

## CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

WORLD'S C. E. PRAYER CHAIN, SUBJECT FOR NOVEMBER:—*For our Country.*—Pray for the nation of which you are a citizen, whichever that nation may be, that it may be a God-fearing, law-abiding, Christian land. Pray for every wise effort of the young people to advance true Christian citizenship.

### Forgotten Blessings.

#### DAILY READINGS.

First Day—*Life*—Deut. xxx. 19, 20.

Second Day—*Health*—Psalm xviii. 32, 33.

Third Day—*Friends*—Prov. xxvii. 9.

Fourth Day—*Home*—1 Kings xi. 21, 22.

Fifth Day—*Food*—2 Kings vi. 24-29; vii. 1.

Sixth Day—*Sight*—John ix. 1-7.

PRAYER MEETING TOPIC—"WHAT ARE SOME BLESSINGS WE OFTEN FORGET?"—Psalm civ. 1, 31-35.

### What It has Done.

One of the features of the Presbyterian Rally, in connection with the Inter-provincial Christian Endeavor Convention at Ottawa, was an Open Parliament led by Rev. W. R. Cruickshank, of Montreal. The subject was, "What the Christian Endeavor Society has done for the Presbyterian Church." The leader asked a series of the questions which the delegates answered briefly. The following notes will be found suggestive:

(1) What has it done for you in relation to your Bible?

Led us to study it systematically

Has given a clearer understanding of God's Word.

Has led us to love it more

We have memorized more.

We have been able to deal personally with men.

We see more of its practical application to our every day life.

It gives a young man more self-respect.

It gives a theme of common converse.

It has enabled us to thrash out the truths of God's Word.

(2) In relation to your home?

Has made us more considerate of those at home.

Had never let the family know that I was a Christian before joining the C. E.

It gives us an interest in the spiritual welfare of all at home.

Has made better homes—happier and more Christlike.

Has helped family worship—sometimes the boy or girl has taken charge of it when the father could not.

(3) In relation to your church?

Made us more loyal to it.

Made us more liberal—in both senses.

Have prayed more for the pastor.

Have felt more interest in the church.

Realize that we have a share of the responsibility.

Has led to definite service.

(4) In relation to companionships?

Has made me want to let them know I was a Christian.

Has given me more courage to speak to them about Christ.

## FOR THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

### International S. S. Lesson.

LESSON VIII.—REWARDS OF OBEDIENCE.—NOV. 22.

Proverbs iii. 1-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."—Prov. iii. 6.

TIME AND PLACE.—About B.C. 1000; Jerusalem.

ANALYSIS.—**T**he value of the law, (v. 1-4.)  
the importance of faith, (v. 5-10.)  
the use of chastening, (v. 11, 12.)  
the worth of wisdom, (v. 13-17)

VERSE BY VERSE.—V. 1. "My son."—Wisdom as a father points his child to the best life. "My law."—My teaching; God's law. "Let thine heart keep."—Only heart keeping is right keeping.

V. 2. "Length of days . . . long life."—Because he who keeps the law avoids all those things which shorten life.

V. 3. "Mercy."—A forgiving spirit. "Truth."—Uprightness, everything that is opposed to deceit and wrong. "Table of thine heart."—As a tablet prepared for writing. "Bind them about thy neck."—As ornaments.

V. 4. "Favor."—Acceptance and approval.

V. 5. "Trust in the Lord."—In His guidance and care, as opposed to our own guidance.

V. 6. "In all thy ways."—In all thoughts, words, acts. "Acknowledge."—Recognizing His rule, submitting to His will.

V. 9. "Honor the Lord."—By free will offering of our property. "First-fruits."—The first of the harvest.

V. 10. "Barns."—That is, granaries. "Presses."—Wine vats in which wine was stored. "Burst out."—The promise is of great abundance.

V. 11. "Chastening."—The troubles and sorrows that come upon God's people are spoken of as chastenings for their discipline and correction. "Despise not."—Do not lightly regard it or refuse to yield to it.

V. 13. "Wisdom."—The personification of wisdom is still continued. She represents all spiritual truth and blessing. "The merchandise."—That is, the traffic in wisdom is more profitable. "Rubies."—Here put for any precious stones.

V. 17. "Her ways."—The ways in which she leads her votaries. "Pleasantness."—Full of joy and blessing. "Peace."—Peace with God, with men, with their own conscience.

THOUGHTS.—Our duty as children of God is clearly marked out in this lesson. The parent requests his son to keep in memory the teaching already given. There is no provision made for a possibility of having forgotten that teaching, or any excuse accepted on account of neglect to learn the father's will. The standard is obedience, and that from the heart. No pretensions, or intentions to be are at all included. The rule is strict and definite, at the same time just and reasonable. The authority is undisputed. It is a father over his child. The responsibility to mark out a perfect way is with the father, the duty to obey is with the child. With the duty proscribed, the way to perform it, and the benefits derived therefrom are given. In this there is given a good opportunity to know when the standard is reached. It is the measurement of character evidenced in results. It is not a fruitless undertaking to keep the law of God, neither are the rewards placed entirely beyond this life. Far from being excluded from association with our fellow-men, we are brought into direct intercourse with them, and in such a way as to display the value of our innermost character, which convinces them that we are governed by righteous principles.

Our dependence upon the Father is becoming as children. His ability to sustain His children is without doubt. His resources are inexhaustible. His acquaintance with us is perfect. His love for us is supreme. His will concerning us exceeds our highest conceptions. His law is a guide. His wisdom is beyond human conception. His power exceeds all other forces. His grace is sufficient for every condition in life. His authority cannot be disputed. His kingdom is everlasting, and His being infinite. Such is the Father who invites us to depend upon Him; to lean upon Him; to trust in Him; to acknowledge Him; to confide in Him, to place our all under His care, making Him the resource from which we obtain the desires of our hearts. In the measure that we do this, He measures to us again in wisdom and direction.

Our reverence for the Father should be exhibited under all the varied circumstances of life. Our opinions should be deferred to His wisdom. Our conduct should be measured by His holiness, lest we bring reproach upon His name by our lives. His cause should enlist our highest sympathy, and our best support, always having His honor and glory before our eyes. Our submission to His will in discipline should be sweet and calm, as well as constant, always acknowledging, "He knows best," without offering criticism, ever owning His love in every providence. "Knowing, that tribulation worketh patience, and patience experience, and experience hope, and hope maketh not ashamed."—Rom. 8.

Our reward is exceeding great, and in it we see God's estimate of obedience. We must obey. He measures the reward, not according to our requests, but according to His riches in glory. Nothing earthly compares in value to the reward the Father bestows upon the loyal, obedient, trusting, respectful children. There is no delay on His part. In this life He suits our gifts, the most desired, and directs the life in paths of pleasantness and peace. There is no unhappy existence when God controls and directs the life. Duties cannot be irksome. Responsibilities cannot be too heavy. He makes earth a delightful dressing-room for eternity.

### Sunshine.

Learn to laugh. A good laugh is better than medicine. Learn how to tell a story. A good story is as welcome as a sunbeam in a sick-room. Learn to keep your own troubles to yourself. The world is too busy to care for your ills and sorrows. Learn to stop croaking. If you can not see any good in this world, keep the bad to yourself. Learn to hide your aches and pains under a pleasant smile. No one cares to hear whether you have the earache, headache or rheumatism. Don't cry. Tears do well enough in novels, but they are out of place in real life. Learn to meet your friends with a smile. The good-humored man or woman is always welcomed, but the dyspeptic or hypochondriac is not wanted anywhere and is a nuisance as well.