

# What the Teacher Gains

## Golden Nuggets

*By W. H. Studd, Esq.*

What have I gained from being a Sunday School teacher? Why, many things, much every way; perhaps it would not be going too far to say that, of all the qualities that help to make a full-orbed Christian, the majority may be found in the pathway of the Sunday School teacher. Every efficient teacher will admit that we teachers get more for ourselves out of our teaching than we give. We learn to do, by doing, and we learn to get, by giving. The more we give to our scholars, it matters not in which department of the School, the larger is the return to ourselves.

Let us stroll along the pathway that leads through the Sunday School, and gather a few of the golden nuggets of experience that have enriched our spiritual life. As we stand before the little tots and tell them of the Father's love and how He cares for them, the blue, the brown, and the grey eyes look into ours with such simplicity of faith and child-like trust, that we are rebuked. Yes, from the teaching of the little ones we have gained a deeper, fuller, simpler faith.

A little further along the pathway we find a very precious nugget. This has only been obtained after hard toil and much waiting, for the soil in which we find it was very restless, full of much thoughtlessness and required much watching of ourselves, but behind the fun and beneath the laugh we learned to hope. True, we had the waiting, but in the waiting we gained patience.

As in other pathways, so in that of the Sunday School, there sometimes falls a shadow, and while it lasts we are apt to think our work is of little value and not worth while. Is it not worth while? Stop and think—soon the shadow is past, we take fresh courage, the soil is rich and very productive, and we add to our collection the nugget of joy, for have we not been the instrument in leading souls into the new Life, the joy of which can only be known by experience. Is it not worth all the time spent to have such a realization of what it means to gain such an experience?

As we push on through the Sunday School pathway, we reach the scholars of more mature age. Here we meet with a great variety of cases calling for tact and discretion; the nugget of sympathy has been dug out, by the exercise of which many have been helped and ourselves benefited. Many a soul is craving for a little bit of sympathy, and who knows but that it might be the needed light to lighten a weary soul into the kingdom.

Knowledge of God's Word is a precious nugget. We are better friends now, my Bible and I, for, to get ready for our Sunday School class, we have turned its pages over and back until we have learned to love it with a strong and abiding love.

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## "The Best Training"

*By John A. Paterson, Esq., M.A., K.C.*

Mr. Lloyd-George, now British Chancellor of the Exchequer, is reported to have said: "Personally I know what a Sunday School can do. All the best training I ever had was in a Sunday School. It is what has chiefly enabled me to do my work as President of the Board of Trade. The best University in Wales is the Sunday School." This is one of the arguments from authority, but that argument would not be complete, unless it could be based on principles; and the principles are not very hard to reach or difficult to state.

1. The Sunday School gives an outlet to Christian activity. We may destroy a watch by hammering it; we may also destroy it by leaving it out in the rain, and rust will ruin it. A good many people who call themselves Christians are so filled with a passion for rest, that their beds of ease become graves of indolence. "Ye are not your own"; "for ye are bought with a price".

2. This particular form of Christian activity will surely lead to other forms of Christian activity. The appetite grows by what it feeds on, and one duty well done fits us for other duties, and gives us an increased facility