

THE MANIFOLDNESS OF CHRIST.

Christ, the Light-Giver;
 Christ, the Master,
 Christ, the Miracle-Worker,
 Christ, the Teacher,
 Christ, the Sinner's Friend,
 Christ, the Healer,
 Christ, the Son of the Heavenly Father,
 Christ, the Bread of Life,
 Christ, Satisfying Thirst,
 Christ, Giving Freedom from Sin,
 Christ Opening Blind Eyes,
 Christ Shepherding His flock.

It will be a thoughtless scholar indeed who will not see, as the exercise goes on, something in the blessed Saviour that appeals to his own heart.

THE TEACHER'S RESPONSIBILITY

Let us look at any class in any school. Perhaps this teacher has worked many years there, and several generations of such young people have passed through his or her hands. These pupils are men and women in the making. Their dispositions differ in subtle ways which it would puzzle us to describe, and which it would be impossible to enumerate. The strange medley that there is in them of good and bad, of attractive and repellent, of beautiful and disagreeable! The surprising manner in which many of them alter—now from bad to good, and, now from good to bad—as their years pass under the watchful eyes of parents and pastors and teachers! They will soon be out in the world, formed characters, to work out their weal or their woe as sinners or saints, as criminals or honorable citizens; and the teacher has his own important share in their formation. Manifestly he cannot be held ultimately responsible for their being Christians or rejectors of Christ. No man can compel an unwilling soul to yield itself to Christ. But there are four distinct matters in regard to which every Sunday-school teacher is responsible.

The first of these is knowledge of the Bible. He is a teacher of the Word of God. His opportunities are few, comparatively speaking—limited, perhaps, to one lesson a week. But God will not exact more than is just, and He knows what can be done in that one lesson. It is much more than many do. For one thing, the child ought in every six years or less of the International Lessons to go over almost the whole Bible, which means that a great deal can be done to fix in a young memory, by vivid description, the most important events in Scripture history; to awaken in a young conscience a sense of the purity of the law of God; to establish in a young heart a profound sense of the majesty, the love, the faithfulness, the tenderness of God as He is revealed in Christ.

Secondly, the Sunday School teacher is also placed in very close pastoral relations with his class. He can visit them often; he can minutely watch and note the special dangers of each character. Faults of manner, tendencies of temper even, and other sins and failings can be lovingly named and faithfully dealt with, and guidance given regarding games and reading, and even choice of a career.

The third ground of responsibility is that the Sunday school worker is not only a teacher and a pastor of his pupils, but also an evangelist. All else is in vain unless it lead up to and lead on from the continuous and unwearied, the wise and passionate effort to win every pupil to the conscious and glad love and service of Jesus Christ. For the clear and forceful appeals, judiciously and not blunderingly made, or for their absence, or for their careless, formal, heartless manner, every leader of a class must give an answer on that day. No part of the work needs more care, more delicacy of feeling, more unselfishness of spirit, more prayer and study of character, than this supreme task of evangelizing the children of the Church; none will be more searchingly examined by the Lord of the little ones.

But, lastly, the worker in a class is not only a teacher, a pastor, an evangelist; he or she is a man or woman whose personal qualities tell all through the work I have described. The tone of all that work, among the pupils is the personal tone of the man or woman who does it. The discipline of their own characters, the deepening of their own faith—for love and this all teachers must answer at last as teachers, because it profoundly affects the influence which they exert week by week upon the members of their classes.—*Professor W. Douglas Mackenzie.*