

the point? What I probably would never have thought of doing under other circumstances, I was willing and glad to do for the sake of the one who had honored me with the request.

Even so with our Lord: He bids us "tell every creature." We say, "Yes, Lord, but some of them are so disagreeable." "But they are mine, they are to live with me for ever. For my sake will you not try and make them a little more worthy of me, a little more fit for my home, and for companionship with my Father, and the holy angels?" and we answer, "Yes, dear Lord, we cannot refuse *that* request. For Thy sake we can do what nothing else could prompt us to do. We will work for them, and think and plan for them: only do Thou keep us from getting discouraged, keep us brave and strong, loving and gentle."

If this is your determination, dear sister, your Band will no longer be the trial to you that it has been. The enthusiasm and earnestness which you evince in other matters, you will bring to this work and the result will very soon surprise and delight you. By working through your officers, and older members, and taking it for granted that they are equally interested with yourself, they will very soon become so. Talk personally and privately with some of the boys who attend but seldom, tell them you have been thinking it would be a good thing to have a missionary concert each week, that you have several readings and recitations selected, and "I want you, Joe, to prepare this one for next Thursday evening. I have invited a few friends to be present, and want them to see how well we can conduct our meetings all by ourselves." That boy is put on his mettle at once. To an older lad, give a selection from a missionary magazine or a leaflet from the Bureau, asking him to prepare it so that no one can tell it in his own words. On Thursday night, as you are expecting a few strangers and must have a nice little programme for them.

Have a third conduct a missionary catechism, preparing the questions beforehand, and giving them to those who will promise to be present and answer them. Go to some young lady in the choir and say, "I have a little missionary hymn here, will you teach it to Ethel and Jennie and play it for them at our next meeting?" Perhaps the choir leader would train four of the boys to sing a quartette. One of the church members has had a letter recently from some missionary. Borrow it, and give it to some one who will read it over till she knows its contents by heart, asking her to tell them, with a few other facts relating to the same missionary, her school, or students, to the Band on Thursday night.

Well, Thursday night comes, and with it a goodly number of your young friends, who having caught some of your own enthusiasm are expecting an unusually good time. You have come early, so as to greet each member,

and find out if those who have promised to assist in the programme are all prepared. Possibly, to your dismay, you find that several of these are absent. What then? scold, fret, get discouraged, say it is no use trying, no one is to be depended upon? Oh no! like a wise Band Leader you have come prepared for just such an emergency. From your portfolio you take other selections, and distribute to a few who can read readily at sight, asking them to do so if called upon by the President. Or some visitor may be asked to speak a few words. Thus instead of having a dull meeting, the hour will be more than filled.

When Sunday comes and you meet the delinquents, let them know that their presence was missed, and that they will be expected to take part the following week. But time for all this? where is it to be found? Simply by bearing the work ever in mind, and making use of the odd moments. As you read the papers and magazines, read not for yourself alone, but with the thought of the Band ever in mind. If you find a suitable poem, give it to a friend to copy for Harry or Bossie; if a touching little story, or appeal, put the book where you will not forget to give it to some one who will repeat it. Form the habit of being constantly on the look out for material from all sources. "Where there's a will, there's a way," says the old proverb.

It may be that some Band Leaders who hear no can procure the *Baptist Union*, the organ of the B. Y. P. U. A. It contains, under the heading of the "Junior Movement," much material which our leaders could use with advantage.

Mrs. Wilkins and Miss McKean have won laurels for work among the young, and here in this department, gather from all sources, suggestions which in many cases you might be glad to act upon, which are prepared for just such young people as you wish to instruct. Certainly the devotional exercises of your Band would be the richer for a study of the lesson given here every week, and illustrated so ably by the children's picture-maker, R. F. Y. Pearce. The "Conquest Course," need not be followed, closely, but the hymns, recitations, and suggestions of all kinds which creep into these bright columns, will certainly repay a careful perusal on your part.

Pastors and Sunday School Superintendents could, some do, render great assistance to our Bands. Others again seem totally to ignore this part of their work; not deeming indeed that they have any responsibility in connection with it. If they but realized the broad field these same Bands afford them for training and educating their young people, they would more frequently visit the Band and help with a black board talk, or a map drill; they would also speak an appreciative and encouraging word occasionally, and so foster the missionary spirit, the lack of which is so greatly deplored in our churches.