

satiety and impair the appetite. To nourish in due season and in due measure requires skill and thought and care.

FEED YOUR CHILDREN.

There is an abundant supply in the Bible. Do not attempt to explain everything and teach everything. What you cannot digest yourself do not feed to the little ones. But what your eyes have seen, and your ears have heard, and your hands have handled of the Word of Life, a definite portion of that set before them each meal time. This is one of the best ways to awaken and keep up interest, and it is essential to success.

But the child has a heart and conscience, and religious instruction must not be made a mere intellectual exercise. The heart should be cultivated and the affections directed to right objects. The conscience should be awakened by a sense of duty and responsibility developed. To accomplish this the means and motives supplied by the gospel must be constantly used.

Children may be trained to believe respectably from worldly and selfish motives. A good name, praise of others, self interest, may be set before them, and pride, ambition and self appealed to. But this is not the nurture of the Lord, nor does it strengthen the true nature of the child as an heir of immortality. It leaves him the slave of passion instead of making him the man of principle. Hence, whatever is taught of Scripture truth should be all used as a means of teaching "the fear of the Lord" and the love of truth and righteousness. In this the example of Jesus Christ, of whom the Scriptures testify, must be held steadily up before yourselves and before your children. Of him you should yourselves learn, and to him you should point them, for only in him does the guilty conscience find peace, the empty heart satisfaction, the learner a perfect example, and the soul a way to its God.

There is yet one other point to which I wish to direct attention. It is this, that the children should be trained to a

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

of what they are taught.

Some divorce the example of Christ and high motive and principle from actual life. Business cannot be done, they tell us, on such principles. The golden rule will not work. Every man must look to himself and each think only of his own inter-

ests. If this be true then truth and honor count for nothing, the Gospel story is but a beautiful dream, and Christ an example to beget despair. But the theory is utterly false. A man may and ought to walk in the fear of God, to live a truthful, upright life and be guided by the example and spirit of Christ in every station of life. That is a practical truth to get engraven on the hearts of the children. Religion is practical, if it is anything. Week-day life must not be out of harmony with the Sabbath. Practice must agree with profession. Principle must not be sacrificed to profit. The commandments must be obeyed as well as learned and repeated. Teach them this if possible and show them how to do it. Teach them how to forgive an injury, by yourself forgiving, and by making them forgive one another; and so also with confessing their faults, making apology and reparation for injury done, and all those matters which show a Christ-like spirit.

Lastly, there is "admonition," counsel, advice. This has special reference to the dangers to which the young are exposed. There are poisons, snares, pitfalls, endangering their souls, and against these they need to be warned. Parents must do this with loving fidelity. It is a part of Christian training to warn them in fit season and with tact and impressive seriousness against the hidden and seductive snares that are laid for their feet. Let no one out of his or her shame and suffering be able to utter the reproach, "Why did no one warn me?"

Have you ever noticed how little the great mass of mankind leave behind them to show that they have lived and labored here? A few are known by their splendid inventions or discoveries, by their books, or by their millions of money, but only a few. Looking at mere material things the great mass of mankind consume what they produce very much as they pass along. But there is one thing we leave behind us—our children—to make the world better, or worse, in the coming generations. Parents and teachers leave the children they have taught and trained to be their heritage of good or evil in the earth, and success here means something better than fame or fortune. Of course the worldly think otherwise; but is it not sadly impressive, at such a time as this, to notice how little is left to many after years of toil and business care, even