

Lecture 23: The Ministry of L'Abri

Review and Introduction: In the previous lecture, Professor Barrs focused on the structure of the work of L'Abri and the place given to prayer. In this final lecture, he reviews many of the practical issues faced in running a ministry of this nature.

The Ministry of L'Abri

I. Prayer

- A. June 1955
- B. Day of Prayer

II. The Work

A. A Demonstration in practice

- 1. You can never be something you are not all the time
- 2. Schaeffer: "What we are trying to do is not difficult, it is impossible."
- 3. Term system
- 4. "Normal people"

B. Helping those who came with questions

- 1. Two aspects
 - a. Since Christianity is true, it ought to affect the way we think and what we think
 - b. Since Christianity is true, we ought to be able to answer questions and show it is true.
- 2. One of the rules: discussion of issues, not people
 - a. In many places, discussion is not possible
 - b. Paul held discussions daily
 - c. Discussions were gradually more structured

3. Farel House

C. Extended family & study center

- 1. Intensity of the work
- 2. A "wider and narrower L'Abri"
- 3. Trusting God daily—developing "battle faith"
- 4. Short term workers and singles

III. The Development of L'Abri Branches

A. Switzerland—Huemoz; Chesleres

B. England

- 1. Discussions in a London flat
- 2. House for discussion; Ealing, West London, 1964
- 3. Greatham, Hampshire, 1971

C. Holland

- 1. Hans and Anky Rookmaaker
- 2. Eck-En-Weil, 1971
- 3. Utrecht center

D. Milan, Italy

E. Molle, Sweden

F. Southborough, Massachusetts

G. Rochester, Minnesota