

crowd ; there were the critics and cynics standing in the way of men who were better employed ; and there were the noble four standing by the stretcher with faith enough to remove mountains. Just four, but every one of them with a hand in the matter of bringing a man face to face with the Saviour ; the essential human link.

Just four to bring our children to Christ, but every one with a hand in it : parent, teacher, friend, pastor. Hardly a Christian among us who does not recognize how greatly he has been helped or hindered in his approach to the Saviour by these four.

Parent ! Surely it is not possible for you to be interested in the health, education, vocation of your child, and overlook the attachments of the soul. Indifference here is culpable in you, it is crippling to him. We do not send a ship to sea without a captain, we do not send a pilot out without a chart, nor a cruiser without a commission. We ought not to send a child out upon life's sea without a Saviour.

Teacher ! Very pleasant and interesting are those lessons of incident, of speech and graphic debate in the Quarter's Lessons. But you will not forget to lead your pupils up to the Saviour. A pity to be so absorbed in the dramatic progress of the Lessons as to forget to present pointedly and appealingly the end of it all, Christ to all who believe.

Friend ! "Friendship" we are told by one who knows, "is the chief ingredient in the Christ life." Your friendship with Christ is participation in His life. In making your other friendships, you will surely not discard this one. In your come-and-go with these, you will take opportunity to speak of Him to your friends.

Pastor ! Evangelist, I should say, in Bunyan's meaning,—any one who points to the wicket gate and bright light, and brings the pilgrim to the house of the Interpreter. You are one of the four that bear the stretcher. Sometimes you have more than one corner to carry. This is unfortunate ; but do not fail, for it is a soul at stake.

It ought not to be hard to save the children, if we all do what we can. But most of them are "borne of four". Don't forget that.

Toronto

The Chief End of Scripture

By Rev. D. M. Ramsay, D.D.

The chief end of the Word of God is to enable men to enjoy fellowship with God. The prophets received their revelations in hours of communion with God. They declared their visions to the people, that these also might be brought into living touch with the divine. The apostles were in personal fellowship with Jesus while He was on earth. They found in Him the Son of God, and through Him were enabled to know God as the Father and to draw near to Him. This fellowship did not cease when Jesus ascended to heaven, for He returned to them by the Spirit. And through their witness others were made partakers with them of the knowledge of God in Christ, and of a personal relationship with Him.

Now into the same fellowship the Bible can still bring us. God speaks to us to-day in every part of His ever-living Word. Not that He speaks everywhere with equal clearness or fulness, but "no detail of national or individual life is useless. Everything helps to fill in the picture of fellowship between God and His people which was in the past and which can come true in our own experience."

Our Catechism declares that the scriptures principally teach Christian doctrine and duty. This is both true and important. Whatever other instruction scripture can impart, the marrow of its teaching concerns Christian faith and life. Yet is its chief function not to inform the mind. As Jesus was not, first of all, a Teacher, but a Mediator who brought men unto God, so, by the Bible His Spirit, above all, brings the whole soul into living, personal fellowship with His Father.

We need not deery doctrine in order to magnify duty, nor should we exalt doctrine at the expense of duty, but we ought to put both at the service of that spiritual life wherein God manifests Himself in grace and truth and man responds with faith and obedience. Scripture does for us its best service when it introduces us to the Father of Jesus Christ, and gives us the opportunity to grow in friendship with Him.

Thus scripture can minister to the highest good of human life. To this good we cannot attain save in so far as we find God. In Him