

It cannot set up its batteries there and rest content with discharging them. It must scour the country as well as man the forts. Elaborate preaching is necessary, and, also, impromptu and familiar speaking. We need to be well furnished for the sanctuary, and ready for the steamer and the street. Something of the manner of the Apostles is called for again.

And much as the question has been discussed, should we not continue to ask, Is there not a less thoroughly-educated class who may be admitted to the ministry or commissioned for a *quasi* ministry? Our students, it is often feared, are schooled beyond humble parishes. They are not suitable to them, and cannot be contented with them. And if our style of the ministry was adapted to the entire field, it cannot be multiplied enough. Colleges and theological seminaries are unequal to the needful supply.

According to your Faith.

These words express the prevailing experience of too many teachers and preachers. Thousands of sermons are preached every Sabbath without the expectation, on the part of either ministers or hearers, that any single sinner will on the spot be convicted and converted.

Most of us ministers, I suppose, would be surprised if not bewildered, if a dozen of our impenitent hearers would press toward the pulpit, instead of the street, as soon as the benediction has been pronounced, and ask us, in the jailer's words, "Sir, what must I do to be saved?"

Our faith in the power of the Gospel to enlighten and lead at once to the Saviour is not as strong as it ought to be. When we preach, we hope to do some good, but do not expect great results at once, and it is no wonder that we do not see them.

"According to thy faith, so be it unto thee," said our Saviour. Again we are told that "He did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief."

Is it any wonder, then, that additions to the Church are numbered by dozens instead of hundreds in so many of our large congregations?

The pastor "*don't expect much*," in the way of work or of liberality from his people, and the result almost invariably is measured by the expectation. No man will bring himself up to a higher life, or lead others to it, unless he keep a high aim before his own mind, and constantly press it on the attention of others.

"*Small expectations*" characterize the teachers of the Sunday school as well as ministers, and, in consequence, the Sunday school fails to accomplish a tide of what it might. How many teachers are utterly

faithless in regard to the conversion of children, and work only with a view to benefits hoped for (hardly expected often) in the remote future! How many other teachers do not admit that an earnest, joyous consistent Christian life is possible for a child? Such persons will do little to bring the remedial power of the Gospel to bear on the every-day-life of the boy or girl entrusted to their care! "*Boys will be boys!*" is the doleful and desponding expression which often shows how little they expect of Christian life in their scholars. Let every Sabbath school teacher set before him the example of the "child Jesus," and, using the Word of God and pleading for the Spirit of God, endeavor to bring each pupil into sympathy with him as a Saviour of boys and girls. Religious life is just as possible at the age of ten as at fifty. The Spirit of God can mould and rule a little, merry, mischievous four-year-old as effectually as when fifteen or twenty years are added to its life.

Teach a child that it cannot be a Christian now, but may only *hope* to be, and you blot out the sunshine which the Master poured out as a flood when he said, "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not." Before our Sabbath schools become what they might be, our teachers must learn to *expect much*; then they will work for great results and pray for great blessings, even the immediate conversion and the Christian culture of each one entrusted to them.

The pulpit also must share in this spirit of great expectations, before sinners come as doves flocking to the windows. It may be that this better day and coming glory of the Lord is to dawn in the Sabbath school, and that the Spirit of God, moving in the hearts of the little ones, shall lead teachers to a new life of faith and hope and toil; and when the youth appear in the beauty of holiness, like the dew of the morning, the ministry of the Church and the adult membership will enter on a new life of trust and toil, looking for immediate in-gatherings.

To day, fellow-teacher, let us take the question, "*What do I expect?*" and ponder it prayerfully. If we have little faith and expect little, small will our rewards be. By strong faith and by expecting much we best honor our Master, and assuredly we shall do most for his cause. *What do you expect?*

What is a consecrated heart? It is a heart which in every respect rests entirely content with God alone, which finds no relish, nor tastes any delight in anything in which He is not.—*Haefternus*.