

The Home Study Quarterly

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The Way of God

Yes, they have caught the way of God,
To whom self lies displayed
In such clear vision as to cast
O'er others' faults a shade.

A bright horizon out at sea
Obscures the distant ships;
Rough hearts look smooth and beautiful
In charity's eclipse.

Love's changeful mood our neighbor's faults
O'erwhelms with burning ray,
And in excess of splendor hides
What is not burned away.

'Tis not enough to weep my sins,
'Tis but one step to heaven;
When I am kind to others, then
I know myself forgiven.

—Frederick W. Faber



Good Times in the Home

By Rev. P. M. MacDonald, M. A.

The mother of some stirring boys overheard a discussion in which her own home and other homes were frankly handled in a group of young folk. Her lads were silenced for an instant by the claim that certain other homes were larger and nicer and had "better chairs and better carpets and, and, —."

Suddenly she heard Norman and Tom retort almost together, "Well, even if your home is bigger and your chairs finer, your mother is not such a *play mother* as mine, and you don't have such good times in your home as we have in ours."

The point was well made and because the statement was true and admitted to be true by the boys who had tasted the good times

in the home of Norman and Tom, the discussion was at an end. It was agreed that what a home needed most of all was not costly furniture, but *play* parents who take time to share the fun and games of the children.

What the small lads said right out is what older boys and girls think about home.

1. *The "best home" allows for laughter and play.* Young folk need more than food and clothes and correction. Some of them hunger for the very things that are never provided for them, and they grow up solemn as owls, and often as cranky as owls, because work and quietness are held up as the sum and substance of their life.

That father was wise and kind when he said, "Let the children bring their friends here and I will get new carpets when these are worn out and new chairs when these get scratched or broken. I want my boys and girls to have the very choicest memories of their home. When we are gone they will think of home and the memories of its rightness and its brightness will perhaps act as anchors that will stay the drifting that may threaten them." The mother said: "You have well said what is in my own mind and heart." The children in that home had a good time and it helped.

Most parents who read this are ready to make their homes as happy and bright for their children as their means and time will allow. When the children get to be thoughtful and observing, they see how much their parents deny themselves of rest and comfort that the home may be a cheerful spot for the younger people.

2. *Let the children make the good times at home.* I was guest in a home the other day where there were two daughters and a