

son and fruit of the tree. What kind of fruit do we grow. (Gal. 5. 22, 23.)

Many boys and girls are always talking about what they are going to do some day. But the only way to learn to do anything is by practice. We learn to do by doing. Some can tell others how a thing ought to be done who cannot show them how to do it. Example is better than precept. "Don't do as I do but as I say," is a foolish piece of advice. We all copy others. We should all be fit for others to copy, at least in some things. Do not say one thing and do another. People will judge you by what you do, not by what you say. And so will God. (Matt. 7. 21.)

Promises should never be made to be broken. Christ told a striking story of two sons in Matt. 21. 28-31. It was the boy who did things for his father that we should copy to-day. Not our promise, but our performance, counts. We need to do for our own sakes. Health demands exercise. Idleness means illness. Very few people suffer from too much doing, but hosts of them die from doing nothing. The churches have too many drones in the hive. Our Leagues need just now not more active members numerically, but more active members influentially. What are you doing? We need to be doing something for others as well as for ourselves. Indeed, serving others is the best way to be blessed in our own lives, and it is Christ's highest ideal of life. (Luke 10. 30-37 is a grand story of help.) Every Junior that seeks to do things according to our plan will surely be a useful servant of Christ in His church's work, and shall not lose his eternal reward.

May 12.—"The wise man's advice to young people." (Remember God.) Eccles. 12.

The great sin of old was forgetting God. It led the people into idolatry and was the cause of all their miseries. Duet. 8. 11 is one of many messages of warning spoken of old to the Israelites. The same danger of forgetfulness is great still. "Beware" ought to be a word of constant warning before us. "Remember" should be another word continually reminding us of our dependence on God and our duty before Him. While it is the place of all, young and old, thus to think of God, our text calls especially on those in "youth" to do so. Why? The reason given is very plain. Youth is the time of the most permanent impressions on the mind. It is the period of life when habits are being formed. If we think of God much while we are children, we will grow more and more like Him in our lives as age increases. But if we do not, the time may come when we shall want to, but cannot. Our hearts get hard, our wills stubborn, our minds indifferent, unless we learn to keep God before us as we grow older. This wise statement all our Juniors should memorize: "Sow a thought and reap a habit. Sow a habit and reap a character. Sow a character and reap a destiny." Many old men wish in vain for the sensibilities of youth. The best way for all our children is to start right, and keep going right always. They cannot commence too early. A child can love God as early as it can love its earthly father if it is correctly started out in life. To inform the new thought of youth with the essential truths of Scripture, and so give them a good equipment for life is just what Paul rejoiced in for Timothy (2 Tim. 3. 14, 15), and is the safest way to prevent sin and all its terrible results in later life. For it is no less a disastrous thing to forget God now than it was when Moses lived. Duet. 28th chapter, must have been a tremendous reality to Moses. Better for Israel had they looked on it in the same way. Matt. 25th chapter, meant

much to our Lord. Dare we make little of it? Our children must be taught that sin is an awful reality, that its positive effects tend to disaster, despair, death. They must realize that to remember God, that they may recognize His mercies, re-semble His holiness, and reflect His loving-kindness, is the only way to realize His blessing and life. Truly "Youth is the best time to commence serving God."

### Success With Boys

We have recently received several enquiries as to the best methods of gaining, keeping and using the boys. We put the matter in this way to our correspondents. If you are going to "get" the boy you must consider him as a definite personal study. You cannot treat all boys alike. Study the boy. You must find some point of contact, occupy some ground in common with him, know him for himself, and reach him as an individual, if you would "get" him. You cannot catch him by mere accident or by any superficial clap-net methods. Be honest with him. And also thorough. Boys at heart admire a true man. They want to be good. They intend to be so. And no person can more quickly or more fully see through a sham or expose a fraud than a boy. They know what religion means. They may seem sometimes to favor a compromise; but really they do not. If you would get a boy, you must get him. And you have not gotten h-i-m just because you have awakened his interest or curiosity. He knows, and we ought to know, that nothing but the grace and power of God can truly win him. Boys generally, know what conversion stands for, and anything less than a heart surrendered to Christ is insufficient to really win a boy. If you present any lower standard than this to him, the probability is he will scorn your doctrine if he does not despise you. Boys who are thus won are not hard to keep. They are kept, and help to keep each other by the love of Christ. We are convinced that there are no modern processes of either getting or keeping boys. The love of Christ will get them if you exemplify it as well as teach it.

It is true, emphatically true, that the Church should provide for the boy's many sided nature, and in every way seek to afford him a full process of culture; but while all these may be aids, they do not in themselves constitute life. Spiritual life is, in its source, essence and manifestation as truly a matter pertaining to the conscience, affection, and will of a boy as of a man. A boy who has only superficial views of sin will not become a strong Christian. And we believe that many boys are actually dissatisfied with the trivial thoughts that are too often presented to them regarding sin. Down deep in his soul he knows how God regards it, and that he is not right until he has assumed the same attitude toward it as God has. If you would gain and retain a boy's confidence and regard, do not apologize for his wrong doing. The spirit of God works most powerfully in his young heart, and long before he is credited with it, the average boy of our Sunday-schools is convicted of sin. When he has given himself over to Christ he realizes that he is safe, and he knows that nothing but this can save him. Hence, we say, be lovingly honest and true with your boy. Present to him the heroic side of Christian service. He does not want a weak, apathetic, lifeless, formal religion. Neither will he admire an effeminate Christ. We fear that too often we err in our representations of the Lord Jesus to our boys. You would not keep and use the boys you have got, if the service to which in Christ's name you call them, be of a virile, manly, strong type. It will appeal to and develop the latent

manhood in them and make and keep them, men. Be assured that no substitute for personal conversion, consecration and service will ever do what you are seeking for your boys.

### Lines from Longfellow

(We believe many of our Juniors will appreciate some of the great thoughts of great men, and so shall give them such to think about from month to month.)

"O my children,  
Love is sunshine, hate is shadow,  
Life is checkered shade and sunshine,  
Rule by Love."

"In the world's broad field of battle,  
In the bivouac of life,  
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!  
Be a hero in the strife."

"We have not wings, we cannot soar;  
But we have feet to scale and climb  
By slow degrees, by more and more,  
The cloudy summits of our time."

"I know a maiden fair to see,  
Take care!

She can both false and friendly be,  
Beware! Beware!"

"The name of friendship is sacred."

"Onward its course the present keeps,  
Onward the constant current sweeps,  
Till life is done;  
And, did we judge of time aright,  
The past and future in their flight  
Would be as one."

"Honor to those whose words or deeds  
Thus help us in our daily needs;  
And by their overflow  
Raise us from what is low!"

"To guide us to our home above,  
The Saviour came,"

"He was a man of honor, of noble and generous nature."

"Trust no Future, how'er pleasant!  
Let the dead Past bury its dead!  
Act—act in the living Present!  
Heart within, and God o'erhead!"

"Gallant, graceful, gentle, tall,  
Fairest, noblest, best of all."

"So long as you are innocent, fear nothing;

No one can harm you."

"Noble souls, through dust and heat

Rise from disaster and defeat

The stronger;

And conscious still of the divine  
Within them, lie on earth supreme  
No longer."

"Life is the gift of God, and is divine."

"Stronger than steel  
Is the sword of the Spirit;  
Swifter than arrows  
The light of the truth is;  
Greater than anger  
Is love, and subdueth."

"Deeds are better things than words are,  
Actions mightier than boastings."

"For the structure that we raise,  
Time is with materials filled;  
Our to-days and yesterdays  
Are the blocks with which we build."

"Truly shape and fashion these:  
Leave no yawning gaps between;  
Think not, because no man sees,  
Such things will remain unseen."

"'Tis the greatest folly  
Not to be jolly;  
That's what I think."

"Study yourselves; and most of all note well  
Wherein kind nature meant you to excel."