

Our Young People

often. Pray for old Suphri, I wish we could teach him of Christ and His love, but with so little command of the language, it is hard to teach much yet. A Christian Indian comes now once a week to our compound, to talk of the true God to any of the servants who are willing to listen."

"I have had some such pretty receptions. One day the cook's wife came with her baby and two other children, and the old coolie woman who tried to commit suicide for revenge—all to see the "beta bata."

"The cook's wife wore her prettiest clothes, which consisted of a crimson jacket, and loose bloomers, fitting tight from knee to ankle. A fine muslin veil was thrown over her head and covered the jacket, and there were plenty of silver ornaments in her ears, on her arms, ankles and toes. She is a pretty little woman. The old coolie woman was so delighted, she chuckled all the time. She is a widow, and wore no ornaments. She is wrinkled, and has no teeth, and is very poor. But they held the baby, and were so pleased over it.

"All the servants take a deep interest in the birth of our eldest son. It is pathetic to see the religious way in which they bless him when first they see him.

"Are you tired of chit chat about our baby? He fills my whole horizon at present. It is drawing me into closer sympathy with the women in the compound. I hope our dear baby will be a magnet in the direction of Christian teaching. Hitherto these servants have not cared to listen when a teacher was ready to tell them the old, old story. But "a little child shall lead them."

"Such a beautiful verse has been discovered this week. Neither Archie nor I ever noticed it until now. "The Lord thy God bare thee as a man doth bear his son, in all the way that ye went, until ye came unto this place." Deut. 1. 31.

"I was so much enjoyed watching Archie walking about with his little son, trying to soothe him when he cries, shielding from any breath of wind—so lovingly bearing the wilful wee boy. And this is but a faint image of the Heavenly Father's loving care of each of us."

Alone With God.

The late George Mueller, who conducted great orphanages containing hundreds of children by faith alone, and who received nearly a million dollars in answer to prayer, told how he found out the will of God as follows:

1.—I seek at the beginning to get my heart into such a state that it has no will of its own in regard to a given matter.

2.—Having done this, I do not leave the result to feeling or simple impression. If I do so, I make myself liable to great delusions.

3.—I seek the will of the Spirit of God through, or in connection with, the Bible.

The Spirit and the Word must be combined. If I look to the Spirit alone without the Word, I lay myself open to great delusions also. If the Holy Ghost guides us at all, He will do it according to the Scriptures and never contrary to them.

4.—Next I take into account providential circumstances. These often plainly indicate God's will in connection with his Word and Spirit.

5.—I ask God in prayer to reveal his will to me aright.

6.—Thus, through prayer to God, the study of the Word, and reflection, I come to a deliberate judgment according to the best of my ability and knowledge.

In trivial matters, and in transactions involving most important issues, I have found this method always effective.—Rams Horn.

Decide To-Day.

Christian Endeavor day.

Heb. 3 : 7-13.

Suggestions on Topic.

There are many lime-depositing springs in the world. Their water dissolves the limestone over which it passes, and then when it runs over a decaying leaf which has fallen into the spring, the chemical products of the leaf's decay causes the water to let go of the lime it had dissolved and deposit it upon the leaf, so that after a while there is a stone leaf, a perfect copy, in everything but life and color, of the leaf whose place it had taken.

It is something like this that is meant in our Bible lesson when we are told not to harden our hearts when God calls us to become Christians. The great current of worldliness that surrounds us all is full of stony substances, hard and cold as marble. If we remain in that current long, we are sure to get a deposit of worldliness on us. Our love, our better feelings, our noble ambitions, our hopes of heaven, our delight in God—all these are turned to stone. Our hearts are hardened.

The leaf must stay in the spring where it has fallen, but we need not remain in this deadening current of worldliness. We can leap out of it. We can be separate from it. Christ will plant within us springs of living water. He will lead us beside the still waters. He will be to us the water of life.

This is a very real thing, though the Bible speaks of it as I have, under the form of a parable. Hearts are actually hardened—so changed that they can no longer hear God's voice or respond to his call. That terrible date may be at hand for you. Decide for Christ now. O, why not decide this very night?—Christian Endeavor World.

Seed Thoughts.

If we decide for God, that very minute we decide against the things that God hates. One decision carries the other with it. We cannot serve God and mammon. The knowledge that this is so is what keeps millions from the Kingdom to-day.

Men complain of life as being very complex nowadays. Really, to the Christian, life is and must be very simple. It is made up of just two things, at bottom—to choose Christ, and to do what Christ says. That is all.

Max Müller wrote a great sentence when he wrote, "Lost time is lost eternity." No minute stands by itself. Every instant has eternal reflections, perpetual issues. When you lose a minute, you lose all that that minute could have accomplished by its prolongation forever.

The prodigal in the far country was not saved when he said, "I will arise and go to my father." He was saved only when he actually did rise up and go to his father. No man is saved by a conviction of sin, or by the determination to reform. He is saved only by going to Christ and falling at His feet.

FOR DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN.

Power and Results.

C. H. WETHERBE.

There must be the possession of some kind of power in order that one may produce certain results. This is a very plain and reasonable proposition. It must be true, therefore, that one needs spiritual power that he may produce spiritual results. Paul declared that it was the power which wrought in him "mightily" that issued in the fruits which accompanied his labors. He disowned having any natural power which could effect the mighty deeds that attended his ministry. So, to-day Christians must have the power of the Holy Spirit if their labors shall result in saving blessings to others. Rev. J. Wilbur Chapman of New York tells the following striking incident:

"I had in a former parish a young Irishman. All would declare him to be ignorant, and he was, but God marvelously used him. This was the secret. With a heart burdened for the men of the city I called together a few of the men of the church and, laying before them the plan I had in mind, told them first of all that we could do nothing without the infilling of the Holy Ghost. When this had been explained I noticed this man leave the room. He did not return while the meeting was in session. When I sought him I found him in one of the lower rooms of the church, literally on his face before God. He was in prayer. I shall never forget his petition: "Oh God, I plead with thee for this blessing." Then, as if God were showing him what was in the way, he said: "My Father, I will give up every known sin, only I plead with thee for power." And then, as if his individual sins were passing before him, he said again and again: "I will give them up; I will give them up."

Then, without any emotion, he rose from his knees, turned his face heavenward and simply said: "And now I claim the blessing." For the first time he became sensible of my presence, and with a shining countenance, he reached out his hands to clasp mine. You could feel the very presence of the Spirit as he said: "I have received Him; I have received Him." And I believe he had, for in the next few months he led more than sixty men into the kingdom of God. His whole life has been transformed. He is just now being set apart to preach the gospel." Here is an impressive instance of the personal possession of a large measure of the Spirit's power followed by corresponding results.

For Daily Reading.

Mon., Jan. 26—Double-mindedness dangerous. Jas. 1 : 6-8
 Tues., Jan. 27—Decision in seeking God. 2 Chron. 15 : 10-13
 Wed., Jan. 28—Decision for service. Luke 9 : 57-62
 Thurs., Jan. 29—Decision in obedience. Neh. 10 : 28-31
 Fri., Jan. 30—Decision in loving God. Deut. 6 : 4, 5
 Sat., Jan. 31—Blessings of decision. Josh. 1 : 1-7
 Sun., Feb. 1—Topic. Decide to-day. Heb. 3 : 7-13. (Christian Endeavor Day.)

That man may well despair of success who undertakes the task of lifting his associates up to a plain higher than that he occupies himself.