

taught that the activities of nature have a moral meaning, as has also the course of human life. Behind all, and as the inspiration of all, is a Ruler of the seasons, and a Disposer of the events of history, who is powerful, just and kind.

We shall be wise if we give ourselves to this discipline of the mind and heart. So shall we be saved from the errors and judgments of the materialists who fell by the way and so did not enter into the Land of Promise. It shall be our happy fate to persevere until the end, and not only, like Moses, see the promised land from afar, but under the guidance of our Joshua, enter in and possess our portion there.

It is Christ who alone can reveal the ways of God in their fullness of meaning. If we listen to Him and follow Him, we shall find the way, we shall understand the truth, and become interpreters of Him among men.

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### Children at Church

#### III. THE SUPERINTENDENT'S PART

*By Mr. J. D. MacKay*

The writer endeavors to superintend an average town Sunday School, and would ask himself and his fellow superintendents what they and he can do to secure a larger attendance of children at public worship.

Here, as elsewhere, example is a strong factor. Children are quick to observe the conduct of their instructors. The superintendent must conscientiously lead where he desires the members of the School to follow. What he says will have little effect if not enforced by what he does. No slight indisposition, disagreeable weather or other trivial cause will prevent his meeting with the children in God's house. In most congregations there are a few individuals whose faithful occupancy of their usual places in the pew is an inspiration. The superintendent should be one of those whose loyalty to church and pastor is not ostentatious but genuine.

The superintendent is responsible for the tone or atmosphere of the School. If he is specially interested in any subject, his School reflects that interest. His sympathy with

church attendance will inevitably react upon the School. This sympathy can be manifested in his prayers, scripture readings, occasional references, etc. At times it may be helpful to have the children indicate, by raising hands or standing, who were present at the last church service.

The superintendent's enthusiasm for church attendance will naturally be communicated to his teachers and to the superintendents of the Home Department and Cradle Roll. As these workers come into personal contact with practically all the families of the congregation, they are able to render most valuable assistance. Indeed the organization of the modern Sunday School is such that it would be difficult to devise any other so well adapted to influence the young people, and the superintendent will not fail to utilize this admirable instrumentality.

Love for their pastor influences children greatly. The loyal superintendent can find numberless opportunities to aid in the cultivation of this beautiful relationship between the pastor and the children. Never let it be forgotten that love for the Saviour, too, appeals just as strongly to the child as to the adult. Is it not possible that this tender feeling in the child's heart is sometimes suppressed by the lack of suitable methods to give it expression? How natural and important to teach the little ones that in several ways, including attendance at God's house, we can please Him.

In his efforts to promote church attendance of children the superintendent must avail himself of every proper opportunity and means to interest and influence parents. As already hinted, the Home Department and Cradle Roll can be used to excellent advantage in this connection.

Need one add that whatever the superintendent does to increase the number of children regularly present in church will materially benefit his School? It is from the church-going scholars that teachers and superintendents receive most encouragement and secure best results.

Fellow superintendents, in this matter of the children in the church, the interests of the children, the home, the church, the Sunday School, and the country strongly appeal