

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES.

The Bible is the most wonderful book in the world.

It is God's book, for he told good men what to write in it.

It tells us about God—what he is, what he loves, and what he hates.

It tells us how to live so as to please God.

If you want to please him and be saved, you must study the Bible.

It was Jesus who said, "Search the Scriptures."

He did not say, "Read." but "Search the Scriptures."

To 'search' means to read slowly and carefully, to think about the words.

It means that we should study all parts of the Bible, because in all parts of it there are good words.

We should search the Bible as men search in the mines for gold, looking even for little shining grains.

We ought to read a portion of it every day—not on Sabbath only, but every day of the week.

The best time to read it is early in the morning, at the beginning of the day, and then again in the evening.

Read a chapter at a time, or, if you cannot read so much, read a few verses.

When you read the Bible, offer a little whisper of prayer to God to make it plain to you.

Read slowly, thinking about each word till you know what it means.

Ask yourself what each verse has to say to you—what duty it tells you to do, what beauty of conduct or temper it shows you for to copy.

Resolve to try to do or be what the Bible says God wants you to do or be.

After you read the Bible, kneel down and pray God to help you to do what he has told you in his book to do.

Often during the day think of what you have read in the morning, and keep it in your heart.

Every young person should memorize—that is, "learn by heart"—many passages of the Bible.

If you learn chapters or verses now in this way, you will always remember them, and they will do you good all your life.

The writer of one of the Psalms said that he hid the word of God in his heart, that he might not sin.

A lady opened a drawer, full of garments, and a strong odor filled the whole drawer. A little gram of musk hid in the corner had gone through every garment.

Get God's word in your heart, and it will

fill all your life and change it all into good and beautiful ways.

"Search the Scriptures."

S. S. Visitor.

A FATAL LEAK.

A gentleman living in the country, whose supply of water for household purposes was scant, had a cistern dug near his house for collecting the rain which fell on the roofs of the buildings. For a time the expedient answered perfectly; the supply of water was abundant. Suddenly, however, the pump failed to give forth the contents of the reservoir. The rain would fall copiously, and for a time a few pailfuls would be drawn, but very soon the supply ceased. The pump was carefully examined and found to be in perfect working order, and no flaw could anywhere be discovered. At length it occurred to the perplexed householder to examine the cistern itself; then the mystery was solved. It was found that in one corner the cement had cracked and there was a gaping leak which allowed the water to escape into a distant pit. It was now plain that however freely the rain might fall the cistern would soon be empty again, as there was this ever-widening leak through which the water disappeared.

Such a leak in our church life is the Sabbath profaned or neglected. The rains from above may fall abundantly, the church's machinery may be diligently plied, but the law of the Sabbath largely forgotten will prove a leak serious enough to undo and render nugatory the happy influences both of the showers of heaven and the labors of man. It has been well said: "The streams of religion run deep or shallow according as the banks of the Sabbath are kept up or neglected."—*Pearl of Days*.

A tract distributor writes: A Scotchman to whom I gave a tract said, "You gave me a little book a short time ago, which I put in my pocket and took home. The wife read it, and cried very much over it, and then I read it. If the writer of it had known all about us, he could not have said more to the point; and if we had gone all over the city to purchase a book to meet our case, we could not have got a better." I learned that man and his family had been brought to poverty by drink, and that this little book was the means of altering their course, and bringing them to the Lord, from whom they had departed.