

Junior Department.

This Department is in charge of REV. S. T. BARTLETT, Madoc, Ont. All communications bearing on Junior work should be sent to his address. He invites the co-operation of all Juniors in making this page both bright and profitable.

Bible Questions.

I am receiving more answers than formerly to these questions; but my book is a large one and there is room for many more names in it. Send along your post-card replies regularly. The record will be made in the February number and prizes awarded to those in each class that have sent in the best lot of answers.

CLASS I. ☞

(Ten years old and under.)

1. Who was David's father?
2. Which is the longest of David's psalms?
3. How many proverbs did Solomon write?
4. How many parables are recorded in Matt. xiii?
5. Where do we read the parable of the Prodigal Son?

CLASS II.

(Sixteen years old and under.)

1. Name from memory the Seven Churches of Asia.
2. With is the main subject of the 119th Psalm?
3. Name two incidents that prove David's great faith in God.
4. Tell five things about Stephen.
5. Give from memory, the Golden Text of the S. S. lesson of Nov. 12th (without reference to it first.)

N.B.—In all our answers quote as far as possible the texts as proof.

What are Some of the Hard Things You Have Met With in Your Junior League?

SUMMARY.

A PASTOR.

From observation and personal experience:

1. To secure a thoroughly capable Superintendent. To my mind a Junior League Superintendent to have a measure of success must be thoroughly devoted to God, intensely in earnest for the salvation of the children, an intelligent student of up-to-date methods of work, full of tact, sympathy and perseverance. Given these, he or she (generally she) will bring everything into order, preserve harmony, and ensure success.

2. To enlist the practical sympathy of the older church members in the work of child-saving. It is the work of the whole Church, as I believe, to support every effort to reach the young. Too often many of our older people, both in Sunday School and League, stand aloof, severely critical or at least idly indifferent, and a few at most, of the wide-awake souls do the work.

A JUNIOR LEAGUE SUPERINTENDENT.

I have met so many hard things that I can hardly describe all in a few short condensed paragraphs as you need. But here are a few:

1. It has been hard to get some of our pastors interested in our work. When Mr. — was here, he often came to the meetings and addressed the Juniors on the weekly topic or some other point of interest; but when Mr. — came it was very different. Should not our pastors generally, be personally interested and practically active in this important phase of the Church's operations?
2. We have not as nice a room as we should have, and it is a hard thing to conduct a really successful meeting in a poor room. The best place possible is of course at our disposal; but too few of our churches

and Sunday Schools, especially in smaller places, have proper accommodation.

3. It is hard to keep up the interest on the part of the boys, especially when our pastor takes so little notice of them. Why do some ministers so easily forget what a boy feels like, and fails to look at their work sometimes from the standpoint of a boy, "only a boy"?

4. To keep up the interest among all the Juniors for any great length of time. To overcome this hard thing I have found it necessary to study hard and regularly in anticipation of the meeting, to give certain parts of the topic, etc., to the Juniors themselves, and to prepare some little surprise occasionally in the manner of running the meeting. If we awaken a keen expectation on the part of the young, and then fulfil that expectation, there will be little trouble, I find, in maintaining the interest.

5. To gain the assistance of the parents at home. Between meetings is a very important part of the time for the Juniors, and if the parents work in unison with the Superintendent in sustaining the work, it will be better done than if they practically leave it all to the weekly meetings. I try to find something for my Juniors to do at home, and have found the plan of simple Bible Questions very helpful.

A JUNIOR.

Here is the answer in full:

"I hardly know how to answer; but I have found it hard often to prepare the topic for the meeting. Still, I have taken my turn with the rest, and do not find it so hard as it used to be. It is hard with us to have good singing, for only a few of us can sing much, and our superintendent hardly any. Still, we have our organist, use the "Canadian Hymnal," and are improving. Miss — says, if we had a good singer to help us learn some new pieces it would be better for the meetings. Some of us find it hard to lead in prayer. Do you think we ought to put it public? Most of our members have not yet joined the Church, and the few of us who have do not like to pray aloud. We are not ashamed, but afraid, I think. The hardest thing of all, I think, is to keep the pledge every day. But I like it, by trying more and more it gets easier, and I never forget to read the Bible every day now, and am getting to like it a good deal more than I used to. I think our League is getting better all the time. We have not so many attending as we used to have; but those that come are very attentive and good, so that I think Miss — is pleased. This is all I can think of now.

NOTE.—In conversation with some friends recently the question of Junior League "hard things" came up. We decided that there is but one way to successfully cope with these, to *make them easy*. This may in itself be a "hard thing," but it can be done. Is your pastor indifferent? It is only a seeming indifference. In his heart he loves the boys and girls, and if you approach him aright, he will assist you. There are, I suppose, exceptions even among Methodist ministers, but as a class they are more interested in the young than any other body of men I know of. Is your place of meeting dull and cheerless? Brighten it! In the summer-time bring flowers; in the winter-time, pictures. I once saw a room handsomely decorated with Bible pictures from an obsolete Sunday School picture roll. Are your Juniors preoccupied? Awaken them! Unless we first gain their attention, you cannot edify them. Give the boys something to do. Boys are full of activity, and if you do not utilize this force it will break out in some undesirable way. Appeal to their honor. Most boys like to be esteemed manly. Call out this spirit; make them ambitious to excel; give them opportunities to exercise whatever talents they have, and they will surprise you. And so all the hard things are made harder if we brood

over them and magnify them by becoming discouraged or saying, "Impossible." "Impossible!" said Alexander, "the blackhead of a world!" Pastors, superintendents, Junior Leaguers all, application will make your hard things easy, and remember, "if at first you don't succeed, try, try again."

Missionary Stamps!

Still they come! Since our last issue, the following have sent me \$5 worth or more: Mrs. (Rev. J. G.) Scott, Ingersoll, for W.M.S.; Miss H. Forman, Stratford, for Central S.S.; Dr. McLachlan, Burlington, for Junior League (\$7.44). Remember, what these have done for you may do. I have a number here on my books who are getting up to the \$5 mark, and will soon pass it. Send a stamp for full particulars, and go to work.

I HAVE been asked several times for some Studies in the New Testament. In response I propose to give some simple outline Gospel Studies. The following "Who" gives the biography of the evangelists, as far as the Juniors need to know it. This will be followed by others under the headings "Why?" "What?" "When?" "Whom?" and if Junior Superintendents will follow the studies in their meetings weekly (not weekly, mind), I think they will find them profitable as I have.

WHO?

M.A.T.T.	<p>A Hebrew. Also called Levi. A tax-collector for the Romans. Home at Capernaum. Called to be an Apostle. Read Matt. 9:9, 10:3; Mark 2:14, Luke 5:27.</p> <p>Tradition says that he was an Apostle to the Jews, first in Palestine, then in Ethiopia and India. It also says that he died a martyr.</p>
M.A.R.K.	<p>Son of Mary, and nephew of Barnabas. Home at Jerusalem. Acts 12:12, 13:5, 1 Peter 5:13, Col. 4:10, 2 Tim. 4:11, Philemon 24.</p> <p>He was the companion of Paul and of Peter. Not an Apostle, but a true Evangelist.</p> <p>Tradition says that he went as a missionary to Africa, where he was put to death for the sake of Christ.</p>
L.U.K.E.	<p>The only Gentile writer of the New Testament.</p> <p>A native of Antioch in Syria. A Physician. Wrote also the Book of Acts. A companion of Paul. Acts 16:10-17, Col. 4:14, 2 Tim. 4:11.</p> <p>Tradition says that he, too, was a martyr, and that his body was burned at Constantinople. He was not an Apostle, but an Evangelist.</p>
J.O.H.N.	<p>The beloved Apostle. One of the first four called to follow Christ. Brother of James. A fisherman. The youngest of the twelve. John 1:35, 36, 13:28, 19:27; Mark 5:37. Said to have been Bishop of Ephesus, in which city he died, aged about 100. The only Apostle who is thought to have died a natural death.</p>

Missionary Stamp League.

Statement of six months' collections, May 15th to November 15th, 1899:

Total stamps received.....\$113.07
Paid collectors of \$5 or more.....\$60.91
To the credit of collectors at work for \$5 or more..... 52.16

\$113.07

If you are interested and desire detailed statement of plan of work, etc., send address and stamp to REV. S. T. BARTLETT, Madoc, Ontario.

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