

2. Can you remember when you first used it?
3. What other prayers do you know?
4. Do you pray at night?
5. Do you pray every morning?
6. How often do you pray in your own words?
7. Did you ever offer thanks aloud at the table?
8. What blessing did you use?

9. Have you ever prayed aloud in any meeting?

Of course I need not say that all this is not to be attempted in one Sunday. A little should be attempted every Sunday. In this way, little by little, the prayer life of the boys and girls will be built up. They will come to realize the privilege and blessing of prayer, and they will be able to lead in prayer when called upon, to do so.

Peterborough, Ont.

A Junior's Ideal

By MABEL CREWS RINGLAND, B.A.

While trying to appeal to the instinct of hero worship in a group of Junior girls, one Sunday, I asked that each scholar think of some one person she knew and admired whom she would care to be like, some one who had the qualities she admired most. Instantly each girl began thinking, and some reached their decision quickly, but I asked them not to talk about it to any one, except their mothers. They need not tell a soul unless they wished, but simply keep the person selected before them constantly, as a help to them in making right choices.

"For," I said, "it will often help you when you have something hard to decide, if you stop and ask yourself this question, 'Would so-and-so do this?' The way you can answer that will solve the difficulty for you."

The girls went away very thoughtful, pondering over the idea, which seemed to appeal to them. Occasionally I referred to it, until I was assured that each girl had made her choice. Little did I suspect what some of these might be, until a day when I was chatting with the mother of one of my scholars.

"Perhaps I shouldn't tell you this," she said, "but I thought you would like to hear it. You'll remember asking the girls of your class to each choose some one whom they wanted to be like, well my little Olive chose you as her ideal, and she told me about it most impressively that evening and what you said about making decisions. Then a few days later she came to me looking very happy, and said: 'Oh, mother, I've something so good to tell you. This afternoon I had such a hard question to decide and then I remembered what my teacher said, and when I thought 'What would she do?' I knew right away that she wouldn't do what I was tempted to do, and that kept me from being very naughty. It's going to be a big help to me to always remember that I want to grow up to be like her.' I thought that was lovely,"

concluded the mother, "and I felt so grateful to you."

But to think that the child had chosen me—what a responsibility! Not once had I dreamed of such a thing, but there I was with that to live up to. But when you consider it, you or any other teacher may have some one looking up to you in the same way and thinking you well-nigh perfect. It is a staggering thought, and yet one that challenges the very best that is in you and spurs you on to live up to such a high opinion. To my mind that is one of the strongest reasons why we should have in the Junior classes of our Schools, men teachers for boys and women for girls, for no boy, however he may love a lady teacher, ever aims to be like her. A strong, manly man not only supplies an ideal for the boy to look up to and measure himself by, but makes him realize that religion is a manly thing and Sunday School a worth while place for men. If he sees all about him women and girls, he is more than likely to conclude that Sunday School is not for men and boys, then grow less and less interested and finally drop out entirely.

Of course a lady teacher of boys can feed this instinct of hero worship from the Bible, history, literature and real life, and to some extent minimize her handicap. But she will have to make these heroes very strong and very appealing if they are to stimulate the youthful mind and heart to aspire to be like them and to do brave and splendid deeds, for it is these that fire the Junior's imagination, not the good qualities. But be the teacher man or woman, the full duty is not done if one Junior passes out to a higher grade without having chosen as his or her leader and guide the one great hero of all history whose noble deeds and unselfish life every boy and girl will have learned to admire.

Toronto