

About the talks you have tried to give. Have they always been wise, or did you sometimes take the opportunity of giving them when your little one had been naughty, thus associating in his mind words of counsel with his own unhappy feeling? In such a case the child would hasten to forget them, because, as you know, we do not wish to remember unpleasant things. And more, if uttered in anger, though slight, they would be promptly resented.

Four-year-old Willie was being put to bed one evening by his father. He had been entertaining two little friends, and, being somewhat excited, was more trouble than usual. "Do be quiet, Willie," said his father, rather impatiently. Willie looked up and remarked pleasantly, "You should not speak to me like that, papa, my teacher says we must love one another." The father accepted the rebuke meekly, and, by talking quietly to his child about his Sabbath School, got him calmed down and to sleep.

Without a word, the father taught Willie two very important lessons, viz., that love can overcome, and how to receive a deserved rebuke.

How was the father able to do this? Because he had learned to control *himself*. Ah, here is a power, which we who have to do with children often either forget or fail to make use of. Because Willie's father used it on that occasion he obtained a new hold on his child, and can, with benefit to him, use his own remark when he (Willie) is not showing love by word or act.

One mother says, "I leave our evening dishes to put away after the children have gone to bed, and the half-hour after tea is the happiest in the day. In winter round the fire, in summer out of doors, we have our little Sunday School every day. We talk about the old or the new lesson, and they teach me the hymns they have learned. Because I am truly glad to learn of them, they are truly glad to learn of me."

Another mother hearing of this plan said: "I cannot give half an hour, but I think I can manage ten minutes." She did: and now with tears in her eyes, says, "If only I

had thought about it when my elder children were little. It has given me such an influence over my little ones, and they have such confidence in me; they come to me with everything in a way my other children never did."

Neither of these mothers has need to give long talks to her children about what they should or should not do. They know each other so well that a word or a look is sufficient.

Perhaps at first glance, it seems strange to speak of parents and children knowing each other, but, when we think about it, it is appalling how few really and truly do.

A father once said to a visiting teacher, "How do you manage to teach the children the golden text? I try to do so every week but they seem so stupid with me, they never know it until after Sunday School." "Oh," said the teacher, a light breaking over her face, "that accounts for something I have sometimes wondered at. Your children always remember it when they *have* learned it. I see now; it is because of the double teaching. As to how I teach it, I suppose it is because I illustrate it. Sometimes you know it answers a question in the lesson story, as, 'What did the three men say to King Nebuchadnezzar when he would put them in the fiery furnace?' (Lesson III.). Then I ask, 'When we are in trouble, to whom shall we go?' Thus in various ways I get the answer several times. Sometimes the golden text is a promise of God as 'I will put my spirit within you,' or again it is a command as 'Be ye strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and work.' Whatever it is, it is nearly always the central thought of the lesson, and a few questions will cause its repetition again and again, not in a tedious way, but showing it in its connection and surroundings, and thus unconsciously fixing it in the minds of the children."

"I often think if more of the parents would teach their little ones something of the lesson, we could do so much more for them, for if they only hear it *once* it is so easy to forget it," replied the father.

And so do I, dear fathers and mother. If