



Suggested One-Month Reading Plan  
(about 20 pages per week)

**Week 1: Sunday, the 9<sup>th</sup> – Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup>**

Preface

1. Importance of a Living Ministry
2. The Minister's True Life and Walk
3. Past Defects

**Week 2: Sunday, the 16<sup>th</sup> – Monday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>**

4. Ministerial Confession

**Week 3: Sunday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> – Monday, the 29<sup>th</sup>**

5. Revival in the Ministry

Horatius Bonar (1808-89) was a Scottish Presbyterian minister, an author, and a hymn writer. In this short work, he urges believers toward sincerity and zeal in their gospel proclamation. *Words to Winners of Souls* is primarily intended for preachers and pastors, but offers timeless, convicting counsel to all Christians for promoting evangelistic fervor.

This is my favorite book that I have read on evangelism thus far. It is not a how-to guide, but rather will stoke a desire to preach the gospel to the lost by piercing us at the heart level. Bonar identifies intimate communion with God and a holy life as the primary keys to true zeal in evangelism. Those

familiar with the equipping ministries of GBC will find in Bonar a man who also prioritizes those foundational disciplines we hear about so often: the heart, home, and ministry. Below, I have included quotes from the book under three headings that I pray will encourage you to pick up this 60-page book to increase your own resolve for holiness, evangelism, and communion with God.

— Omri Miles, **Pastor/Elder Intern and Deacon of the booktable**

## QUOTES

### Personal Devotion

"Take heed to thyself. Your own soul is your first and greatest care. You know a sound body alone can work with power, much more a healthy soul... Read your Bible for your own growth first, then for your people."

"It is living fellowship with a living Savior which, transforming us into His image, fits us for being able and successful ministers of the gospel."

"Nearness to Him, intimacy with Him, assimilation to His character—these are the elements of a ministry of power... A ministry of power must be the fruit of a holy, peaceful, loving intimacy with the Lord."

"Oh, how much depends on the holiness of our life, the consistency of our character, the heavenliness of our walk and conversation!... Our life cannot be one of harmless obscurity. We must either repel or attract—save or ruin souls!"

### Gospel Ministry

"The object of the Christian ministry is to convert sinners and to edify the body of Christ. No faithful minister can possibly rest short of this."

"We have forgotten Paul's resolution to avoid the enticing words of man's wisdom, lest he should make the cross of Christ of none effect. We have reversed his reasoning as well as his resolution, and acted as if by well-studied, well-polished, well-reasoned discourses, we could so gild and beautify the cross as to make it no longer repulsive, but irresistibly attractive to the carnal eye!... Thus by avoiding the offense of the cross and the foolishness of preaching we have had to labor in vain, and mourn over an unblest, unfruitful ministry."

### Compassionate Proclamation

"He that saved our souls has taught us to weep over the unsaved. Lord, let that mind be in us that was in Thee! Give us thy tears to weep; for, Lord, our hearts are hard toward our fellows. We can see thousands perish around us, and our sleep never be disturbed; no vision of their awful doom ever scaring us, no cry from their lost souls ever turning our peace into bitterness."

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has entered the heart of man, what a soul in hell must suffer forever. Lord, give us bowels of mercies!"