

The Bible is full of just the kind of character sketches that he needs as ideals, and from these he can be taught the practical virtues which he, from his childish plane, can understand and exercise, as obedience, kindness, service, etc. He can even be taught to build his life after the fashion of Christ,

"Who came to us to show  
The way to His pure, sweet life above  
From our sinful life below."

Washington, D.C.

#### **How to Make Children Kind**

Teach them to give early in life by self-sacrifice. When I was a young girl I lived at the home of my uncle, a well-known Midland employer. To encourage generosity in the heart of his eldest child, Alice—though in fact she did not need encouragement in this direction—he and my aunt allowed her to give, every Christmas, to each of the one or two hundred children in the orphan asylum, and sometimes to other public institutions, a frosted cake, an orange, and a book. In order to do this she was obliged to go without something which she liked: for instance, sweets, of which she was fond, or to deny herself in some other way. This she did gladly, and I have no doubt that her life of great self-sacrifice, in missionary work in London and elsewhere, is in part due to the wise training of this Christian home.

There was no necessity for self-denial, for my uncle was a man of means; but it taught the girl a lesson which she never forgot. If giving costs nothing to a child, he or she does not realize the meaning of it.

Encourage their giving away some of their playthings or the books they have read. Our homes become full enough without hoarding. I often wonder what our Lord would say if He looked into some of our attics. He would find furniture packed away for years which might have made some poor family comfortable; or cloaks kept by Christian women for twenty years, thinking they might some time use their fur.

Teach children to be kind by example. Some years ago my husband and I were

going to a conference in the north. At a station where we changed trains, I noticed an apparently half-famished grey cat, and asked one of the waiters if they fed her. He said they were not allowed to do so for fear she would remain there. I bought some food and gave it to her. Soon after I saw a boy of perhaps eight years, handsomely dressed, go up to the cat and kick her. I spoke to him kindly, but firmly, and asked him why he did it. His reply was: "Father does it, and he says he'll kill her, and I shall do it, too." I saw the family afterwards at dinner—a young man and his wife, both stylish; and their ungoverned child sat beside them. It is not difficult to predict the future of that boy, and the father will be largely responsible.—*The Family Friend.*

#### **Prayer Hymn**

Father we thank thee for the night,  
And for the pleasant morning light,  
For rest, and food and loving care,  
And all that makes the world so fair.

Help us to do the things we should,  
To be to others kind and good,  
In all we do in work or play,  
To grow more loving every day.

#### **The Pennies**

Such a gathering of pennies it would be if all the money the little ones have given to the Century Fund were put into one pile. At the end of this month of April the fund will close. Has any boy or girl forgotten to save or to send in what has been saved? Do not put it off too long. Before the million dollars and more are gathered up, let your little coins be among them. They will travel, some of them, very far, for besides what is given by congregations to pay church and manse debts, every great fund of the Church will be helped—the missions at home and the missions abroad, the colleges, and the aged ministers who have worn themselves out in the work, as well as the widows and little children of ministers who have died.