

amazing how much we have lost of this veneration for God's Word. Our youth should be taught by our example and precept, to thrill with reverence when the Bible is opened and read.

Many years ago, in Asia, among the Nestorians, a minister was to be ordained, and the time was fixed for the service, but when it came, they lacked one of the number fixed by the Church for the ordination. They wrote to a distant station to know what they should do in the case. The answer came, viz.: "Place a copy of the Holy Bible in the vacant chair, and proceed with the ordination." This is not superstition, but reverence for God's Word, which towers to the very heavens above all earthly books, and men or forms of men for making ecclesiastics! Would that we could have more of it; and we could if we would teach it to our youth. "How shall we do it? The children are not trained at home to love and read, and reverence the Bible. They come to our Sabbath schools generally without any knowledge of the lesson, and we can't get them to study it." We hear this as the answer, when the question is asked, "How shall we meet this question of neglect of God's Word?" I will venture a recipe for the trouble, and guarantee that in a majority of instances, it will effect a cure. It is this:—Study the lesson well yourself, so that when you sit down before your class, you may close the Bible, and say—"Now, my pupils, each close the book and repeat after me the beautiful words of this lesson." And so continue to repeat them until each scholar is able to repeat from memory each lesson of the Bible. It will not be long till, by the blessing of God, they will know by heart the true meaning of God's Word.

You may not succeed at once to your satisfaction but you will be surprised how the pupils become interested in the words—then in the meaning of the words—then in the salvation of their souls through the knowledge of the Saviour. In proof of this, many examples can be given. Two will answer. I knew a young lady, not much gifted, nor well educated outside of the Bible, who took a very fussy class of boys.—They did not study the lesson at home, and would not at the school, nor did they come

to the school regularly enough to be called pupils. She began repeating to them the words of the lesson, and made each of them repeat as she did, till they could do so alone. After training them awhile in the Bible lessons of the school, she took up the Shorter Catechism, and continued this course till her pupils could each repeat all the words contained in its questions and answers. No matter how many other pupils might be absent, this class were sure to be present.—As soon as they were old enough, they each came into the Church, and have been the most consistent of any youth I remember having united during this time.

Years after, an acquaintance of this lady, influenced by her example, began instructing his class in the same way. It was made up of the most unpromising material, and for a long time was a sore trial for him; but finally they all became interested, and could repeat from as lively an interest, as far as he could judge, as their teacher, all the words of the regular lesson and the Catechism lesson besides on each Sabbath. The class grew too large for the room, and the time of meeting was changed to another hour. Here it became an anxious meeting, and seventeen of these pupils became Christians and united with the Church.

The study of the Bible in this way becomes a wonderful weapon against sin, and furnishes the weakest disciples with the most powerful arguments against infidelity. One who had studied the Bible in this way was attacked by an infidel with such expressions as these:—"That the blood of Christ can wash away sin, is foolishness; I don't understand or believe it." The Bible student remarked—"You and Paul agree exactly." The infidel replied with much surprise, "How is this, that Paul and I agree?"—Said the student, "Turn to the 1st chapter of 1st Corinthians, and read at the 18th verse." The infidel read,—“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish, foolishness, but unto us which are saved, it is the power of God.” The infidel hung his head, and ever after studied the Bible, and soon believed it to be God's power in his salvation.