

truth, while he little suspects that he is being *taught* anything. He thinks he is being entertained and amused, but ask him, long afterward, about that story, and you will find that the germinal thought has stayed with him.

Sabbath School teachers have the children only a short while on the Sabbath day and not all of that time can be taken up with the Bible Story—how they almost envy the mother her great and gracious privilege!

Of course a child will

LISTEN TO MOTHER

often, when he will not listen to any one else. It is true, if mother says so—it is a good story if mother likes it—and most of all, in telling it over again to a friend he glories in saying, "My mother told me that story."

His mother knows him through and through in all his moods and can fit her story to his needs. She sympathizes with his little struggles, his self-will, his thoughtlessness, his disappointments, and so she knows just *how* to tell the story that it may do him the most good.

She has her

MATERIAL

at hand in the greatest Story Book that was ever written, full of adventure, prowess, romance, travel, scholarship, miracle, history, duty and love.

Because of the very atmosphere she creates around her children she knows how to introduce her subject in such a way as to attract and hold her audience. She does not have to learn the rules, "Collect material, select material, arrange material, and work out a climax." She knows where to find her

POINT OF CONTACT,

what point needs to be amplified, what subject contracted, where the climax belongs. In short, she knows her child, and her knowledge of the Bible and its fitness to the needs of every child, does the rest.

It might be suggested that to be full of a subject is an earnest that you will have need of that subject some day.

Little children would rather be introduced to Moses, David, Samuel, Jonathan, Joseph, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Elijah, the

prophets, priests and kings, by mother than by any one else.

Children like to be mystified, as their love for fairy stories so well proves. In telling some of the older and more familiar stories it is sometimes helpful to begin them in some

UNEXPECTED WAY

and lead the child to wonder what will come next.

The animals in the Bible are full of interest to children, the sheep and lambs and goats, the camels and donkeys, the cattle and horses, the wolf, lion and bear.

The deeds of valor are particularly charming to them, the battles between the Israelites and Philistines, David and Goliath, Gideon and the Three Hundred, Saul and his enemies, etc. etc. etc.

The acts of brotherly kindness such as Joseph showed, and David too; of loving kindness of children like the captive maid in Naaman's house, of rewards for kindness shown, like Elijah raising the son of the widow who had given him her last cake, etc., etc., etc.

Above all they love the miracles and the parables in the life of Christ. There is food for a life time and promise of eternal life in this wonderful Book, that is to become part of the life of the children, through the loving administrations of the mothers, who are telling them to-day the greatest truths in story form, in the evening rest hour, in the drowsy summer afternoons, in the morning rambles and at bedtime, the

SWEET, AUSPICIOUS TIMES

when only mother can come close to the little heart and leave there the indelible impression of her loving touch!

Louisville, Kentucky

PROMISES

Nellie had a habit of saying, "Promise me." One day she had asked mamma if she might have a birthday party. When mamma said yes, Nellie said, "Please promise me, mamma."

"Why, Nellie," said mamma, "yes is a promise."