

Early Seekers.

DO you know mother, I often think what a grand thing it would be if we were sure that we should go to heaven," said Walter, one Sunday evening after they had been singing,—

"There is a happy land, Far, Far away."

"Sure about going to heaven?"—replied his mother. "You may please yourself, and I do not see how anything can be more sure. You do not expect to be forced there against your will, do you?"

"No," said Walter, "I only want to feel quite sure that I shall go."

"Then why not make it sure?" asked his mother.

"That is what I mean," said the lad. "I want to know how I can do this."

"Then do as your Bible tells you," was the reply. "What could be plainer than the words,—'Those that seek Me early shall find Me'?"

"What does early mean?" asked Walter.

"Early means while you are yet young," said his mother.

"And if I seek Him early, what then?"

"You are sure to find Him," was the reply. "Mark the words. It does not say that early seekers *may* find Him, but that early seekers *shall* find Him."

"Is it not the same for every one, both young and old?" asked Walter.

"No," said his mother. "The early seekers are sure to find, because their hearts are fresh and tender, and they are not so much taken up with the cares of the world. Older people are much busier and often have so much to do, that they give little time to the service of the Lord."

"Then you think it is quite plain that boys and girls are sure to find God if they seek Him, and therefore they can make sure of going to heaven?" asked Walter.

"It is certain. The Bible says so," was the reply. "But you must not think that older people are shut out because they are old. They also can find God if they seek Him earnestly, but their time and their thoughts are so much taken up with other things that they cannot as easily give themselves up to the service of God."