

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

APRIL 3RD

The Ideal Christian, Romans 12: 1, 2, 9-21 Golden Text—
St. Luke 6: 31.

apostle's "therefore" refers to the whole argument and teaching of the preceding chapters. He has been setting forth the mercies of God, how God, in His compassion for helpless sinners, who could not save themselves from the guilt and power of their sin, has provided salvation in Jesus Christ for all who believe in Him and love Him. Therefore, Paul urges an unreserved consecration, a giving of the body, which seems here to mean the entire life, in whole-hearted submission and service to Him who has done this great thing. The exhortation is: He has saved us; we are His; let us give ourselves to Him. A living sacrifice. That which is offered in sacrifice is given to God. It becomes His, and is not to be divided or taken back. The sacrificed victim of ancient worship was slain at the altar. Paul exhorts to the giving of a life, in all its activities and powers, to be lived in obedience to the will of God—a life not to be destroyed, but to attain fulness and perfection in such obedience. Given to God, it comes holy, and so must become fit in every way for His service, and acceptable to Him. And, Paul adds, this is your reasonable service. That is to say that what God asks is not a mere formal or mechanical obedience, but a rational and intelligent service. Findlay says (Peake's Commentary) it "implies intelligent, practical devotion, the religion which makes work worship."

Be not conformed to (R. V. fashioned to) this world. There is a higher standard of conduct for the Christian than that which the fashion or fancy of the age dictates. That higher standard may approve or disapprove what fashion demands as proper. It is the will of God. We, applying this teaching to ourselves, must seek in Christ a renewing both of mind and heart so that we shall be able to put to the test matters of daily conduct, to discriminate between what is good and bad, or between what may be good and what is best, and so to prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God. This is the finest art, the true wisdom, the best education, to be able to know, and readily and freely to choose what God by His spirit is closely revealing to us as our duty, not only because it is duty, but because it has come to be the glad and free and willing expression of the new life that is in us.

9-21. Love—without dissimulation. Paul has been setting forth the Christian virtues (vs. 3-8) of modesty, regard for others, and moderation, fidelity, constancy, simplicity, diligence, and cheerfulness in the exercise of the gifts which God has given, and in doing the work which He has

assigned, to each one of us. Love, which is God's highest law, and which is to become the supreme motive of all our activity, must be sincere and unaffected, a genuine motion of the heart. We, who lack this love, must seek it in Christ, through the gift and grace of His spirit. Without His spirit, indeed, we are not His, but yielding in glad obedience and faith to His mastery, He gives of His spirit abundantly. Compare 2 Cor. 6: 6.

Moffat translates "Let your love be a real thing, with a loathing for evil and a bent for what is good." Brotherly love. The apostle exhorts that there be real affection, tenderness, and consideration in their love for each other, and that they should be quick to honor one another. Again he urges diligence in this holy service, warm interest and enthusiasm, hopeful gladness and steadfastness. Trouble will come, but they will find strength in prayer. Always there will be opportunity to go out of themselves in kindly ministry to others, in hospitality, and in contribution to the aid of those who are in need.

Bless, he counsels, even those who persecute you. The Christian's lips are for blessing, not cursing. Enter heartily into the joys and sorrows of others. Be glad in their gladness, share their sorrow, and preserve a kindly relation of peaceful friendliness toward all.

Mind not high things, or, as R. V., "Set not your mind on high things;" Moffat's rendering is clearer: "In- stead of being ambitious, associate with humble folk." He continues: "Never be self-conceited. Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Aim to be above reproach in the eyes of all. Be at peace with all men, if possible, so far as that depends on you. Never revenge yourselves."

Paul evidently thinks that it may be impossible to preserve peace, but that the Christian should do his best. If war is forced upon him he may have to fight—as men have fought against the tyrant, the thief, the murderer, and the invader of the sanctity of home or country, or in defence of the weak.

But there must be no place for revenge. That rests in the hands of God, whose justice is unfailing, yet tempered and controlled by love. Paul quotes a famous passage from the book of Proverbs (25: 21, 22), in which the finest revenge is declared to be that of kindly and helpful service.

Finally the injunction to the Christian is simply: "Do not let evil get the better of you; get the better of evil by doing good." (Moffat).

I LOVE BOYS

By FRANK C. MOORHEAD.

I love boys. Not because I was one myself, once. Not because I'm one yet, in some respects. Not because I've had two of my own. "Just because," I guess. They're such lovably unreasonable and reasonably unlovely creatures, that I can't help loving them all. Of course, I spank my own, now and then; and am sometimes tempted to spank the neighbors', too. But what's a few spanks between friends? I'm old enough now to realize that my father was right when he said it hurt him more than it did me. Only, in another place.

There are immense possibilities in every freckle on a boy's face. There's not a cowlick in a boy's unruly hair but some day may be covered with a good and great man's hat. I should rather hear a happy boy's whistle than the best grand opera ever written. I don't care to hear him sing; but no genuine boy does that very often. Only on Sunday, when a real boy is quite likely not to be real.

I can remember when I thought I was going to be a great man. Now I'm hoping my boy will be. And so the world goes, life after life, cycle after cycle. As we grow old, our children keep us young. The things we wanted for ourselves we try to get for our children. I never had a Christmas tree. My boy has never failed to have one. On the other hand, I had red-topped, copper-toed boots.

Every boy deserves a chance to make good. If he fails, he deserves another chance. You, father on the farm, give the boy something of his own—a pig, a calf, a colt, a plot of ground. Don't sneer if he fails. You didn't know everything when you began, even if you think you do now. Pat him on the back when he does well, and pat him when he fails. Talk

to him as you would to another man; listen when he talks. Pretend you're interested, even if you're not. And if you're not, I'm ashamed of you; you're not a good father.

Be a companion, a pal, to your boy. You can't always go with him when he sets out with other boys to go clear around the world, and gets about five miles away before he decides to return. Your limbs may be too old to permit your climbing into the inevitable cave (I always pitied city boys who couldn't have a cave) when your boy and the neighbors' play they're Huck and Finn and Tom Sawyer, or re-enact "Treasure Island." But don't lick him when he comes home with his clothes torn. I know shoes and stockings and suits cost a whole lot; but a boy's worth all that, and ever so much more.

I'm scolding a bit; I'll tell you why. I had two boys, I have only one now. I didn't always do the things I'm urging here. And there hasn't been a day since that the hot tears haven't come and that I haven't been sorry.

They Help Each Other.

Three neighbors of mine, who own farms of about the same size, have been doing their work together for two seasons with excellent results, and without hiring outside help.

In the spring they start at one farm to put in the oats crop. Two disk the ground, and the other follows with the drill. They do all the breaking on the three farms in the order that they come. At corn-planting time one disks, one harrows the ground, and the other follows right behind with the planter. The planter is owned by the three in partnership. Corn cultivation is done by each one separately, unless one of them gets too far behind; then they all help him catch up.

During hay-making they all work together again. The owner mows his hay, and when it is dry they all help put it up. The hay tools are owned in partnership. Grain is harvested the same way. One drives the binder, and the other two shock it up. The binder is owned co-operatively. All three belong to the same threshing ring that does the neighborhood threshing. This ring is debating the purchase of a threshing rig of their own.

Corn cutting and husking, being a one-man job, is done by each one separately. By working together these farmers keep down the amount of money invested in machinery, and at the same time get all of their work done at the proper time without its being necessary for them to hire outside labor. Their team work pays them well, and takes little extra work or trouble.

It is estimated that Canada's annual loss agriculturally through parasites is \$125,000,000.

A Farm Woman's Tool Chest

The traditional woman who could not drive a nail without hitting her thumb, and who did not know the difference between a chisel and a screw-driver, is no kin to the average farm woman of to-day. She is her own "handy man" on many a light job, and has learned that a screw in time will save a door hinge, and a nail in the loose board on the cellar stairs may prevent a bad fall.

One inheritance however, has come down from the past; the old tradition no longer holds, but its baneful influence is still to be seen in the tools with which she accomplishes her results. She uses not the carefully chosen, well-kept tools of her husband and brothers, but a collection of discarded from the farm shop that have found their way into her "kitchen drawer."

One of the first and most important things the "handy woman" must learn before she can tackle the simplest job with confidence is that "tools make the workman," or at least a great part of his work. A tool chest of her own, fitted with carefully selected tools of modern design and dependable strength will save their first cost many times over.

The minimum equipment for efficient work is contained in a household utility cabinet put out by a well-known firm. This is a box about 12 inches wide by 14 inches long, containing a hammer, saw, screw-driver, drill and a pair of combination pliers—the five most important tools in the carpenter's repair kit—and an assortment of nails, screws, etc., in the most useful sizes. This outfit is priced today at \$6.50, though present conditions make it likely to vary, and the tools are of fair quality. There are, however, two faults, to my mind, in this set: the size of the box limits the size of the saw (which should be from 15 to 18 inches long for practical use) and does not provide space for the new tools that will probably be added from time to time.

Wall Case Makes Best Cabinet.

The ideal household cabinet is a wall case with sufficient space to hang a large number of tools, for tools should hang each one in its place, and not be jumbled about in the bottom of a box. Such a tool case can be bought empty for about \$7 or \$8, but could probably be made by a carpenter for less, or better still, could easily be evolved at home from a good box somewhere near the right size. My own tool case is a converted medicine chest about 24 inches high, 16 inches wide, and 6 inches deep. A small shelf near the bottom takes the place of the drawer for holding boxes of nails, screws, washers, etc.; nails are driven into the back and door—two for each tool at just the right distance to catch the bulge of the handle—and a block of wood with holes drilled through it is screwed to the floor to hold the drill bits.

The first equipment should include, besides the tools shown, sandpaper of various grades, a spool of wire, an oil can, a pot of carpenter's glue, a can of putty, and a three-foot folding rule.

Buying tools, however, is a passion that grows with their use, and the woman who owns the tool chest will soon find that she fairly needs others besides the tools listed here as necessities. A cabinet rasp—a kind of file—is invaluable for filing off the surplus wood when a drawer refuses to close or a door suddenly becomes too large for the doorway. For this class of work a broad chisel, too, is extremely useful, and a small plane is almost a necessity.

A reamer is a useful tool that supplements the drill on many kinds of work. It is used principally to enlarge old screw holes to take larger sized screws, and to start holes for nailing, both necessary operations to keep wood from splitting as nails or screws are driven in. A pair of wire-cutting pliers to bite off the projecting ends of nails and screws are a household convenience, they are so easy to use and so frequently useful. A steel try square is a valuable supplement to the folding rule; it simplifies measuring and marking, and makes it easy to do accurate work. A pair of clamps—about 10 or 12

In the ash of bran there is a large proportion of phosphates, much larger than in the ash of barley or oats.

Ear-corn and green alfalfa meet the needs of growing pigs better, and at less cost, than chopped alfalfa and ground cob and cornmeal. The alfalfa stems and cob-meal are better suited to the needs of sheep or cattle. They can handle more fibrous, indigestible matter than pigs.

inches long—are necessary in repairing furniture or for holding anything that has been glued.

There is more even to amateur carpentry than just owning a good collection of the right kind of tools. There are tricks to all trades, to the carpenters as well as the cooks, and the right way is almost invariably the easiest way to work.

The Right Way to Work.

For instance, some people do not know that wood should never be lubricated by oiling. Oil feeds wood and makes it swell, consequently its use will make drawers, etc., stick instead of moving smoothly. Beeswax, paraffin, or common yellow laundry soap are the best lubricants for drawers or doors that stick. Wax or soap rubbed on a screw makes it easier to drive in, and makes it possible to use a slightly rusted screw without danger of its sticking or perhaps splitting the wood.

In driving screws, the carpenter drills a hole first with a drill slightly smaller than the screw he is going to use; if the screw hole is an old one, he may first enlarge it slightly with a reamer in order to enable it to take a screw of larger size. If the old hole is too large for the screw he wants to use, he plugs it with a piece of wood, driving the plug in with a hammer, and then proceeds to drill or ream as for an entirely new screw hole. If the screw head is to be sunk level with the wood, the carpenter enlarges the top of the hole with a Bradawl; in this case he fills the hole with putty, covering the screw head, and paints it to match the rest of the wood.

In making repairs of any kind it is well to remember that a screw is of infinitely more value than a nail; it holds more firmly, pulling the parts together, while a nail drives them apart. In any case, it is important that both nails and screws be driven in straight. A screw especially, if driven at an angle, is likely to split the wood, and will not go all the way in. Many amateur carpenters do not know the value, or the existence even, of mending plates, and the part they can be made to play in reinforcing and holding together old pieces of furniture. Mending plates are small flat steel pieces about one-half inch wide and almost any length, from one and one-half inches up. They have a screw hole in each end, and when screwed down firmly over a split in a piece of wood will draw the parts together and hold them as long as the wood will contain the screws. Angle irons are mending plates bent at right angles in the middle. They are, special life savers to old chair arms that are breaking loose.

Care of the Tools.

Perhaps the most important advice the old carpenter could give the beginner would be on the care of the tools he uses. First of all, he would tell her—as we have remarked before—that her tools must never be thrown carelessly into a box to knock against each other and dull the edge of saws, chisels, etc. That is the great value of a hanging tool closet; it gives each tool a place into which it can be easily put. The second rule would be, never to put a tool to any use for which it was not designed. For instance, do not use screw-drivers as chisels, or vice versa, and do not use chisels or screw-drivers to open boxes or as can openers. Never hammer with the wrench or pliers—in fact, do not use any tool for hammering, except a hammer. Keep your tools sharp, if they should be so, and free from rust. An occasional rub with an oily rag will keep the rust away.

Use your tools carefully but with assurance, let your hammer swing freely, and look at the nail—not your fingers. When you saw, use the whole saw, not just a few teeth in the centre of the blade.

In a word, do not have more tools than you need, but try to have all that you need, take care of them, and learn to handle them intelligently. You will find amateur carpentry a sport rather than a chore, and your tool chest as good an investment as your sewing machine or fireless cooker, and will never want to be without it again.

Soils and Crops

Address communications to Agronomist, 73 Adelaide St. West, Toronto

Milk Scales Bring Profit.

I remember a few years ago, I bought a certain cow. This cow looked good to me, but there was one thing that I did not like about her. That was, because she was a small cow. However, I got her for a reasonable price so I "took a chance."

I always gave my cows balanced rations. To do that I had to weigh each cow's milk and after finding out what one gave and estimating her weight, I would mix a ration for her with the correct proportion of carbohydrates, proteins and fats. I, of course, have a table which shows the amount of these in the different kinds of feed and tells the quantity that cows need that give different amounts of milk and butter fat according to their size. While all standard books telling about feeding cows have this information in them, it can also be obtained from the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa.

After I had found out what proper feed was best for this new cow, I learned that she did not need as much as the other cows that were larger. And yet she did as well in proportion as if she were big. In fact, the scales (by weighing the milk) showed if she was getting too much or too little feed.

By carefully using the scales each time she was milked, I soon found out when she received the right amount of grain. Too much grain is sometimes as bad for a cow as too little. Besides it is being wasted. A good many farmers generally feed each cow the same ration of grain. They think that it is too much bother to figure an individual feed. But, if they would only weigh their cow's milk they would soon be convinced that the trouble is worth taking.

I found out that I saved about fifteen cents each day by giving the new cow a ration which was as she needed, as shown by the milk scales. So, at that rate, when she got too old to keep, the saving that I had made on her feed would more than offset the difference which I might have gotten if she were a larger cow. In my case, instead of losing by getting a small cow, I made; in fact, I could afford to give her away when she got old and still not lose. But if I had not weighed her milk, and done as most farmers do, I would never have known that I was feeding her too much, and she would not have done so well either.

Of course, the principal reason for weighing the cow's milk is to find

out if each one is giving enough to pay for her keeping, etc. There are many farms that have "slacker" cows which, if the milk scales were used, would soon be found out. It takes a pretty good guesser to estimate the amount of milk in a pail with a lot of froth on the top. I've seen many a person get "fooled" that way. But the milk scales are sure. And if there ever was a time that "knowledge was power," it is nowadays in the dairy business.

I have found by watching the scales that there have been times that a certain cow would begin to drop off in her flow. By investigating I would find out the cause and correct it. But if I had not been weighing the milk at each milking I would not have noticed the sudden "drop off" and would have gone on milking, perhaps, until she got too far to get back again. Then again, when trying some new kind of feed, the scales will show if it is best to use it. If it agrees with the cows the scales will give the regular milking weight or better, if the feed is better for them. If the feed is not as well for them or is not relished as well by them the scales will show it by a dropping off in the flow. Of course, to get the full benefit from weighing, regularity in milking must be looked out for. It is the little things which, taken care of, will make a cow do her best. If one will only watch the care taken of one of the record-making cows they will understand it better. But the scales is the fundamental guide in their care.

So, even if one has the best cows that can be raised, and the best of feeds to give them, and the best of care in stabling (the best of everything), and also the use of a Babcock test to determine the quality of their milk; with all these things, only guesswork unless the milk scales are used.

If farmers would begin with the milk scales, try them for one year in an honest, careful manner, they would find there would be some profitable surprises. And, as one thing leads to another, balanced rations and the use of the Babcock test would be given a trial, with other things to help that go with them. The farmer would gain and the nation, too.

There is no reason why the farmer cannot use his head as well as his hands, and the milk scales is the stepping-stone in that direction.

You cannot build a reputation on the things you are going to do.



Photograph of a field of Fall Wheat, showing fertilized and unfertilized drill rows

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