

Suggestions For Bible Study.

Pascal said: "Other books must be known in order to be loved; but the Bible must be loved in order to be known."

The Bible indeed should be studied, should be dug into, as one digs for hidden treasure; but it must be lived in order that it may be understood. In an address to the students at one of our colleges, a distinguished man urged them to have as their motto in after life, "One hour a day given to study and literature." One hour a day given to the study of the Bible will in the course of a few years enable any one to have a knowledge of it, and enable him to speak aptly and wisely concerning it. Give one-half an hour; give a quarter of an hour; give ten minutes every day to the reading of God's book, and by next rally Sunday you will have read the entire Bible. How many will begin at once?

What is necessary to make a teacher efficient in teaching the Bible?

He must know God as his Father; Christ as his Saviour and Judge; the Holy Ghost as his Comforter and Guide. He must know himself, his weaknesses and opportunities. He must know those whom he is called to teach. He must know the Book.

One of the first requirements of a teacher is that he should have a thorough knowledge of the subject he is to teach. As Sunday school teachers, we teach the Bible—the word of God. We cannot teach what we do not know ourselves; if we are to teach the Bible, we must know it. How many of us know it? How many have a fair knowledge of its contents? How many of us even know the names of the books of the Bible in their order? How many could give the leading events of Old Testament history? How many could write a sketch of the life of Christ? And when we come to the more important things of doctrine, how very, very little indeed we know. Oh! how much depends on our careful and faithful study of the Bible with Christ as our Teacher! And what stronger motive could we give for it than that it is His Word we teach—His own work we are doing.

Thoughts.

BY IVAN PANIN.

Condemn no one until you have been in his place.

Reputation must be gained by many deeds; it can be lost by only one.

Self-love is an excellent critic, but only of others, not of one's self.

Animals when once they have gained our affection never lose it; they cannot talk.—C. E. World.

Who tells falsehood about me misrepresents me, but who tells only truth about me does not yet represent me. To represent me he must indeed tell truth, but truth told in love.

Hugh Macmillan says that it is easy to mount up with wings as eagles far above the world, or to touch the world only on tiptoe as we run in the zeal of a great enthusiasm. But the life that calls for all our endurance is the slow, daily, humdrum plodding along the hard, hot road. If we can endure the little trials of the day, the common petty trials, we may be pretty sure that we shall not fail when the great trial comes.

Isn't it splendid to be a Christian?

Our Young People

The Secret of Endurance—Topic for

March 9.

Heb. 11: 24-27; Ex. 33: 9-23.

Our Leader Speaks.

I think that one of the most inspiring sentences in the Bible is the one we have in to-day's lesson, the one that says of Moses, "He endured, as seeing Him who is invisible."

Most of the things for which men toil and suffer are invisible. A young man will study day after day and night after night, for long years, for that invisible thing, an education. Then he will go out in the world and labor for the rest of his life for that invisible thing, fame, or success. A mother will endure all the hard things that come in a mother's lot for that invisible thing, love. A soldier will march till he drops exhausted, or fight till he is stricken down by sword or musket ball, for the sake of that invisible thing, hatred, or for the sake of justice and right.

The highest of all endurance, the noblest daring, the bravest suffering, is for the sake of the loftiest invisible thing, that is, God Himself. "Well done" is the most splendid fame. The richest He gives is the inestimable wealth. His love surpasses the love of a mother. Duty to Him is above the duty we owe to our country. And so, all through the world's history, those who have endured "as seeing Him who is invisible" have endured more nobly, even, than the scholar, the toiler, the soldier, or the mother. No inspiration in life is to be compared with the love of God.

Life is not easy. All of us have had to endure many things, no matter how young we are. As we grow older, it is likely that we shall have much more to endure. But if we know God, and love Him, we shall fear no evil. We shall be brave in all dangers. We shall conquer every foe. And without Him we shall be defeated, from the first skirmish to the last battle of the war.

Daily Readings.

Mon., Mar. 3—Wait on God. Ps. 37: 34-40
Tues., " 4—Establish your heart. Jas. 5: 1-8
Wed., " 5—God our help. Ps. 40: 1-17
Thurs., " 6—Look to Jesus. Heb. 12: 1-7
Fri., " 7—Strengthened. Col. 1: 9-17
Sat., " 8—The reward of endurance.

Rom. 2: 1-10
Sun., " 9—Topic: The secret of endurance. Heb. 11: 24-27; Exod. 33: 9-23

Prayer.

Most loving God, who by the name of Father callest us to dwell with Thee in filial affection and unity of will, grant us, we beseech Thee, strength and grace to do our part nobly in this present world. Thou hast planned our life and sustained us day by day. Thou hast so loved us as to give Thy Son for our redemption. Thou hast pardoned our iniquities. Help us to love Thee with a joyful answering love that shall become our strength for duty, make us more helpful to our friends and neighbors and more patient with the trials of our lot. And Thine shall be our heart's praise evermore Amen.—Selected.

Our Members Testify.

Bayard Taylor, who overcame so many difficulties in the course of his courageous life, once said finely, "The soul must sweat blood. Nothing is well done that is done easily."

I am sure that in all our worldly troubles the only secret of endurance is to keep our minds set on the things beyond this world. It is like walking on a narrow beam high up in the air. If we look down we are lost; but we can walk steadily as long as we look upward.

The most difficult endurance is to endure when it is uncertain whether we are to obtain anything as the result of our waiting. If the reward is sure at the end, no one has trouble about enduring. But God often chooses to test our faith by this very uncertainty, and those that endure it bravely and courageously will receive his most loving praise.

The essential thing is not the way we look, but the way we actually hold out. A company of soldiers were waiting for the signal to begin a desperate assault, when one of them noticed that his comrade was white with fear, "Why, you are afraid!" he said with a sneer. "Yes, I am," was the answer, "and if you were half as much afraid as I am, you would run away."

One of the most noble, self-denying missionaries that ever lived was Henry Martyn. The story is told of a minister who used to keep Martyn's picture on the wall, and when ever he entered the room the picture would seem to say to him, "Be earnest, be earnest! Do not trifle, do not trifle!" One of the secrets of endurance is to remember that Christ's eye is on us all the time, just as the eye of the pictured Martyn was on that minister.

Once Pitt, the great English statesman, was asked what quality was necessary in a prime minister. Some one had already suggested, "eloquence," and another had said, "industry," but Pitt replied "It is neither of these, it is patience." If a statesman needs above everything else the ability to hold a firm course in the face of all sorts of discouragements and trials, so certainly does the Christian, for his obstacles are as severe as all those that oppose any secular leader of men.

If you have ever been deceived by the thought that you have enough general knowledge of the Bible to teach a good lesson without special preparation let me give you a hint: Go into your room, stand before the glass, take a good look at yourself; then open your Bible and read Prov. 26:12.

I have seen a well-written letter by one who had neither hands nor feet. I am yet to see a good deed done by one who has neither head nor heart.

He who kills time, murders good opportunity. Think you he should go unpunished?

People who do not believe that the heathen are lost, haven't very much fear that any one is lost.