

1.). God will know the face of one who prays.

What may we pray for? Anything? No, not for wrong things. God is good, and we must not ask him for what is wrong.

Suppose we are not quite sure. We hope it is a right thing, but we are not certain that it will be good for us. May we pray for it? Yes, if we ask God to grant it only if it be right in his eyes, not in ours.

A little boy once asked his father to lend him a knife to cut a stick. His father said, "No," at first, but the boy asked again and again, so at last his father lent him the knife. The boy said his father was very kind, but that was before he made a deep gash in his finger. He will carry the scar all his life. I think his father would have been kinder not to have given way, because he knew the danger, though his little boy did not.

We, too, have a father. He is our Father in heaven. He likes us to ask him for what we want, only we must trust him to do what is best. Because he is our Father, he will not give us what will hurt us. It is pleasant to think that our Father will choose for us. Sometimes a little child brings home a nosegay for its father. The father looks pleased to have it, though there are many weeds among the flowers. He takes them all, good and bad, because he loves his child. By and by he will pick out the flowers and keep them, but he will throw the weeds away. So will God do with our prayers. He accepts them all, though he chooses between the weeds and the flowers. It is a wise plan to say in every prayer, what Jesus Christ has taught us:—

"Our Father which art in heaven Thy will be done. He said it in his own prayer which he prayed in the garden, 'Father not my will but thine be done.'" (Luke xxii, 42.)

"DISESTABLISHED."

THEY say that "at the Reformation in the sixteenth century Parliament disestablished the Church of Rome, and put the Church of England in its place."

The Church of Rome *never was established in England*: the Established or National Church was always called "the Church of England;" and when King John endeavoured to bring England and her Church under the Papal dominion, the Barons, with the Archbishop of Canterbury at their head, resisted and compelled him to grant Magna Charta. The Bishop of Rome still continued to claim, and for a time exercised, unwarrantable authority in the Church of England; but this, with the corrupt doctrines of the Papal Church, was rejected at the Reformation, and the reforms were in due course accepted and confirmed by the nation in Parliament. But the Church still continued the same body, not a single bishopric, cathedral, or parish being abolished, though some were added; the *monasteries* only were suppressed, and that chiefly because their inmates professed allegiance to the Pope rather than to their National Church.

THERE are three things that are necessary to make a really successful minister—grace, learning and common sense.