

SUNDAY SCHOOL BANNER

for

TEACHERS

AND

YOUNG PEOPLE.

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Have Faith in the Boy.

Have faith in the boy, not believing
That he is the worst of his kind,
In league with the army of Satan,
And only to evil inclined;
But daily to guide and control him,
Your wisdom and patience employ,
And daily, despite disappointment
And sorrow, have faith in the boy.

Have faith to believe that some moment
In life's strangely checkered career,
Convicted, subdued, and repentant,
The prodigal son will appear;
The gold in his nature rejecting,
The dark and debasing alloy,
Illuming your spirit with gladness,
Because you have faith in the boy.

Though now he is wayward and stubborn,
And keeps himself sadly aloof,
From those who are anxious and fearful,
And ready with words of reproof,
Have faith that the prayers of a mother
His wandering feet will arrest,
And turn him away from his follies,
To weep out his tears on her breast.

The brook that goes dashing and dancing
We may not divert from its course,
Until the wild, turbulent spirit
Has somewhat expended its force;
The brook is the life of the river,
And if we the future might scan,
We'd find that a boisterous boyhood
Gave vigour and life to the man.

Ah! many a boy has been driven
Away from the home by the thought
That no one believed in his goodness,
Or dreamed of the battle he fought.

So if you would help him to conquer
The foes that are prone to annoy,
Encourage him often with kindness,
And show you have faith in the boy.

Have faith in his good resolutions,
Believe that at last he'll prevail,
Though now he's forgetful and heedless,
Though day after day he may fail.
Your doubts and suspicious misgivings
His hope and his courage destroy;
So, if you'd secure a brave manhood,
'Tis well to have faith in the boy.

—Selected.

Filling Vacancies.

Question.—What is the best plan for training teachers to fill vacancies?

Answer.—Let the superintendent have a right conception of the kind of teachers who ought to be elected for the Bible school, in character, Bible knowledge, tact and teaching ability. He will see then that a normal class to develop such teachers is a necessity. He will industriously go among the well-qualified people in the church and urge them to join the normal class preparatory to becoming teachers. He will ask the pastor to teach the normal class, and by earnest work for a year he will have abundance of the best kind of reserve teachers and qualified person. He will not be obliged to coax some one who is hardly fitted, but who is the only available person.—candidates for permanent classes. The superintendent then can select carefully from a number of eligibles the best Pennsylvania Sunday-school Herald.