

that we can obtain there and the more favorable situation of Toronto as a distributing centre.

The colored map which appears in this number of the *Teacher's Monthly* and those which will accompany the lessons of 1897 are made by Mr. Geo. May Powell of Philadelphia, who also supplies those advertised on the last page of the cover. Mr. Powell is probably making more and finer Bible study maps than any other one in the world and his prices compete successfully against British houses. He has actually visited Bible lands after years of experience in order to fit himself for still better work. The maps which we place before the readers of the *Home Study* series will be found unusually helpful and interesting.

The study of Bible geography is one of great importance for the right understanding of the sacred narrative and helps to remove much of

the "Far country" flavor from the book. Shew your scholars a map and point out on it the places you are talking about and see how they prick up their ears and press their heads together around your knee.

Sounds which address the ear are lost and die in one short hour; while that which strikes the eye Lives long upon the mind; the faithful sight Graves on the memory with a beam of light.

It would be a good plan to encourage the study of the map by giving some fitting honor to the one who can pass the best examination in pointing out on the map the places mentioned in the lessons of the quarter and telling all that he knows about them. Use these beautiful maps and your scholars will know more about their Bibles.

The lesson for November 29th will be given in the December number of the TEACHERS' MONTHLY, which will be published early.

THE TEACHER'S BEST HOLD.

The teacher's best hold upon the class is gained by his personal knowledge of the scholars. A partial knowledge only can be obtained in the hour of instruction. Then teacher and pupils are, as it were, in full dress, and on their best behavior. You know how much more intimate an acquaintance may be formed between two who happen to spend a week together than between those who become acquainted in a more formal way. It is the same with the teacher and the class. And, while deep and lasting impressions are no doubt often made, during the term of the lesson, pressed home as we pray they may be by the Holy Spirit, still without the insight which personal friendship gives, the teacher is really working in the dark.

To illustrate. In a certain class of young ladies, gathered at random from a large city congregation, there are various degrees of culture and intelligence, and differing grades of social position. In dress the difference may be so trifling that the rich man's daughter, and her sister who toils for her daily bread, shall seem at the first glance to be arranged nearly alike. There may be a difference in ease and polish of manner, but *all* the girls are quiet, diffident, and retiring, and the less highly educated are quite likely to have studied the lesson most faithfully. How is the teacher to get at the souls behind those sweet faces?

By home visitation. Delicate tact and unobtrusive sympathy in the homes of each of the young girls, will do more to win them than yards and tons of advice, which comes merely from the outside. Going from house to house, you *feel* your way into hearts. You learn the perplexities, the delights, the ambitions, the life atmospheres of each pupil. This one is in a whirl of fashionable society; admired, feted, and courted. Her very beauty and brightness cause her to be surrounded by temptations. That one is attending school, and all her nature is subjected to the highest pressure, in her great desire to excel. That other has a sick sister, whose days are shadowed by intense pain, and to whom all in the household must minister. As you become aware of all the circumstances you know better how to suit your teachings to the various cases. Almost intuitively you seize upon the verse which will comfort, reprove, exhort, or stimulate best the one for whom it is designed.

I suppose in this way we can come nearest to the comprehension of Christ's tender sympathy. Our Divine Master knows what we need. He knows us as we can never know each other, and his gentleness apportions to us our meat in due season. The *great Teacher* is our pattern and our guide. We must try to make our lives like his.—*Selected.*