

soldiers, or lead them to deeds of bravery and valor. To be successful leaders we must first interest ourselves in our boys before we can interest them in the Master's work. Yes, follow His example, and let the keynote of our life and work be threefold—prayer, faith, and love. Pray, or as Joseph Neesima, the Japanese Christian and leader, expressed it, "advance on our knees." Have faith in our Saviour, faith in our boys; fall in love with our work, be bubbling over with missionary zeal and enthusiasm, and who will not feel the influence of our spirit and catch the contagion of our mission? Mark my word, the susceptible nature of our boys will be the first to be impressed.

When a boy feels you love him and are deeply interested in him and his life, you at once have that boy's true and loyal friendship; and who could wish for a truer friend? To have the love and confidence of a boy is an honor and privilege to be coveted above golden store or the honor and applause of an admiring multitude.

And now, having gained the boy's love and good will, it is easy to guide him into the path of service.

Tell him of the thousands of souls perishing every hour without God and without hope. Tell him of the cruelties and sufferings undergone by those benighted millions, who thereby think they are worshipping a divine being. Speak to them of the awful ignorance and superstition that holds the numberless nations in the iron grasp of hopeless despair; you at once open their big hearts of sympathy, and win their hearty and enthusiastic co-operation. It is not a laborious task to interest boys in missions. What literature is so full of thrilling adventure, so stirring accounts of deliverances from danger and death, interesting narratives of undying devotion and true heroism? What boy will not listen spellbound to the biographies of Carey, Judson, Livingstone, Stanley, Paton, and the many other heroes of our mission fields? Yea, even more, they will catch the same spirit of sacrifice that called these Christian warriors to the work of carrying out the Master's parting command.

Impress upon each boy that he has a work to do, that he has a share and a part in the work of the church, make him feel his importance, and you have a loyal and interested worker with the spirit of the little chimney-sweep, who once said on his way to a missionary meeting, after having given two pence to the collection: "You see, I have become sort of a partner in this concern, and I am going to see how the business is getting on."

What shall be our aim in interesting boys in missions? Is it to fill the coffers of our mission board treasury and to send the light of the gospel to those who are in heathen darkness? That is not an unworthy aim, or one to be despised; but it must not be our supreme aim, for if it was, we would be denying our boys a grand and glorious privilege. Nay. It is that our boys will become so saturated and inspired with the missionary spirit that they will eventually go, not send, "into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." For this may we earnestly pray, and in faith see through the vista of the years that are yet to come the answer to our prayers, in the going out of one and yet another of our boys who are now missionaries at home. Ah! may we each and every one so feel the responsibility of our boys laid upon our heart, that we will arouse ourselves in missions and church work, and so lend a hand to the work the Master has left us to do.—A. H. S. in Colors.

#### Prize Stories

Cash Prizes of TEN DOLLARS, FIVE DOLLARS, and THREE DOLLARS are offered for the best story for THE KING'S OWN to reach the Editor not later than May 15, 1901. For terms of competition write Rev. R. Douglas Fraser, Editor of THE KING'S OWN, Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

The top stone should be put upon the Century Fund not later than 1st of May. There is no child or young person in our whole Church who ought to be satisfied without having at least one little stone in the great structure.