

ures hid in a field," "Tree of life," "Well of living water," "Emmanuel," etc., etc. Any one can perceive at once how adapted such themes would be to childhood, especially if they were illustrated by the facts and experiences of every-day life.

2. Make thorough preparation for your sermon. Study simplicity both in forms of expression and idea. If possible, avoid the use of words containing more than two syllables. Be apt in your illustrations. Let them be such as childhood will seize. Present them before their minds as if you were exhibiting a picture. It is a great mistake to suppose that inadequate preparation will suffice, because only children are to be addressed. The very character of your audience makes care and study imperative. The moment you show signs of hesitancy in speech, or lack of readiness in idea, that moment their interest diminishes.

3. Impress the children with the idea that it is exclusively *their* meeting. Have them occupy the "middle block of pews." Let them conduct the singing in their own style. (and it is generally a good style.)—Let them understand that on the next succeeding month, or whenever you address them again, you will expect them to tell you the text, the words of discourse, etc.—Let your manner of delivery be animated. Intersperse your remarks with an occasional question, either to all before you, or to some individual. Don't stand in the pulpit expecting to read a discourse. That will be labor lost, and your little congregation will become restless and weary. A minister once attempted, in the exercise of his ministry, to read an elaborate address to a company of negroes, proving the existence of God from the light of nature. The reader can imagine the effect. So would it be with an attempt to read a discourse to children. No; leave the pulpit at your back. Get as near to your young audience as possible. Look right into their little faces, and throw your own earnestness into them, and they will sustain you in your efforts by such marks of deep interest as you will rarely receive at the hands of the older classes of society.

It ought surely to be regarded as one of the most precious privileges of the pastor's work to preach to the children. And when it is faithfully done, blessed results will follow. The gracious condescension of the Redeemer manifested itself conspicuously in his attention to the "little ones." He took them in his arms, and blessed them. He declared, "Of such is the kingdom of heaven." When the Saviour had drawn from Peter the confession that he loved him more than all else then he gave him the solemn charge, "Feed my lambs."

We might mention many interesting cases of hopeful conversion, whose instru-

mental cause was direct preaching to children; holding up to their view Jesus and his blood, and drawing their young and tender affections to him. Often have I seen the tear trickle down their cheeks as the Saviour's matchless love had been unfolded to their young minds.

Missionary Influence.

Every true Christian is and ought to be a missionary. He does not need to enter a pulpit to preach. The world is his pulpit, and the actions of his life are his sermons. A holy life is the best sermon, and he who exhibits that to the world is the best preacher, and the greatest missionary. All the Old Testament worthies were missionaries. The patriarchs were all missionaries to their own families, if to none else. Enoch's three hundred and sixty-five years' walk through a wicked world was a glorious missionary tour. Whether he travelled far and much we are not informed, but this we do know that his company was the best, for he walked with God. His blameless life taught and upheld true religion, and his departure hence, but not by the way of the grave, told to all coming time that "verily there is a reward to the righteous." Noah was another grand old missionary in the years of ancient times. For one hundred and twenty years he lifted up both his voice and his hammer against sin. Every knock upon the timber of his ark was a sermon, telling the men of his day to repent and turn to God. And that ark of his was the first missionary vessel that was ever launched upon the wave. It was built to carry the knowledge of the true God across the flood. And that rainbow that was hung out in the sky when he landed on Ararat, has been a mute but faithful preacher of God's love and covenant-keeping character ever since. It is a missionary vow, declaring in its language of beauty that the world, the great mission-field, shall while it lasts be cursed no more for man's sin.

NOTICES, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, &c.

MEETING OF SYNOD.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces will meet (D. V.) in the St. John Presbyterian Church, St. John, N. B., on Wednesday the 27th of June, at 11 o'clock, a. m. Rev. George Christie, retiring Moderator, will preach.

Clerks of Presbyteries are requested to furnish the Clerk of Synod, (Rev. P. G. McGregor, Halifax,) with corrected Rolls, a fortnight before the meeting of Synod.

Collections for Synodical expenses should be made by all our congregations. Supple-