

day after Bobby gets the letter you thought most beguiling, he may not appear in the class at all!

But it will happen by-and-by that your boys will begin to talk to you more freely than they did, when you question them about anything they will answer you in a matter-of-course way, with real good-will and zeal. You will hear about Harry's ambitions with regard to a business training a great deal sooner than you ever heard about Bobby's drug-store aspirations. Even the boy who hardly ever comes into the class will smile and stop when he meets you on the street. And more than once when Bert is pulling over the papers in his inside pocket, you will catch a glimpse of a carefully tucked away billet envelope that you recognize on the instant as the one you sent three weeks ago! And is all this nothing? Is it not "worth while"? Just try it and see.—*The Westminster.*



### Points for Teachers.

(1) If you are going to be absent, don't fail to secure a substitute and notify the superintendent.

(2) If you are going to be present, don't fail to be there before any of your scholars.

(3) If you are going to *really teach*, somebody is really going to learn something, and that means that you are really going to study something.

(4) And that means that you are going to take advantage of teachers' meeting, prayer meeting, and everything else that will help.

(5) If you are going to hold your class, you must hold yourself untiringly and interestedly in the work.

(6) Time has passed when a few minutes sleepy Saturday night or lazy Sunday morning study will hold bright boys and girls.

(7) If you do not take active part in the doings of the school session, you need not expect your scholars to do so.

(8) If you have very slight symptoms of distress at the absence and indifference of your scholars, you may be sure the disease will not reach any vital part of the scholar.

(9) If your feet are not long enough to reach the home, occasionally at least, you need a larger development in that direction, and you should begin at once to exercise in order to reach it. We need many big-footed teachers along that line.

(10) If any of your scholars are sojourning, or you are away during the summer, you can open the sweetest treasury of their nature by presenting them constantly with a picture of your heart "on ordinary writing paper." And when the "harvest home" comes on in the ripening fall, you will have your well-rounded shock of many sheaves, compacted together and ready to be gathered into the great granary. Try it.—*John R. Pepper.*

## Notes and Suggestions on the International Lessons.

By Rev. Wray R. Smith.

LESSON 6.—AUGUST 7, 1898.

### Elijah's Spirit on Elisha.

(Lesson Text: 2 Kings 2: 6-15. Memory Verses: 11-14.)  
(Read the chapter.)

GOLDEN TEXT. "How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him!"—*Luke 11: 13.*

DAILY READINGS.—Monday: 2 Kings 2: 1-8. Tuesday: 2 Kings 2: 9-15. Wednesday: 2 Kings 2: 16-22. Thursday: Heb. 11: 1-6. Friday: Luke 12: 32-40. Saturday: 2 Tim. 4: 1-8. Sunday: John 14: 8-17.

#### The Heart of the Lesson.

We have come to the last mile-stone in the life of Elijah. He is like a pilgrim who, having trod a long and weary path, is just in sight of home and rest. The time and manner of his departure seems to have been revealed to him. In company with Elisha, his faithful companion and servant, he decided to make a final tour and visit the youth in the schools of the prophets. These educational institutions were established at Gilgal, Bethel, and Jericho, and were similar to those in the time of Samuel, located at Ramah and Kirjath Jearim. The solicitude of Elijah for these youths reminds us of Paul's love for Timothy, his own son in the Gospel. The students were being trained for their work. They were the hope of the nation's religious life. If the education and training of young men was important then, how much more important now!

Elijah had been faithful in the discharge of duty, still God had much more to be done. Could the prophet be spared? Yes; for God had chosen Elisha to succeed him. Elijah's work was done; rounded off, so to speak, so far as he was concerned. New times demand new men and new methods. God lays aside one tool, but only to take up another. He has inexhaustible stores. The work goes on though the workers change. We are apt to think that the prosperity of a good cause depends upon the life of one man, like F. E. Clark or General Booth. This is a mistake. Men may come and men may go, but God's work goes on for ever. When Joseph dies, he is assured of the welfare of his people and says, "I die, and God will surely visit you and bring you out of this land." When Moses was dead, Joshua spake to the children of Israel to "go forward." God plans a long time ahead, and holds in readiness and reserve agents and forces that we cannot see. So when Elijah goes, Elisha comes, and the work advances.

When Elijah finished his part of the providential plan, Elisha was to dovetail on at the point of pause and perfect his, and both share in the final reward. The men and their manner strangely contrasted with each other. One lived a life of solitude, the other in the city; one was rough in word and way, the other polite and gentle; one was the enemy of kings, the other was in friendly relation with them, an honored guest and trusted counsellor. Elisha was as complete a contrast to his stern predecessor as the still, small voice was to the hurricane. "There are diversities of operations, but the same God." God's work needs that all join hands in serving Him though in diverse ways, each able to say of the other, "He worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do."

Three times Elijah requested Elisha "to tarry" behind; the reason why is not clear. Perhaps it was to test his steadfastness, like the thrice repeated question put to Peter by Jesus Christ. Perhaps it