

that makes for righteousness or rightness is more truly the object of our earnest thought than the impulses and cravings that spring from our selfish nature, we shall not lack for either power or opportunity to influence those around us and especially those associated with us by the bonds of family or society ties.

As the principles upon which right conduct and spiritual life are based, become increasingly clear and dear to us, our ability to draw our children within the reach of their convicting power will increase, as the children are generally impressed with whatever deeply impresses their parents or friends. Without this conviction, growth and earnest labor upon the part of a goodly proportion of our active members, all other expedients and efforts, will have but transient power for the purpose queried after, but having this foundation we can use outward helps as legitimate aids placed at our disposal and blessed freely with the desired fruitage when used under genuine spiritual concern for the spread of religious truth.

Among these helps the First-day School comes perhaps first in importance as it gives us direct entrance to the minds and hearts of the children with the message of divine love. If we touch lightly upon dogmas of faith that we at best dimly see the truth of, and dwell largely upon the fundamental truths of the existence of good and evil, a spiritual Father, with a witness or son in our hearts seeking to lead us into all good, and a fleshly and selfish nature that prompts us to evil. That the one leads to the greatest happiness of mankind, the other always and with greater or less speed, to unhappiness. That whatever our name may be for either of these powers each exists in every heart and strives for government over it until by yielding steadily to the influence of the one or the other, we have risen to a nobility of life and feeling that no longer leaves room for the evil desire, or have sunk to such degradation or blindness, that we can hardly feel or

see the raising or resurrecting power that would lead us back into the light and into peace. If these be our teachings emphasized with the child's experiences and brought to bear upon the daily lives of the children, so that they can realize the purposes of our profession and organization, will not many become acquainted with the "Christ within" that saves us from sinning and its consequences, and instead of resisting our appeals to stay with us, will they not only feel our organization as their religious home, but also their duty to strengthen its influence and spread its testimonies for the good of their fellowmen. In these teachings while touching briefly upon dogmas, let us also forbear the role of destroyer of these dogmas as held by others, lest we destroy wheat with the tares, let us build up the good by inviting into the light, rather than by going into the darkness to drive away the darkness with its own spirit.

Another source of power in our effort to retain our children and bring them on the plane, where they may be taught directly by the divine spirit, is found in social gatherings of members of their nearest associates for some literary or philanthropic object, wherein the desire for cheery life and genial companionship in sport or play, may be gratified in connection with some unselfish labor for the improvement of our own minds or for the comfort of others.

These occasions controlled only in their joy, by the limits of right conduct and the enjoyment tendered and deepened by the wiser ones, with a purpose of helpfulness added to the craving for pleasure will do much to create Society fellowship and keep the young within reach of still higher influences.

As the young reach years and ability for it their attachment to society and sense of personal duty in it, can be increased by appointment on committees suited to their capacity or with older members, where they can have the benefit of their experience. We do not make our business serious enough

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