

and have usually between fifteen and twenty names on my roll-book, the boys ranging in age from fifteen to twenty-five. I mention this to show that my ideas are not merely theoretical.

#### GETTING HIM BACK INTO THE SCHOOL.

Now, you want to get a boy back that has slipped away from the school and become too much of a man to spend his Sunday afternoons in studying the Bible. Do not say to him, the first time you meet, "I want you to come to my Bible class." No. Talk to him on any other subject you like; discuss hockey, the events of the day, books, politics, anything and everything. Be quick to observe what seems to interest him most. Next time you see him, begin on that subject, having in the meantime made sure that you know what you are talking about.

#### DON'T ASK HIM WHETHER HE'LL COME.

Having thus made a little headway, introduce the matter of the class. Never say to a boy, "Will you come?" but put it, "I should like to have you come," or, "I think you would enjoy coming, and I should be very glad to see you." If there is one thing the average boy hates, it is to be compelled to answer such a question or make such a promise, especially where the questioner is a lady. Just leave the matter with him. If he turns up, well and good; if not, you have no ground to go back over. Suppose a boy says, in answer to a question, that he will come, and afterward changes his mind, or something happens to prevent his coming, all kinds of explanations are necessary the next time you meet, and that very fact will make the boy avoid you. Once he begins to do that, your task is almost hopeless. The better way is to say, when you meet him, "I hope you are coming," "I hope we may see you soon," "Don't forget, we expect you some day." If things like this are repeated often enough, the boy begins to realize your interest and friendliness, and your appreciation of his individuality. I have sometimes followed a boy in this way for a couple of years before he has put his foot across the threshold of the Sunday-school, but afterward such a boy has often become one of the most earnest of the class.

#### HOW TO TREAT AN ABSENTEE.

Having got a boy to enroll himself, use the same tactics to keep him regular in attendance. If he is absent a Sunday, do not ask him where he was; take

it for granted that something important detained him. In that way you soon shame him out of staying away for paltry reasons. After an absence of two or three Sundays, look him up, with great circumspection. Never send a message by a small brother or sister; that is, as a rule, fatal. It is not even wise to leave a message at the house with his father or mother. Young men like to have a little mystery about their doings, and it is just possible your message may be the first news that the boy's parents have had as to his whereabouts on Sunday afternoons. If you cannot go to his home at an hour when you will find him, write him a note to his place of business. Write a note, not a postal card, and do not send it to his home, as it means endless questions, unless he has a judicious mother. The principle of keeping his own affairs to himself is much magnified in importance to a very young man. Should he be away for a long time, even then do not talk as though you supposed he had left the class. Make him feel that he is still a member of the class, whether he is present or not.

#### YOUR OWN PRESS.

One word to lady teachers. Do not think that old clothes are good enough for Sunday-school. Look your very best; the boys will appreciate it, and they like to be able to point to an attractive-looking person as their Sunday-school teacher. Use all for the glory of God, whatever personal gifts you may have, whatever wealth, whatever culture; let nothing be lost.

These may seem very small points to consider, but I know from personal experience that a careful observance of them plays a very large part in carrying on successfully a large class for young men.

By wisdom, patience, and gentleness you will persuade many a heart to listen to the Gospel message. The life of Christ teaches us that a quiet, peaceful attitude of mind is necessary for the reflection of the glory of God. There seems none of the modern rushing Christianizing in the ministry of Christ. Almost one by one his followers were picked out, and let us, in our Sunday-school work, be content to win our way as Christ did.—Sunday-school Times.

A Sunday-school without a Home Department is about on a par with a church without a Missionary Society.