

But there is a work for the Church to do for the young outside of and in addition to all that the home can accomplish, and in present circumstances, when home life in general is all too far from ideal, the importance of this work presses more and more upon the Church for attention. Not only are the young people born within the Church, looking to her for religious instruction and oversight, but she is confronted with an ever-increasing multitude of youths and maidens who are but a step removed from complete indifference to things religious. In general it may be said the Church must recognize her responsibility to teach Christ to the young people in the community where her sphere of labor lies. Along what lines and in pursuance of what methods is she to undertake this work? The day has been when the ordinary Sabbath service with the mid-week lecture was all that was regarded as necessary on the part of the Church in her care for either young or old. These were days when sterling character was developed and the spirit of true earnestness and zeal frequently prevailed in communities where to-day under changed circumstances these characteristics seem to have declined. But good as they were, they are past and while we may cherish their memories, it is as useless to dream of applying their methods to the work of to-day as to propose to light one of our great factories with the tallow-candle of our forefathers.

The *spirit* of our fathers must be ours, our *methods* must be our own.

One answer to the question, "What is the Church to do for the young people?" has been given by that magnificent institution of modern days, the Sabbath School. The awful charge that the Sabbath School was an agency of the evil one has long ago been dropped, while by its splendid work it has come to be recognized as one of the mightiest existing forces working for the extension of Christ's kingdom among little ones both within and outside of the Church. Its methods and work I will not to-night discuss, but two matters I will venture to mention which demand the attention of the Church,