

more he loves and admires and looks at that character the more rapid will be the growth of that likeness. What an uplift must the world receive from so many teachers, the world over, studying for this quarter that life and character, beautiful beyond all others. And what a farther uplift must follow from the multitudes of young people looking at that character for the months to come. The more fully and clearly Christ is realized and set forth, the greater will be the uplift be.

Slowly, it may be, like the budding and blossoming of earth under the spring sun, will the transformation be, but just as surely must the world be transformed by the light and the warmth of the Sun of Righteousness.

THE SUCCESSFUL TEACHER.

1. *Is the teacher who is what he would have his scholars become.*—Example is more potent than precept. Example is the most important of all the principles that underlie our teaching work. We must not expect our scholars to be better than we are. The teacher is being reproduced in the scholar; the mother in the girl; the father in the boy. The successful teacher lives near God, keeps in close touch with God, and is thus able to lift the scholar up to God. "He that would lift must be high himself."

2. *The successful teacher adapts the lesson to the scholar.*—To do this, it is necessary to know the scholar. First, scholars in general, and second, scholars in particular. It is difficult to teach a child who does not know "care," to understand the force of the verse "Casting all your care upon Him for He careth for you." Much unsuccessful work is done because just at this point, we do not know our scholar. First then, if you would be a successful teacher know the scholar.

Second, we must know the lesson. If not, we cannot adapt it to the scholar's needs. We must have sunlight clearness on that truth, that one, definite truth that we want to carry. The successful teacher studies his lesson with his scholars in mind. Know scholar, know lesson, adapt the lesson to the scholar.

3. *The successful teacher gains and keeps attention through interest.*—Not through force, not through fear, but through interest.

A child can gain no knowledge by passive attention. There must be interested attention; therefore we must seek to stir the child's mind into activity. To do this, we must use

the gates, or doors into his soul, and thus first gain, and keep his attention, and second, impart knowledge.

It is just here we find success, or failure. The teacher who knows these gates is the successful teacher. What are some of these gates, or doors to the child's heart:—

First. Curiosity.

Second. Imagination.

Third. Activity.

Fourth. The desire to excel.

Fifth. Love.

Sixth. Imitativeness.

Seventh. Love of story.

These are a few that the Sunday School Teacher may use.

He who knows them best, and uses them most, will open the door into the soul, the quickest. Study the child. Gain and keep attention through interest. Not through force, nor fear, but through interest.

4. *The successful teacher is the systematic teacher.*—He has a plan, not only does he know the lesson, but also knows just how to teach it. We must begin at the point of contact, at something that touches the child's experience, for, if not, we cannot get interested attention. Having secured attention, the successful teacher proceeds by the law of system, and passes from the known to the unknown. He illustrates. The child gains knowledge by comparison. He compares the known with the unknown, and soon the latter becomes the former. One translation makes the words of the Gospel read, "And without a comparison spake he not unto them." Jesus was a successful teacher. He always began at the known, then by systematic steps He brought the learner to the border land of the unknown, then, by a comparison He revealed the truth in hand.

Successful teachers must do likewise, from the known, through illustration (comparison) to the unknown.

5. *The successful teacher is definite.*—He will not try to teach five or six truths at once, but has one, definite, thought at a time. One of the hardest things for a Sunday School teacher to learn, seems to be that it is not necessary to teach all the truths there are in a lesson. The successful teacher chooses one central, definite, spiritual thought, and keeps at it, until it is learned. It is better to illustrate one definite thought in ten different ways, than to illustrate ten different thoughts, in one way each. Sunday School Teacher: if you would be successful, be definite.