

2. Is it not to draw out the best that is in the older members? As the children in the home draw out the best elements of their parents, thus oftentimes making new men and women of them, so the young people in the church develop the very best elements of their seniors. The tenderest cords of the hearts of the older ones in the home are touched, and respond to that touch, by the incoming of childhood and youth. Shall their active presence in the church not perform the same office? Do the young complain in any case of present methods, or lack of opportunity for work? Let them make use of the winning arts so well known to them in dealing with their parents, and others of mature age in the household, and a marvellous change will soon take place. Have we not seen homes remodeled, things modernized, and new methods adopted under the influence of young people? A similar work in proper lines they should perform in the church—it is their mission. Samuel moulds Eli while he serves and assists that aged man of God in sacred things. The very best elements of the old man's nature are brought into play by his youthful companion in labor. At the same time Eli's influence and training lay the foundation of Samuel's future greatness as prophet and judge.

3. Is it not to prepare to take the places of the older members? The student is fulfilling his mission quite as much during his preparatory course as he is when he has formally entered upon his life work. Timothy was fulfilling his mission quite as much when he was drinking in biblical instruction from his mother and grandmother, and living a pure, boyish life, as he was when having been set apart by the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery, and solemnly charged by the Apostle Paul, he began the active duties of the gospel ministry. The young people in the church are fulfilling their mission now, in performance of faithful work in Sabbath School and Young People's Society, and otherwise as they may have opportunity, quite as much as when other and more responsive duties fall upon them. This is a part of their mission in the church, and in the fulfilment of it they are making the best possible preparation for the positions now occupied by those who are older.