

Him who says "If ye shall ask anything in my name I will give it to you." The secret place of power is with God. The secret place of usefulness is in his companionship, and the more real our communion with God the greater our effect upon those whom we would teach.

What is it that makes the soldier? Is it drill and discipline, and uniform and weapons? Only very partially. It is courageous patriotism that makes the truest warrior. The drill and the discipline and all the other preparations for war are but accessories to the Spirit of patriotism that burns strong and warm within.

What is it that makes the successful teacher?— is it learning or training in teaching methods and practice? No, it is a spirit touched through prayer with the love of God, it is a soul made earnest and powerful by the Spirit of the Most High, it is a heart that beats strong in responsive love to him who gave Himself for us—it is a human character that daily offers itself for renewal and strengthening at the throne of Grace. How well the Hymn writer has expressed this need:—

Lord speak to me that I may speak
 In living echoes of Thy tone
 As Thou hast sought so *let me seek*
 Thy erring children lost and lone.

O teach me Lord, that I may teach
 The precious things Thou dost impart;
 And wing my words, that they may reach
 The hidden depths of many a heart.

Regarding this spiritual preparation let me offer a final suggestion. Let there be not only a prayerful preparation of the lesson and of yourself but also prepare your class by prayer before you attempt to teach the words of life. Bring them one by one before God in prayer. Tell God of them and ask Him to prepare the soil upon which you are to sow the seed. Thus having a prepared soil, a prepared seed and a prepared sower there may grow up the stalwart grain which "will bring forth, some thirty, some sixty and some even a hundred fold."