

present these truths, it is absolutely necessary for the teacher to "be filled with the Spirit," or her work will be in vain.

To secure attention is sometimes difficult; little ones become restless, especially at times when we are teaching a lesson that is hard to simplify. Then an interesting story that illustrates some truth will almost always bring back lost interest.

There is one story I tell that may be repeated over and over again—every Sabbath, if need be—which I have never known to fail in attracting and holding the closest attention. It is the "old, old story of Jesus and his love." Every lesson, however dull and dry, should point to Jesus and his sacrificial death. Do not fear to make it too plain; tell of the cruel mockings and scourging, the thorn-crown, the nails, and the love so wonderful, beyond the love of woman. Do not be afraid of telling it too often. There is wonderful power in it, and the children will sit as it were entranced. Try it, teachers, and do not feel discouraged because you have no separate room.—*New Jersey Sunday-school Messenger.*

Fidelity and Success.

BY SALLY CAMPBELL.

We were at a conference of Sunday-school teachers. The speaking was to the point of what constituted fidelity for the work. One old gentleman, a clergyman, with a kindly, lovable face, urged upon his answer to the question. A very good answer it was, too, namely—Faithfulness. In the midst, however, of a great deal that was fine and inspiring, he declared a thing which, had I been accustomed to public speaking, I would have risen up and gainsaid on the spot. As I failed to do it then, let me write out my protest now. He said:

"We can all be faithful. We cannot all be successful, but we can be faithful."

It is not true! Thank God, it is not true! Nobody can be faithful without being successful. None of us can, by any possibility, take the earnest, Christian care of our scholars which that good man recommended and fail. Faithfulness precludes failure. To be faithful is to succeed. Faithfulness means success. Let us ring all the changes upon it, turn it over in every form and phrase until we make its sweet certainty ours.

Suppose a man shipwrecked upon a desert island. Suppose for twenty-five years he never sees the face of a fellow-being. And during all the long, lonely days he hopes and waits and trusts, with unshaken piety and patience, until death comes, and the sun rises and sets upon his bleaching bones. Will any sane man dare to say, in the face of divine justice and divine

might and mercy, that the big, sin-sick earth is no better than it would have been had the waters rolled over that isolated Christian's head when men thought they did? The mind draws back in haste from such a supposition.

We cannot for an instant doubt that those twenty-five years of solitary faithfulness wrought somewhere the glory of God in the salvation of souls. We must believe that the prayers breathed by the castaway into the ears of his sole Companion had an answer in the hearts of his brethren that were in the world from which he was so totally cut off. His courage, his constancy, his resignation—he could not live them to himself. Faithfulness, however utterly it be hid from the eye of man, must, somehow, work, through the mystery of God's grace, success.

Let us not defraud ourselves of this most solid comfort in the Christian service. Prayer and pains are never thrown away. Let Paul plant, let Apollos water, doubting nothing; God giveth the increase. You and I are not Paul nor Apollos, but we are, as they, laborers together with God? Then, be we the most commonplace and limited of His saints, our lives are a success, a benefaction. I can conceive of a Sunday-school teacher toiling with his scholars in humility and love for years without, it may be possible, leading any one of them to acquaintanceship with their Lord, but I cannot conceive of such a teacher's prayers and faithfulness failing to awaken in some heart, off somewhere in the far country, the decision, "I will arise and go to my Father."

We can all be faithful. We can all be successful.

"Be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Are we faithful?

On a granite tablet, a monument of King Merenptah, brought to light last year by Prof. Flinders Petrie while excavating on the site of old Thebes, occurs the record that during his wars in Syria the king "spoiled the people of Israel." The date was about B.C. 1200. These brief words are important as being the first thus far found in Egypt that mention in any way, or contain any direct allusion to, the chosen people. There has been a good deal of conjecture—that certain workmen depicted on a monument were Hebrews, for instance; that Shishak's exploits in Palestine were recorded on the wall of the Great Temple of Karnak—but nothing had been exhumed that showed beyond question that the Hebrews had ever come in contact with the Egyptians, until this tablet was discovered. It is to be placed in the museum at Cairo.—*Zion's Herald.*

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