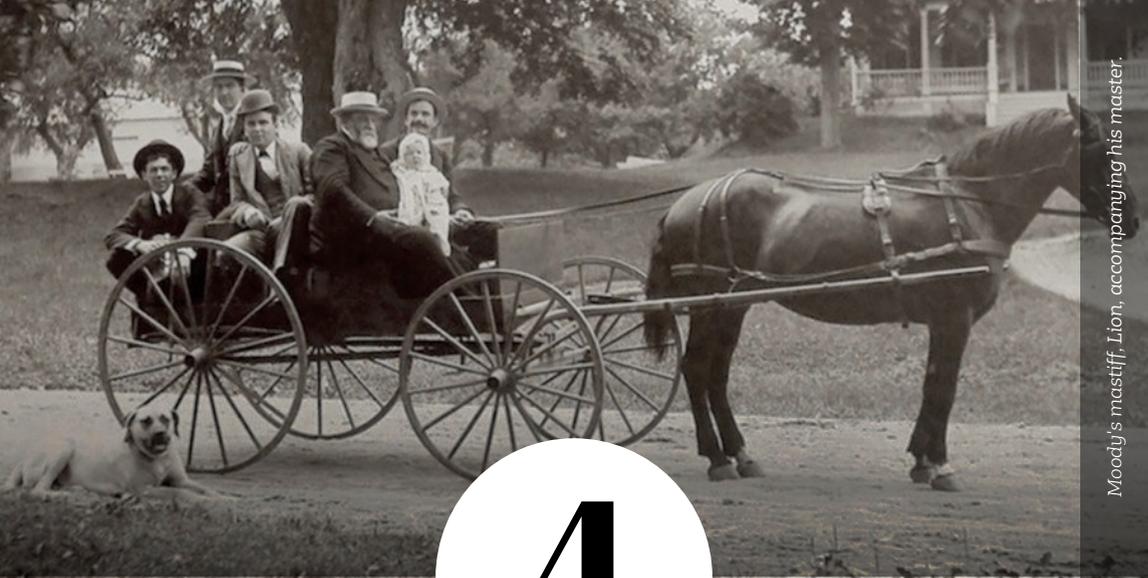
*He is like a tree
Planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.*

*The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.*

*Therefore the wicked will not stand in judgment
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
for the Lord knows the way of the righteous
but the way of the wicked will perish.*

(Psalm 1:1-6)

May we become a people who grow because we study.



Moody's mastiff, Lion, accompanying his master.

4

THE HOMESTEAD

When Moody returned from one of several trips to the United Kingdom, he visited his mother in Northfield and purchased a small farm which would later become his home. What he had intended as a place of rest and reflection where he could prepare for his work elsewhere would ultimately become the site of some of Moody's most significant activities, including the establishment of Northfield Seminary.

After Moody purchased several adjoining plots of land in Northfield, he could not wait for the construction of dormitories for the students. He modified the Homestead to provide accommodations for the first students of Northfield Seminary for girls. The girls lived at the Homestead and attended classes in Mr. Moody's dining room until Recitation Hall was completed.

Aside from his work in formal education, Mr. Moody was active in the work of the church in and around Northfield. In addition to preaching in neighboring towns, Moody held informal Bible readings in the dining room of his home with people standing outside listening through the windows.

Throughout his ministry, D.L. Moody sought out other evangelists,

preachers, and theologians, to learn from them. He would even host these speakers at his home, asking questions of them around the table. Moody had a zeal for learning and studying the Word. He used his home as a space where he could learn and teach. The Homestead was more than a place to sleep ... it was D.L. Moody's place of study and preparation.

Moody's desire to know the Word of God extended beyond his own lifetime. After becoming ill in Kansas City, Moody returned to Northfield where it became clear to him that his life on this earth would soon come to an end. Moody desired to see the ministry continue even after he had gone to be with Christ. Before his death, he distributed his various ministry endeavors to his descendants, calling them to carry on the work of the gospel:

"I have always been an ambitious man ... ambitious to leave no wealth or possessions, but to leave lots of work for you to do. Will, you will carry on Mount Hermon. Paul will take up the Seminary, when he is older; Fitt will look after the Institute, and Albert will help you in the business details."

Even in his last moments, Moody was concerned to see the gospel go forth. He left a legacy of work to his children, asking them to advance the cause of the gospel.

When Moody died in an upstairs bedroom of the Homestead, he left behind an impressive legacy. God had used him powerfully. Moody is a testament to how much God can use a person when they are completely surrendered to Him.

Just as Moody left his ministries to his children, so we have the opportunity to extend that legacy in our generation and beyond. It is a legacy of preparation for the work and continual engagement in service to God. While it is a powerful thing to leave a legacy, it is of unparalleled value to leave a legacy that glorifies God. This latter sort of legacy is only available to those who have accepted Christ by faith. It is one thing to impact a world that is perishing ... it is quite another to give ourselves away to an imperishable legacy. How can we give ourselves away to this latter sort of legacy?

First, we need to accept Christ as our Savior and Lord, recognizing that He sacrificed Himself to save us from our sins. You can accept Him by talking with Him right now and praying a prayer like the following:

Dear God, I know that I have been distrustful and rebellious. I've not understood that You had my good in mind or that Your ways are far greater than my ways. Having seen the sacrifice You made for me in sending Your only Son, Jesus to die for me and to make a way for me to spend eternity with You ... I am convinced that You love me and I will place my faith in Christ. I believe He is my Lord and Savior. Thank You, Lord, for Your enduring love. Amen.

Second, we can focus on developing Christian character. D.L. Moody once said, "Character is what you are in the dark." He also said, "A man ought to live so that everybody knows he is a Christian ... and most of all, his family ought to know." The point is that our character is important ... in fact, it is imperishable (1 Peter 3:4). Developing a strong Christian character is essential if we desire to leave a compelling, godly legacy.

Third, we must be intentional in passing on our faith to those who come after us. As Paul wrote to Timothy, "You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust it to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Tim 2:1-2). As D.L. Moody intentionally involved his family in his ministry endeavors, so we must be intentional about entrusting our faith to a new generation.

A Prayer of Gratitude for God's Word and for Faithful Legacies

God, thank You for the opportunity to study Your Word. Having revealed Yourself, it is our purpose and privilege to glorify and enjoy You forever.

We thank You for those in the past who have determined to be ambitious to leave us lots of work to do for the gospel. We pray that You would give us hearts and minds that recognize and honor the weight of the legacy we have been given. We are grateful that You will carry the load for us as we faithfully walk with You.

We pray also for all those who are currently without opportunity to study and prepare. May they have a hunger for You that compels them to seek after those who can disciple them and help them grow in Your faith. We ask You also to raise up men and women ... even us...who would participate with You in the fulfillment of Your Great Commission.

In Your name we pray, amen.

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down and when you rise."

– Deuteronomy 6:4-7



5

THE DOLL HOUSE

18

Relatively little is known about the small playhouse called the Doll House. Built by D.L. Moody's son William Revell Moody, the small structure was modeled after the Homestead and served as a place for William Revell Moody's daughters to play. While it was not built by D.L. Moody, it serves as a reminder of the importance of children in the life of the Moody family.

D.L. Moody himself had a great love for children and youth, particularly for his grandchildren. William R. Moody writes, "As a grandfather he seemed to experience a special joy, and entered into sweetest and happiest relations with the little ones who laid hold of his heart."¹ In a letter to his granddaughter Emma, Moody's playful nature is evident:

"I have just heard that the milk you get at my house does not agree with you. But I think the fault is not with the milk but with the cooks. You know, or you should be old enough to know, that when you cook milk and put it in a bottle and put a black rubber nipple on it—well, you will be disgusted when you get a little older and know how your parents treated you! You must not blame my old cow, for she is as good as she can be. I do not want to turn you against your parents, but if they do not treat you right, slip down to my house and get some doughnuts and ice-cream."

¹ William R. Moody, *The Life of Dwight L. Moody* (New York: Revell, 1900), 167.

The young ones in Mr. Moody's life remind us that D.L. Moody was not only an evangelist, educator, and entrepreneur ... he was also a family man who enjoyed the simple pleasures of home.

Those pleasures were challenged with the death of Dwight Moody, D.L. Moody's grandson and namesake. Yet in his typical fashion, Mr. Moody's mind, which seems to have been exceptionally attuned to the things of God, rejoiced in the experience Dwight must have been having with God in heaven. In a letter to Dwight's parents, D.L. Moody wrote, "I could not wish him back, if he could have all earth could give him. And then the thought that the Saviour will take such good care of him! No going astray, no sickness, no death ... I love to think of him, so sweet, so safe, and so lovely! His life was not only blameless, but faultless; and if his life here was so sweet, what will it be up there?"

D.L. Moody was a man who saw beyond the earthly realm and imagined heaven. He surely felt the loss of his grandson, but he also recognized that earth is not the permanent home of those who place their faith in Christ. In the joyful play and innocent wonder of children, D.L. Moody saw the first fruits of heaven. Too often we allow the concerns and worries of this life to blind us to the need for an innocent, playful, imaginative faith ... a faith that rests in God's security even as it explores God's creation with all of its potential dangers. Like the children who enjoyed the freedom of the Doll House while remaining close to the security of the Homestead, we are free to play amidst God's creation knowing that we are secure in the loving arms of Christ. It is in Christ that we receive salvation through faith and it is in Christ that our place in the Father's house is secured.

A Prayer for Children, for Wonder, and for Play

God, children have a special place in Your heart. Please give us “faith like a child,” with wonder, imagination, and play. We want our hearts to be bonded to You like a child’s. Help us to grasp more fully the security we have in You that we may joyfully explore the world You have made without a care, knowing that even the most joyous moments on earth cannot compare with the most uncomfortable moments in heaven.

On earth, the lives of children are a blessing. The children in our lives bring joy and love. They are signs of the hope we have in You.

Children are sweet with an innocence that resists cynicism and engages the world with an insatiable curiosity and wonder. We pray that all children would have the opportunity to experience the world as a place of joy ... a place where they can enjoy all You have provided and play before You in worshipful activity.

Thank You for each new generation of children. It is a blessing to see the awe in their eyes as they embrace faith in their heavenly Father. Please guide us as we attempt to guide them in Your ways.

In Jesus’ name, amen.

“But let all who take refuge in You rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you. For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover him with favor as with a shield.”

– Psalm 5:11-12



6

BETSEY MOODY COTTAGE

Named after D.L. Moody's mother, Betsey Moody Cottage was Northfield's first infirmary, and remained in operation until 1977. The structure was built in an effort to segregate contagious students from the rest of the population. It also served as a place of rest for those who were in danger of becoming sick having become overwhelmed by their studies or other concerns. As the *Greenfield Gazette* notes, Betsey Moody cottage was never "over-taxed by the school where health is the glorious rule and sickness the rare exception." While health may have been "the glorious rule," the infirmary's capacity was stretched beyond its limits during the influenza outbreak in 1918-1919.²

While caring for the sick students at Northfield was a necessity, Moody had a track record of working with those who were ill or otherwise injured. Commenting on Moody's caring nature, one of his neighbors notes, "He [D.L. Moody] was a kind neighbor, sickness and trouble finding him ready with sympathy and material help. The delicacies of his garden and fruit orchard found their way into many a humble home. He encouraged his wife and daughter to interest themselves in helping the sick and needy in all parts of the town."

² *Lift Thine Eyes: The Landscape, the Buildings, the Heritage of Northfield Mount Hermon Schools*, 103.

Moody never separated his care for others from the work of the gospel. He viewed the provision of physical necessities as a natural extension of the good news that God had provided the way for all men to have eternal life through faith in the resurrected Son of God Jesus Christ. For instance, Moody wrote the following concerning the Sabbath:

“If your circumstances permit, engage in some definite Christian work, such as teaching in Sunday school, or visiting the sick. Do all the good you can. Sin keep no Sabbath, and no more should good deeds. There is plenty of opportunity in this fallen world to perform works of mercy and religion. Make your Sabbath down here a foretaste of the eternal Sabbath that is in store for believers.”³

Betsey Moody Cottage offers a reminder that the physical needs of those around us are real and cannot be ignored. We cannot separate the spiritual and the material, but must consider the whole person recognizing that caring for those who are in need ... moving toward those in pain ... is one of the hallmarks of those who have been saved by Jesus Christ. Having received the free gift of eternal life by grace through faith, Christians experience the grace and compassion of God who delivers those who have no way of rescuing themselves. Christians extend the grace and compassion of Christ as a means of proclaiming the gospel by living differently in the light of God’s grace.

³ Dwight L. Moody, *The Ten Commandments: Reasonable Rules for Life* (Abbotsford: Aneko, 2018), 66.

***Prayer for the Church to Convey the Gospel
in Word and Deed God***

When we look out upon the world You created, we are grateful. We see You in the beauty of Your creation. We see Your wisdom in the order You have established.

At the same time, we see the effects of sin in this world. We see the sick, the poor, the disenfranchised. We recognize that You want us to proclaim the coming of Your kingdom through acts of service to poor, sick, and needy.

Lord, we pray now for all those who are sick, injured, or physically in need. We know that the prayers of the righteous are effective, and we ask that You will honor our plea for those who are suffering.

We also ask that You would work within Your body, the Church. Cultivate within Your people a deep desire to show compassion in “works of mercy and religion.” Give Your people a heart to live and love in a manner that displays Your character and proclaims that You are on the throne. Help us to go forth, sharing Your gospel in word and in deed.

Be with us as we go. Give us the words to speak to those who are suffering. Grant us Your wisdom that Your will may be done.

In the name of Jesus we pray, amen.

*“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this:
to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep
oneself unstained from the world.”*

– James 1:27



The D.L. Moody Auditorium



The D.L. Moody Auditorium Main Stage

7

D.L. MOODY AUDITORIUM

The risk of building a 2,300 seat auditorium in Northfield was rewarded by it ending up being too small. Moody's events were often standing room only.

The auditorium was built in 1894 with much of the funding for the Auditorium and other buildings on the campus coming from generous donations, as well as the royalties from the sale of Moody's books and, particularly, the Moody-Sankey hymnal.

The summer conferences quickly became a major draw to the town of Northfield which received the overflow of the blessing of D.L. Moody's ministry. With increased conference attendance came opportunities for boarding houses and various other businesses to accommodate and care for travelers. The summer conferences were also the impetus behind what is now known as the Rustic Ridge, which included forty-eight summer homes by 1906.

The Auditorium was a site of worship and the proclamation of God's Word. Moody's commitment to maintaining separation from any given denomination allowed the auditorium to be a place of unity where God's people, regardless of tradition, could focus on the work of the gospel and

how they might be used to accomplish it.

Moody conveyed the purpose of the conferences, as well as his sense of urgency that Christians come together for the sake of a world that needed to hear God:

“The central idea of the Northfield Conference is Christian unity, and the invitation is to all denominations and to all wings of denominations; but it is understood that along with the idea of Christian unity goes the Bible as it stands. We seek at these meetings to find points of common belief. Too frequently when Christians get together they seek for the points upon which they differ, and then go at it. The Christian denominations too often present a spectacle of a political party split into factions and unable to make an effective fight. Do you know that every twenty-four hours three hundred persons die a drunkard’s death in this country? In the last four years there were thirty-eight thousand five hundred and twelve murders in this country. Here are things to unite on and combat.”

Moody saw the conferences as a means of inspiring and preparing God’s people for Christian work. While the conferences were popular and had wide impact and influence, Moody was well aware that the conferences could not take the place of Christ. He desired to see the conferences serve the purposes of God ... not simply to be well attended for their own sake.

Prayer for the Unity of God's People in Word and Worship

God, we marvel at the number of people You brought together at this auditorium in Moody's day. We are grateful for the way You bring people from every denomination together in unity, by focusing on the simple gospel truth.

We pray for that same kind of unity among God's people today ... a unity rooted in Your Word and in worship of You. Open our hearts, guide each of us to seek unity in truth and love.

Thank You for the opportunities we have to worship You in song, and thank You for the gift of Your Word. We are grateful that You have given us a means of knowing You. We rejoice that You have provided Your Word that we may know how to find salvation and share the wonderful truth of the gospel with others. Give us hearts that overflow with praise!

In Jesus' Name, amen.

*"Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!"*

– Psalm 47:6

Faith Is the Victory

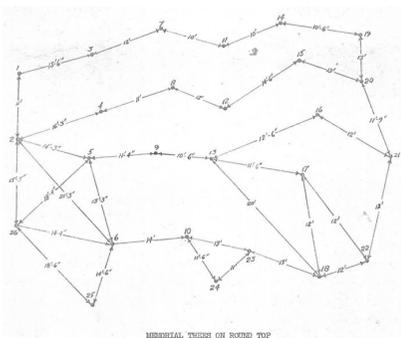
Music by Ira D. Sankey

Encamped along the hills of light,
Ye Christian soldiers rise,
And press the battle ere the night
Shall veil the glowing skies;
Against the foe in vales below
Let all our strength be hurled;
Faith is the victory, we know,
That overcomes the world.
Faith is the victory!
Faith is the victory!
O glorious victory,
That overcomes the world.

8

MARTYRS GROVE

D.L. Moody's zeal for the gospel is evident in all he did. Those who benefited from Moody's legacy, who responded to his message, and shared his sense of urgency to proclaim God's Word continue even to this day. In a letter written to Emma Moody, Billy Graham said, "I am



Arrangement of the Trees In Martyrs Grove

wondering if all of You are really aware of the many movements that now exist throughout the world that flowed from the ministry of Dwight Moody." Moody has become the symbol and persona of an evangelistic movement ... but there were many more who followed in his footsteps sharing the gospel and proclaiming Christ even in difficult places.

Twenty-six of those who followed Moody's lead are honored in Martyrs Grove. While we have the names of the twenty-six women who attended a "Girls Conference" at Northfield, we know little else about who they were, where they went, or how they died. We are actively seeking to find additional information about each of the martyrs. These women made the

decision to serve God on the foreign mission field and died while serving in foreign missions.

This grove stands as a testament to the faithfulness and resolve of God's people, and particularly these women, to go where God calls. God's people are to be overshadowed by God for the sake of the gospel. The women honored in Martyrs Grove represent all those who have gone out from Northfield and beyond to serve God in various parts of the world.

There are many things that we can give our lives to and many things we might lose our lives for, yet we echo Paul who said:

"Yes, and I will rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil 1:18-21).

We are grateful for the sacrifice of those who give themselves over to the work of the gospel. We lament the loss of Christians daily due to persecution. We commit ourselves to participating with God as He makes all things new. And we rejoice that those who have been united with Christ by faith will spend eternity with God. We are grateful that the following women, who are now honored in Martyrs Grove, did not ignore the prompting of God's Spirit, but followed His leading into foreign missions for the sake of the gospel.

The Women of the Grove

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Reba Gray | 14. Eleanor Irwin Carey |
| 2. Margaret Fisher | 15. Rebekah Mills Lovett |
| 3. Katherine S. Beaver | 16. Jane Winchester |
| 4. Bell C. Fox | 17. Margaret Galloway |
| 5. Marian Clement Tiner | 18. Anna Cooley Brush |
| 6. Bertha Harlan | 19. Katharine Trowbridge Perkins |
| 7. Charlotte Robertson | 20. Annabel B. Wood |
| 8. Dorothy Moen | 21. A. Evelyn Bowie |
| 9. Helen May Smith | 22. Elizabeth N. Drummond |
| 10. Mrs. Henry Uhlmann | 23. Anna Harlow Birge |
| 11. Helen Hughes | 24. Mary Hinman Carter |
| 12. Louis Stockton Andrews | 25. Margery Nixon MacKenzie |
| 13. Elizabeth H. Hale | 26. Julia L. White |

***Prayer for the Persecuted Church and the Spread of the Gospel
around the World***

God, we pray for the persecuted church. Keep them strong in the faith and allow them to feel Your presence, reassuring them in their beliefs.

We pray for the spread of the gospel around the world. We recognize that every tongue, tribe, and nation under heaven needs to hear Your Word. Give us a sense of urgency for the lost.

We pray that You protect and guide those proclaiming Your gospel in hard places ... places where living for Christ is punished and sharing the good news of the kingdom condemned. We pray for the nations receiving Your Word. Grant those who hear the gospel eyes to see and ears to hear that they may know You.

Finally Lord, we are thankful for the faithfulness of Your people. We know that it is only by Your grace that we are saved. We are grateful that You have chosen to use us in Your work. May we be a people committed to praying that Your will be done regardless of our own comforts and desires. Redirect our desires toward You and Your will, O God. Show us the way You would have us go.

In Jesus' name, amen

*“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”*

– Matthew 5:10



9

ROUND TOP

Round Top became a peaceful place of rest for Moody. He would retreat from his work to be refreshed as he enjoyed the majestic views of the Massachusetts landscape.

But Round Top has more than nice views. One of the hallmarks of Moody's ministry was his desire to have people meet together and be moved by the Holy Spirit toward their own God-given ministry. Round Top became known as a site of decision. Looking out over the beauty of God's creation, those who had been moved by the Word of God and experienced worship and fellowship during the summer conferences were open to hearing from the Spirit and discerning where God would have them go.

Wilbur Chapman describes some of the activities that occurred at Round Top noting, "There each evening, when the conferences are in session, as the day is dying out of the sky, Bible students gather to talk of the things concerning the kingdom. At this point many of the young men and women of the various students' gatherings, which have been so intimately associated with Northfield, have decided their life work, and forth from this point they have gone to the ends of the earth to preach the Gospel."

There is nothing magical about Round Top. We are no closer to God there than we are at home in our bedrooms, sitting at a desk at work, or driving

our car. Round Top is not magical ... but it is a uniquely beautiful space within God's creation. Looking out toward the Connecticut River over the rolling hills of New England, it is hard to deny the wisdom, power, and benevolence of our God. He has not only created a space fit for us to flourish ... he has created a stunning, breathtaking world in which we have the privilege of participating with Him as He makes all things new.

Standing in awe of God's creation on Round Top is only part of the reason this site is so impressive. Round Top was also Moody's place. It was his favorite site on the property and would become the site of his and Emma Revell Moody's burial. At Round Top, we can begin to see the world as Moody saw it ... as a precursor of what is to come. Dwight L. Moody understood well that this life on this earth is fleeting, but not final. As he is famously quoted as saying,

“Some day you will read in the papers that D.L. Moody of East Northfield, is dead. Don't you believe a word of it! At that moment I shall be more alive than I am now; I shall have gone up higher that is all, out of this old clay tenement into a house that is immortal—a body that death cannot touch, that sin cannot taint; a body fashioned like unto His glorious body.”

I believe that when he looked out over God's world from Round Top, he saw a glimpse of heaven.

May we remember that the gospel entails more than the salvation of our souls. It is a proclamation that God reigns. When God sent Jesus, His only begotten Son, to die for sinners so that we might receive the free gift of eternal life by placing our faith in Christ, He was not only delivering humanity ... He was moving to restore the order that humanity abandoned by rebelling against Him. God will come again to establish His order so that we can praise Him without difficulty or distraction. While we wait for God's coming, we would do well to follow the lead of D.L. Moody as summed up in his epitaph: “... but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever” (1 John 2:17b).

**Prayer of Thankfulness for Quiet Moments
When We Can Hear You**

God, your creation is magnificent. We thank You for blessing us with such beautiful surroundings.

Your creation brings natural moments of rest and restoration ... moments when we are uniquely open to hearing from You. Lord, we know that You can speak to us in any space, but we are grateful for spaces, like Round Top, where we seem to be able to hear You more clearly. Thank You for the environment You provide to reflect on Your Word and the peace You bring us.

We pray for those who need moments of peace ... in this busy world it can be hard to take the time to step away. Help us all to pursue opportunities to find rest ... to be still and know that You are God.

Finally Lord, help us to see in the beauty of Your creation a glimmer of heaven. Let Your continuing work in the world remind us that our lives here are short and that they are to be lived in service of eternity. We ask that you would cultivate within us a wonder of you. Help us to know, like D.L. Moody, that when we die, we will stand in Your presence thanks to the sacrifice of Your Son.

In Jesus' name, amen.

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

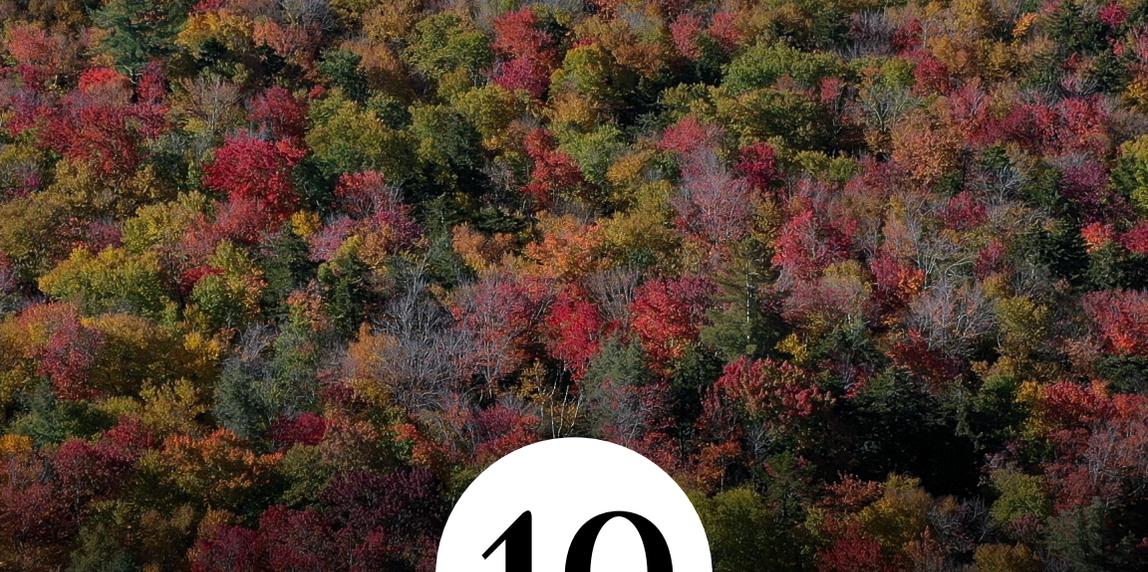
– Psalm 23:2-3

Trusting Jesus

Composed by Ira D. Sankey

Simply trusting everyday,
Trusting through a stormy way;
Even when my faith is small,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.
Trusting as the moments fly,
Trusting as the days go by;
Trusting Him whate'er befall,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.

Trusting Him while life shall last,
Trusting Him till earth be past;
Till within the jasper wall,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.
Trusting as the moments fly,
Trusting as the days go by;
Trusting Him whate'er befall,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.



10

THANK YOU

Thank you for visiting the Moody Center at Northfield!

As an independent non-profit organization, the Moody Center is dedicated to extending the legacy of D.L. Moody. We believe that the Northfield property is quite special. It is difficult to ignore the message of the gospel as you hear the story of D.L. Moody's life and ministry, stand in the Auditorium, consider the sacrifice of the women honored in Martyrs Grove, or witness the grandeur of God's creation on Round Top.

We are grateful that you took the time to visit Northfield and would ask that you spread the word about your experience. Please take some of our materials, hand them out to your friends, share our website (moodycenter.org) on social media, pray for us, and consider supporting our ministry financially.

We would also love to stay in touch with you, so please visit moodycenter.org and join our email list, like our page on social media, and watch for upcoming events at our Northfield property. And, of course, you are welcome back anytime ... please feel free to visit again as we continue to develop our property and expand our legacy experience.

As you go, please also consider how you might use the following chapter

which provides a succinct articulation of the gospel message. If you have yet to accept Christ as your Savior and Lord, read it, reflect on it, and respond to the challenge of the gospel. When you have accepted Christ and placed your faith in Him alone, seek out faithful men and women who can help you to grow in your faith.

If you are part of God's family, please use this resource as a guide and impetus to share the gospel with those who have not heard or have not been brought to a point of decision. Resolve to do the work of an evangelist. Don't miss the opportunity to share the gospel with a lost world.

Again, we thank you for coming and trust that God will use this experience to move in your heart as you take your next steps with Him.

Finally, we would like to offer a special "thank you" to the town of Northfield and the broader community in New England. We have been grateful for the warm welcome we have received from so many and thankful for every prayer and act of service as we established the Moody Center. We look forward to a long, fruitful ministry amongst our neighbors in Northfield and the rest of New England.

Blessings,

The Moody Center Leadership and Staff



11

THE CHALLENGE OF THE GOSPEL

We know that many, as D.L. Moody observed, are “gospel hardened.” There are so many individuals in the United States and around the world who have heard the gospel, but have not been brought to a point of decision about Jesus Christ. If you are one of those who have heard the gospel, but have not been brought to a point of decision, we would challenge you to decide now by accepting the following points and placing your faith in Christ alone for salvation.

1. Recognize that Heaven is a free gift that no one has earned and that no one deserves.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” (Eph. 2:8-9).

2. Acknowledge that no human except Jesus has lived a life without sin, and because all have sinned, all deserve death.

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” -Rom 3:23

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ.” -Rom 6:23

3. God demonstrates His love for us through the sending of His Son Jesus Christ.

“For God loved the world in this manner ... he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” -John 3:16

4. Christ is both God and Man. He died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He rose from the grave, having conquered sin and death, so that all who put their faith in Him would have eternal life.

“And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with Christ, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.” (Col. 2:13-14)

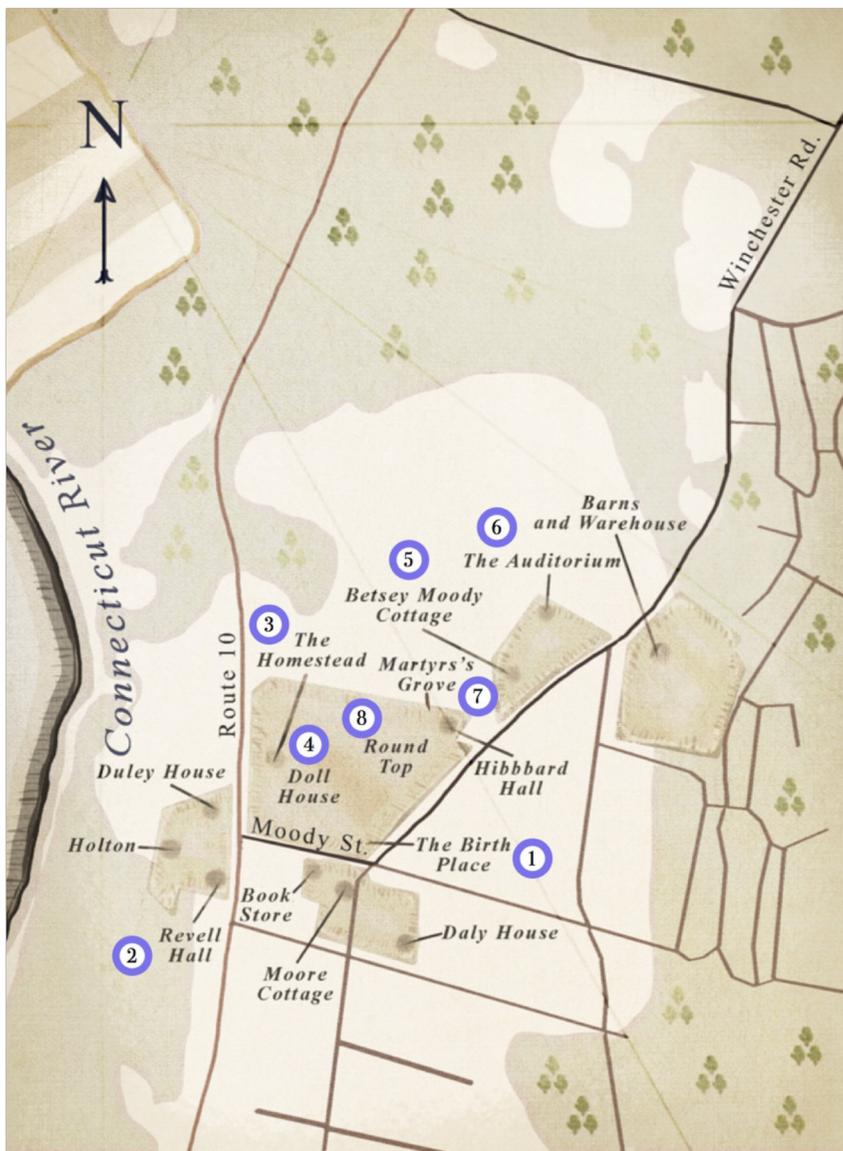
5. We may receive eternal life by placing our trust in Jesus Christ ... not simply through head knowledge ... but by placing our trust in Jesus *alone*.

“For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”
(Rom 10:13)

It is the prayer of all of us at the Moody Center that all who visit the Northfield property would come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ. If you have made a decision for Christ while visiting the Northfield property, please contact us at info@themoodycenter.org. We would love to provide you with resources to grow in your faith.

12

MOODY CENTER PROPERTY MAP



Northfield Campus Massachusetts

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| ① The Birth Place | ⑤ Betsey Moody Cottage |
| ② Revell Hall | ⑥ The Auditorium |
| ③ The Homestead | ⑦ Martyrs Grove |
| ④ Doll House | ⑧ Round Top |

13

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

