

TO PARENTS ON "HOME STUDY."

God has made it the plain duty of parents to educate and train their children by example as well as by precept. What they see about home has as much influence on their lives, for good or evil, as what they hear. And indeed, what children (especially those of Christian people) do not see about the home has tremendous influence for time and eternity upon their lives and characters.

For example, if the child never sees father's head bowed at table, never hears his voice offering thanks for the food provided, what will he think of his father's brand of Christianity when he visits other homes where this wholesome and grateful practice prevails? If he never sees father open the family Bible, read a portion of the blessed Word, and then kneel in prayer, with his family, what will he think of his father when he awkwardly attempts to behave right, at prayers, in the home of some friend of his.

Again, if a child never sees either father or mother open God's Word for a little quiet reading or study of it alone? but he sees them, day by day, absorbed in other books, magazines, and papers, how can those parents persuade their children that they believe the Bible, and love to read it?

There is but one way, and one only, of convincing your children that you love God's Word, and that is, to let them see you frequently reading it. To compel them to read a portion every day, and, perhaps, to commit verses to memory, while you yourself seldom look into it, is to teach them that the Bible is a good book—for children—but that there are many better books for grown folks.

All this tends to show the double value of belonging to the "Home Department" of the Sunday school, provided you are so situated as to be unable to attend the main school. Surely the influence upon yourself, of the weekly study of the Sunday-school lesson, is worth double the time devoted to it. If to this you add the value of the example to your household, tell us, will you, how you can afford to neglect so great a duty and privilege? Paul tells us that we should "redeem the time." Think of the professing Christians who are more concerned about how to "kill time" than they are to "redeem it"!

Believing that a daily example of Bible study is six times as impressive as but a weekly example, we have planned to induce a little study each day, by inserting the days of the week on the margin of the page prepared for written answers to the questions asked. While the writing of answers to every question is not compulsory, it is urged, because the habit of writing the answers will most surely induce a more careful study of the question and of the correct answer to it. The habit of merely reading the Bible is vastly different from the habit of Bible study. To only read, read, read, is tiresome and often unprofitable, but to actually study it is fascinating. Do not neglect, however, the "Daily Readings." They are carefully selected by the Lesson Committee, and furnish God's own and only commentary on the Bible. To read and compare them with the lesson is to study God's Word.—Charles D. Meigs, State Superintendent of the Indiana State Sunday-school Association.

A TEMPERANCE TESTIMONY.

Chauncey M. Depew, President of the New York Central Railroad Company, in a talk to railroad men, said: "Twenty-five years ago I knew every man, woman, and child, in Peekskill. And it has been a study with me to mark boys who started in every grade of life with myself, to see what has become of them."

I was up there last fall and began to count them over. Some of them became clerks, merchants, manufacturers, lawyers, doctors. It is remarkable that every one of those that drank is dead; not one living of my age. Barring a few that were taken off by sickness, everyone that proved a wreck and wrecked his family did it from rum and no other cause.

Of those who are church-going people, who were steady, industrious, and hard-working men, who were frugal and thrifty, every single one of them without exception, owns the house he lives in and has something laid by, the interest on which, with his house, would carry him through many a rainy day."

"The refuge which prayer affords is not the refuge of cowardice, which shuts his eyes to danger, but of courage, which looks it full in the face."