

The Children's Page

Our Bible Story—The First Long Sermon

In the early days of Christianity one of the leaders of the Church paid a pastoral visit for a few days to the Christians living in a seaport town on the coast of Asia Minor. In the evening of the last day of his visit he preached a farewell sermon. It was a long sermon, lasting until midnight. One youthful member of the congregation fell asleep, and startled, perhaps, by a sudden burst of eloquence from the preacher (the kind of inspired passage which makes the speaker thump the table or desk), the youth fell out from his place near the window on to the street below.

The preacher at once turned physician and was able to assure the congregation that the young man was not seriously hurt. It may be thought that the privilege of hearing the great preacher ought to have kept the youth alert and wide awake. At any rate he missed a great opportunity by his sleepiness. There is a notice used in our street cars to attract the attention of passengers to certain rules: Stop! Look! Listen! These words simply mean "wake up and take notice." Remember the rules—avoid danger.

Have you started dawdling and dreaming through life? Stop right now and wake up! Don't have a sleepy mind. Be alert—observant, active. Look before you and about you. Be sure you know where you are going. Listen—all the time—listen for the message in your reading, to the advice of faithful friends. Listen for the good things that other people say.

Remember: The warning you did not see cannot save you from danger. The truth you did not hear cannot help you.

The prize winner last month was Miss Mary J. Shaw, 325—48th Avenue East, Vancouver, B. C. The following competitors deserve special mention: Master Willie Ross, Ahousaht; Miss Elsie Sutherland, Ashcroft; Miss Jean Ross, Vancouver.

This Month's Competition

A book prize will again be awarded to the boy or girl who can find the names of the town, the preacher, and the sleepy youth mentioned in the story told above. If more than one correct reply is received, the prize will go to the boy or girl sending the most neatly written copy.