

the classes, we desire to say that such use is reprehensible and vicious in the last degree.

Another help, which we fear is in danger of being sinfully disregarded or ignored, is the help of the Holy Spirit, whose presence is promised in answer to prayer, and whose office it is to guide us into all truth. But truth itself, however clearly and forcibly presented—mere truth, even though it be the truth of God,—is utterly impotent to save. There must be the "demonstration of the Spirit and power from on high." "It is the Spirit that quickeneth." A man may be an ignorant and unlearned man; but if he have been with Jesus and have learned of him, if he be a man "full of faith and of the Holy Ghost," he will be a man of power. The teacher who spreads the lesson before the Lord before he spreads it before his class, who relies upon the Divine Spirit to give him a right understanding of the Word, and to give his scholars good and honest hearts into which to receive the Word, will assuredly see in the end, if not at once, that his labor is not in vain in the Lord.—*Exchange.*

Don't Preach.

A LOOK was enough! There the teacher sat in the middle of a large class of half-grown young men. He was one of the truest and best informed Christian men in our congregation—everybody respected and loved him. But he could not keep a scholar for more than two successive Sundays. They disappeared like the wicked, and could nowhere be found. At every session some new faces were added to the circle, but it never grew in circumference. What could be the difficulty? It puzzled the pastor. The superintendent was hopeless. In any other class it would have been less important, but these young men ought to be retained. At last it was determined that we should investigate the difficulty in person. We opened the door, and a look was enough. The man was a preacher. He took the sermons as his pattern. He had a congregation not a class—and a congregation of youths like Eutyhus at that. A more drowsy collec-

tion of bright, shrewd, jolly young men could hardly be conceived. He had gone through his introduction, announced his plan, developed his points, and, just at the moment when we took our look, was making his application and appeal. From that moment we did not blame the scholars. They had done just what we would do under similar circumstances. They had been cheated, and as soon as they found out the deception they ceased to be its victims. They supposed that they were joining a Bible class, but beheld a little church. They expected to study, but they were compelled to listen. They looked for a teacher, but they found a preacher. And yet this good man was absolutely ignorant of the true difficulty. He mourned over his unspirituality, when the trouble was in his method. He prayed over the perversity of the unregenerate souls who rejected his ministry, but his pride of preaching was greater than their lack of interest. He wondered at his failure to interest, and gave more time and effort to preparation, but the reservoir was full enough, the trouble was in the pipes. He tried to fill narrow-necked bottles with dashes of water, rather than drop by drop.

MORAL.—Don't preach. Question the lesson into the scholar's mind and then question it out. Make the class do the greater part of the work. Be suggestive rather than declamatory. In so doing you will not only attract, but truly instruct and permanently retain the members of your classes.—*Working Church.*

THE gay and elegant dress of the rich sometimes deters plainly dressed people from attending church. Their excuse is an unworthy one, to be sure, but its practical results are injurious. Finery in those who can afford it often leads to extravagance in those who cannot afford it. Dressing for church becomes a vice which hinders spiritual life. People go to church as they go to the theatre or the public promenade—to be seen by men. We direct attention to the resolution of the lady members of a Baptist Church in Nashville, "that they will dispense with all finery on Sunday, wearing no jewels, and will hereafter appear at church in plain calico dresses."