

Children's Department.

Gather the Children.

In the word of our God the children have a large place. The Bible abounds in precepts and promises and illustrations relating to the young.

One of the brightest touches in the prophet's picture of the restored Jerusalem is that the streets of the city would be "full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof."

One of the most beautiful scenes in the life of our Lord was in the temple when the children were about him crying, Hosanna.

One of the most delightful anticipations of the kingdom that is to come is that the streets of the city that will "come down out of heaven from God" will be full of children.

There may be differences of opinion among the Christians as to the age at which the young should be confirmed, but there ought to be no difference of opinion among them as to when their children should be dedicated to Christ.

When a young man, who has since become a famous preacher, told his mother that he intended to study for the ministry, she said, "I never told you, but I meant you for that before I ever saw your face." That was the sublime faith of a good woman in the efficacy of the early dedication of her boy to the service of Christ.

Christian parents ought not to be wholly discouraged if the cord that binds their children to God may at times seem to them to be broken; God holds the other end; let them keep on praying.

Many a man has been kept from drifting into evil by the memory of his parents' prayers.

A distinguished explorer says: "In all the dangers and temptations to which I was exposed in Africa, one thread kept me from going to ruin. It was the knowledge that on the other side of the globe there was an old gray haired woman praying for me."

The young need to be guarded as well as guided. "The lamb that God keeps, the wolf does not eat," so the Persians say.

One of the best earthly safeguards for the young is a home in which God is honored. There are many promises of blessing on such a home.

This is a day of grand opportunity. Now, as never before, recruits are needed for services in all the mission fields.



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