

horse winning the next race, but never his own chances of attaining eternal life. Such men lived this way for seven, fourteen, twenty-one years and their habits became confirmed. There was not one chance in a thousand for such a man.

Another typical man was a slave to appetite. Drink, morphine or gambling had mastered his spirit. The river boiled under his boat, as he drifted along. He was an alien to all that Christ had done for him. His chances were but one in a thousand also.

Then there was the skeptical class and the average gospel hearer who had been attending church for years and was not saved yet. Missing opportunities their hearts were daily getting harder.

But for all the door was open and the Master ready to welcome them.

It was well to remember also, that an hour would come when there would be no day of grace and when that same Master would shut that door and say, "I know you not. Too late."

Hints for a Christian Home.

1. We may be quite sure that our will is likely to be crossed during the day, so let us prepare for it.
2. Every person in the house has an evil nature as well as ourselves, and therefore we are not to expect too much.
3. Look upon each member of the family as one for whom Christ died.
4. When inclined to give an angry answer, let us lift up the heart in prayer.
5. If, from sickness, pain, or infirmity, we feel irritable, let us keep a very strict watch over ourselves.
6. Observe when others are suffering, and drop a word of kindness.
7. Watch for little opportunities of pleasing, and put little annoyances out of the way.
8. Take a cheerful view of everything, and encourage hope.
9. Speak kindly to dependents and servants, and praise them when you can.—Christian Standard.

A Prayer.

Almighty God, how do they praise Thee who stand in the unclouded light and sing Thy name and do Thy service evermore? We wonder, but we cannot tell. We long sometimes to be of their number, even but for a moment, that we might return again and praise Thee on earth as they do in heaven. How sweet their song, how undivided their thought, how complete their loyalty! Yet may we be growing up toward all this by the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, becoming wiser, purer, tenderer, more like Thyself at least in our love of holiness. Help us to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Save us from foolish and vain notions concerning Thyself. Deliver us from the power of superstition, lest we forget how really to pray, and how truly to worship the threefold Name. May we know Thee, as Father, King, Mighty One, yet tenderer than a mother, more patient than a nurse who serves for love.

Why was he (the man cured of the palsy) to take up the bed? Because, as some one has beautifully said, there is to be no provision made for a relapse. Oh, how many of us have made that provision in the past! Yea, we will get up, but we will have the bed ready for a relapse. So far as you are able, make it impossible, by the absolute-ness of your surrender and consecration, ever to get back. Step clean out upon God.—G. Campbell Morgan.

Our Young People

Feb. 21. Using the Sabbath.

Some Bible Hints.

It was Christ's custom to go to church on Sunday (v. 21). And if any one could safely dispense with church-going, He could.

Every Christian should do some teaching on Sunday (v. 21). If he can find no one else who knows less than he, he can find some little child.

Sunday is a day for the casting out of unclean spirits (v. 23), and from ourselves as well as others, by much prayer and holy meditation.

Sunday is a day for tender ministrations (v. 31) to those sick in body and in soul—a day for health making.

Suggestive Thoughts.

Let it not be in vain that Sunday is named after the sun. Fill it full of sunshine.

You do not think of keeping Monday well without forethought; why not prepare to keep Sunday well?

Eternity is to be all Sunday. How are we getting ready for it?

A Few Illustrations.

If even a razor needs rest in order to do its best work, surely flesh and nerves do.

Those that do not observe Sunday have sealed down the safety-valves of their life engines.

We are apprentices to heaven. Is one day a week too much time to spend in our apprenticeship?

Climbing a mountain is one of the best ways of getting rid of petty worries. Sundays are the mountain-tops of the weeks.

To Think About.

Are my Sundays spent in a haphazard way?

Am I planning my Sundays to help others?

What am I doing to promote Sabbath reform?

A Cluster of Quotations.

To teach the soul its noble worth,
This rest from mortal toil is given;
Go, snatch the brief reprieve from earth,
And pass—a guest to heaven.—Bulwer.
Day of the Lord! A truce to earthly care!
Day of the Lord, as all our days should be.
—Longfellow.

One day with its searching light,
One day—for the clearer sight,
One day—for God and the right.
—C. L. Thompson, D. D.

A profitable Sabbath is one in which Biblical results are put into one's life.—C. E. Work, D. D.

How about the Older Members?

Ours is the *Young People's Society* of Christian Endeavor. What shall we do with the older members?

Many societies are injured by them. They talk too long in the meetings, and they talk too well. They monopolize the committee-work and the offices. They discourage the beginners with their proficiency. They are needed in the church, and should graduate from the society and prove the value of their training.

On the other hand, many societies need them, and could not do without them. The small societies. The young societies. The discouraged societies.

What is the solution? That the older members should remain in the society until they have trained their successors, and made themselves unnecessary. That they should do as little as possible in the society, and

get the younger members to do as much as possible. That they should gradually efface themselves. The solution of the problem is largely in their own hands.

That, on the other hand, they should always retain a vital connection with the society, as honorary members, ready to give aid and advice when necessary, and keeping a watchful eye on the society's well-being.

One or two honorary members' meetings of the society should be held every year, and one honorary member's social, for the sake of perpetuating this bond.

Sparks From Other Anvils.

Morning Star: Both parents and children should be, if possible, every Sabbath in their pew during the hour of worship. Those Christian parents who require their children to attend the Sunday school and excuse them from the public service are unconsciously training up a generation of non-churchgoers.

New York Observer: "We should thank the Lord even for obstacles. Divine grace is competent to convert a hindrance into a help." This is the statement of a common experience. Epictetus said: "Difficulties are things that show what men are." Paul said: "We glory in tribulations also, knowing that tribulation worketh patience," etc.

Religious Telescope: Doubts are one thing; convictions another. Dr. G. Campbell Morgan, in addressing a preachers' meeting in Chicago, draws the line on these as follows: "Of course, you have your 'doubts.' Who has not? But whoever heard of a man's being saved from his sin by the preacher's doubts? What the lost need is your convictions. No man but a fool is fully assured upon all questions; but every man, except a fool, is settled on some. Preach those on which you have reached solid ground."

United Presbyterian: The thinker is a traveler, an explorer, a discoverer. New constellations find their way to his telescope, new secrets are uncovered by his lever, new combinations fall into line at his suggestion. To him the world is full of revelations. God seems to have taken him into his confidence and shown him things that other men never dreamed of. The thinker walks on stars and around him are unmaped galaxies and abysses of light. He stands on the frontier of the Infinite and when he calls back to his fellowmen they cannot understand him. There are profound minds that live in worlds as remote from ours as the stars of Orion are distant from fox fire in the forest.

Daily Readings.

- Mon., Feb. 15.—Its origin. Gen. 2: 1-3
Tues., Feb. 16.—Its commandment. Deut. 5: 12-15
Wed., Feb. 17.—A covenant. Ex. 31: 13-17
Thurs., Feb. 18.—A holy rest. Lev. 23: 1-3
Fri., Feb. 19.—Brings blessings. Isa. 56: 1-7
Sat., Feb. 20.—Used for others. Luke 6: 6-10
Sun., Feb. 21.—Topic—Some good ways of using the Sabbath. Mark 2: 21-26