

During the last year not only our class but the whole church had improved spiritually.—Mrs. H. E. Monroe, in the Augsburg S.S. Teacher

The Word of Life

The Bible is the word of life. I beg that you will read it and find this out for yourselves—read, not little snatches here and there, but long passages that will really be the road to the heart of it. You will find it full of real men and women not only but also of the things you have wondered about and been troubled about all your life, as men have been always; and the more you read the more it will become plain to you what things are worth while and what are not, what things make men happy,—loyalty, right dealing, speaking the truth, readiness to give everything for what they think their duty, and, most of all, the wish that they may have the real approval of the Christ, who gave everything for them—and the things that are guaranteed to make men unhappy,—selfishness, cowardice, greed and everything that is low and mean. When you have read the Bible you will know that it is the Word of God, because you will have found it the key to your own heart, your own happiness and your own duty.—Woodrow Wilson

(A message for Soldiers and Sailors)

The Class in the Corner

It was the first Sunday in the month, which in the Herndon Sunday School is Missionary Day. The classes were called by name and one member of each class came forward with the offering, named the amount, and recited an appropriate verse of scripture.

A group of twelve boys calling themselves the C.I.C. (Class in the Corner) are interested workers, but, as in any group, there are differences in both gifts and graces. Edwin and Conway are the only two orphans in the class, and yet these two lads had the largest contributions, each bringing the same amount. Edwin had earned his by chopping wood, Conway by running errands.

The teacher bowed her head in gratitude for such boys, but was puzzled to decide which of these two should have the honor of carrying forward the gifts of the class. Edwin settled the question by saying cheerfully and quietly, "Let Conway do it; I don't mind." His had been the heavier work.

The banner was won by the C.I.C. boys, but that was not the cause of the greatest joy to that teacher. She knew why Edwin had exhibited an unselfish spirit. Every day for a year he had read and studied his Bible. He

had faithfully completed the first year of his junior work, showing a steady growth in strength of character, and in the hour of testing he proved true. It was Abraham giving Lot first choice. It was the love that "envieth not," the Golden Rule in action.

There is no room for discouragement in this work of training young souls for the master. We may surely rejoice as we sow the seed; for his promise is that his word "shall not return unto him void."—The Graded Sunday School Magazine

Why He Was "Always Ready"

"You are always ready. Come and teach my class to-day."

It was a high compliment, and one who listened to it made a bit of investigation afterward to find out how it was that this gentleman came to be worthy of it. This is what he discovered:

"There is no secret and no mystery about it. I just get ready. At the stationery store I get a little blank book costing perhaps ten cents. You can get more expensive ones if you prefer, but this one has good enough paper for me. It takes ink all right and looks good.

"Sunday afternoon I begin to work out my lesson for the coming Sabbath, beginning with a careful reading of the story in the Bible. Then I cut from one of the religious papers, or perhaps from a quarterly, the text as it is found for that day. For this I prefer to have the lesson in as fine print as possible, so as not to take up too much room in my book. On a new, clean page I paste this slip. It is just a fancy of mine, I suppose, but I like to have a pretty heading over every such clipping. It looks good to me, and somehow inspires me to make all my work as neat and attractive as possible.

"By the side of my clipping I write out the outline of the lesson as I intend to teach it. And right here let me say that I believe many teachers often miss the mark by trying to cover too much ground at a sitting. The time is too short! There is so much to be said! If we try to bring to the front every truth, we may miss them all, and see our classes go away without taking in a single really big fact to be worked out in the life of the future. So I say, hunt for a few real big truths and grapple to them with a grip of steel. Push them for all you are worth. Make them the biggest possible. It is the only way to do anything worth while—for me, I mean. Other teachers may have the faculty of compassing more, but they are, in my opinion, few.

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