

The Indicator.

“ARISE, SHINE ; FOR THY LIGHT IS COME, AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD IS RISEN UPON THEE.”

VOL. VI.

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No. 7.

ALONE WITH GOD.

BY ELDER L. D. SANTEE.

ALONE with God in the evening,
When are past the cares of the day ;
When the hot, flushed clouds of sunset
Have faded to sober gray ;
The troubles that weighed my spirit,
In the hush of the darkness cease ;
I'm alone with God in the evening,
And my soul is filled with peace.

Alone with God in the evening !
But memory's thoughts will stay ;
Perchance the duty I did not do,
Or the word I did not say,—
I think of those vanished chances,
With a tender, a sad regret ;
Alas, for the good that I might have done,
Ere the sun of the day was set !

Alone with God in the evening !
Is the record dark or fair,
That has gone all day to the gates of heaven,
To be recorded there !
I think of each sinful action
With a troubled heart and brain ;
For the day that's gone to eternity
I never can live again.

Alone with God in the evening !
I fall on my knees, and pray
That he from his tender, pitying heart
Will forgive the sins of the day ;
And a peace settles down o'er my spirit,
And I rest like a weary child ;
I'm alone with God in the evening,
And to him I am reconciled.

—*Review and Herald.*

METHODS IN SABBATH-SCHOOL TEACHING.

By the term “method” is not meant any fixed plan, any mere form, or any stereotyped custom ; but rather that arrangement and association of ideas which will bring out the fullest development of both teacher and pupil, and at the same time, work so systematically that no time or labor will be lost.

First, however, let it be understood that no single individual as teacher can accomplish the

best results, unless with the full co-operation of all concerned ; for while one may have ability to lead out thought, unless the pupil is willing to be led out, for education (Latin, *e*, out of, and *duco*, to lead) is a drawing out, the efforts of the teacher will be futile.

“The third angel is represented as flying in the midst of the heavens, showing that the message is to go forth throughout the length and breadth of the earth. It is the most solemn message ever given to mortals, and all who connect with the work should first feel their need of an education, and a *most thorough* training process for the work, in reference to their future usefulness ; and their should be plans made and efforts adopted for the improvement of that class who anticipate connecting with any branch of the work.”—*Christian Education. Page 45.*

So we see, brethren and sisters, that the teacher must be qualified to fill this responsible calling. Alas, to many teachers are placed in this position, because they are favorites ; because some one else perhaps better fitted “has not got the time.” But if we realize the great responsibility of the teacher of God's book of life and truth, we would never be content with such a one, even though that one is willing to be the teacher. “But,” say some, “we have no person in our school who is fitted to fill the requirements.” Then, brethren, get ready. *Study* to show yourselves approved of God. 2 Tim. 2 : 15. If any lack wisdom, let him ask of God. James 1 : 5. Then our work will be a success.

“If the teacher's work has been wrought in God, some lessons of divine truth will linger in the memory of the most careless.” *Testimony 31.*

“Teachers should constantly feel their dependence upon God. Their work is in the world, but the source of wisdom and knowledge from which they *must* continually draw, is

above. . . . It is only when brought under full control of the Spirit of God, that the talents of an individual are rendered useful to the fullest extent." *Testimony* 29.

"If teachers are taught of God, if their lessons are daily learned in the school of Christ, they will work in Christ's lines. They will win and draw with Christ; for every child and youth is precious." *Christian Education*. Page 144.

These qualifications, given by the Spirit of prophecy, are *absolutely necessary* to the proper advancement of any school.

Now, having teachers provided who are consecrated workers, we pass to a few plans or suggestions on "How to teach." A lesson in Christian life will best explain the best methods of work. Take, for instance, the Samaritan woman at the well.

Firstly. The great Teacher, understood the woman. Beloved, let us get so near to God that His spirit may give us that understanding of humanity and its needs.

Secondly. Christ, by one or two statements, showed that He was master of the situation. Teachers, know yourselves; know your subjects; know God; and you will inspire confidence in your classes.

Thirdly. Our Lord used tact in getting at the vital truths he had, and thus avoided any unnecessary prejudice. Brethren, be careful, use tact in interesting the pupil; lead him to ask questions and thus feel his part in the work and yet do not allow a digression from the central thought. While we may expand on the lesson, do not allow any side issue to carry the class into discussion. Let the controverted point, if there be any, be studied a week before decision.

Fourthly. Jesus did not "beat around the bush," but came to the cardinal truth at once, i. e. "God is a spirit, and they that worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth." John 4: 24. While we do not want to hurry the matter, do not delay the force of the lesson for mere detail.

An old idea quite prevalent among our people, and an easy one for lazy people, is that a good teacher will imply an answer in the question. This is *wrong*. Let the pupil study and think, and the teacher's business is to bring out that which has previously been obtained.

Again, do not follow too closely the book; how often have we seen our teachers, with book in hand, expound question after question, in order of course, else they would not know if the answer was correct. Get the central truths; find their connecting links; understand your work, and let the book be shut while in your class, and you will find that you will soon develop the faculty of interesting your hearers, and at the same time infuse into them a spirit of original thought that will awaken them to far greater activity in things divine. A good plan to follow is, to request each one to give the point which impressed them as the most important in the lesson. Thus many ideas are advanced, and the pith and spirit of the author's ideas will sink into the heart and stay there to develop good.

This all means work. No, brethren, do not say, "I have not time." Our time is His. The responsibility is great; the blessing is glorious. Try it. Try it. When once the spirit of advancement and growth in true wisdom has been felt, as it surely will be in both teacher and pupil alike, you will be looking for more to study, instead of for time to study what you already have.

Get near enough to "touch" him and you will obtain virtue. See Luke 8: 43-48. Understand the height of the position as teacher; understand your duties; know your pupil and his wants; understand the relation between our life and His life, and you will find results far beyond your expectations. Wonderful blessings will await you, and a nearness to the greatest of all Teachers will be yours, and this will elevate you in the work of preparing souls to meet Him in the final examination.

W. A. WESTWORTH.

THE THEORY OF CANVASSING.

For the benefit of some who are, or may be, contemplating canvassing I will present a few points. First, it is necessary to learn something about the work before commencing it. The more one can learn the better. An elderly lady called on me and said she was ready to go to canvassing. I asked her if she had ever canvassed, or had ever studied the business any. She said, "No." She didn't need to study. I could not prevail on her even to learn the

The Canvassing Work.

Report for the Week Ending Feb. 7.

Post-office.	County.	Agent.	Hrs.	Days.	Ords.	Value.	Miscel.	Del.	Val.
Bible Readings.									
Spring Mills,	Alleghany,	G. F. Evans,	28	5	6	\$17.25	\$1.60		
Houghton,	Alleghany,	F. A. Evans,	34	5	2	4.00			
Romé.	Oneida,	F. G. McAlister,					1.00		
Syracuse,	Onondaga,	O. E. Tuttle,		5			17.95		
Fort Hunter,	Montgomery,	Wm. Seewald,	34	5	8	18.25	2.65		
Miscellaneous sales,						23.20			
Totals,		5 Canvassers,	96	20	16	\$62.70	\$23.20		

canvass. She had seen the reports in the INDICATOR, and she knew she could canvass. So I told her to select her territory, which she did and started out. She was gone two days and spent about ten dollars, and failed: then she said the reports in the INDICATOR were not true. She did not have a teachable spirit, and would not listen to any advice.

I have seen quite a number start out in nearly the same way, and in nearly every case they have failed. On the other hand, I have seen some start out without any natural talent for the work, not being natural salesman, and timid withal; but have studied and planned the best they could, been ready to listen to advice and suggestions, and have made successful canvassers.

A good many people in this world believe in luck and chance. If a woman is successful with a batch of bread, she says she had good luck, otherwise poor luck. If we could learn this, that *effects require causes*, we would be more successful in our work. If we are sick, begin to study why we are sick, instead of continually buying some patent medicine, or any other kind for that matter. Remove the cause. If the bread is poor there is some reason for it. Study to find the reason. Go back and look the ground over.

These are general principles. Now how can one make a success, leaving out luck, as a canvasser?

J. R. CALKINS.

NORWICH.

I AM glad to report that the Lord is still leading, teaching, and blessing us here. We see evidences of the workings of His spirit, and the

strongest proof of it is that the enemy is manifesting more ferocity and energy. We need a good minister just now.

Since my enjoyment of church privileges with the friends at Rome, I have been in attendance at the quarterly meeting of the Elk Lake church at Niven, Pa., held Jan. 24-26. Elder K. C. Russell took charge of the meeting. The brethren and sisters drove long distances through the rain. Several came twenty-five miles, and one load came forty miles. All hearts were sensible of the presence of the Lord. The outside attendance was good. In the election of officers and the transaction of all the other business the leadings of the Holy Spirit were manifest.

What particularly concerns us in New York is, that at the request of leading ones, it was moved and carried that the Niven Tract Society be discontinued and that its work be carried on through the tract society of the Elk Lake church. Brother J. P. Stevens, who started and managed the enterprise, in deference to the wishes of others, manifested the true Christian spirit by giving his consent to the change. This work had become dear to him, and its field of labor extended from sea to sea. Such a showing as the Niven Tract Society has made during its brief existence in the hands of one who had little fitness for the work, except "a mind to work," puts to shame the feeble efforts of our regular tract societies. We would that they would allow the Spirit of God to so energize them, that they would do a faithful work "over against their own house."

And here we wish to give notice to all of our New York brethren that they should now send their money in to their local tract societies. If none exist near you, form one, of one member

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if necessary. Secure tracts and papers from the State secretary at Rome. Then asking God's Spirit to work with you, begin to instruct the people around you. The Niven Tract Society has not been in vain. All may learn useful lessons from its experience, and in the kingdom of Heaven we will see its fruits.

On my way home I stopped in Binghamton, and attended an evening meeting held by Brethren Cobb and Hyatt, in the old Fairview school-house, a brick building well adapted to the purpose. They are running the meeting in the city, and we learn good is being done. The time has come to move faster. Let us keep close to the Savior, and meet in the kingdom.

F. W. BARTLE.

DEAR INDICATOR: As I can take a short time, I will write some items of interest that have occurred in this city. For the past two or three weeks I have been out evenings giving Bible readings where I found an interest when canvassing. Last week I went to a family of Germans to whom I had given a reading the week previous. They had invited a number of friends to hear me. We took up the "Third Angel's Message," and they became so taken up with

the subject that they wished to have me give the same again at another place next week. There were ten persons present, all of whom are Lutherans; but they had never heard so great truths presented from the Bible, and several asked why their minister did not give such instruction. Last Sunday I went to a Lutheran Sunday-school; I had a class and made some remarks on Bible questions, and was invited to come again. Surely the sowing time is here, and I believe the harvest is in the near future.

Yours in love of present truth.

N. KLING.

APPOINTMENTS.

No PROVIDENCE preventing, I will be with the Middle Grove church Sabbath, Feb. 22. The meetings will probably be held at Brother W. W. Parker's, and if the weather will permit we would be glad to have a meeting Friday night.

If thought best let the church make arrangement for one or more meetings at East Galway for Sunday, Feb. 23. Would be pleased to see as many present as consistent from Galway. Come expecting much of the Lord's blessing.

D. A. BALL.

CUT THIS OUT.

THE sun will set from this time, on Fridays, in New York as follows:—

Feb.	14	at 5:32.	April	24	at 6:52.
"	21	" 5:39.	May	1	" 6:59.
"	28	" 5:48.	"	8	" 7:07.
March	6	" 5:57.	"	15	" 7:15.
"	13	" 6:05.	"	22	" 7:22.
"	20	" 6:13.	"	29	" 7:28.
"	27	" 6:20.	June	5	" 7:33.
April	3	" 6:28.	"	12	" 7:37.
"	10	" 6:36.	"	19	" 7:40.
"	17	" 6:44.	"	26	" 7:40.

NOTICE.

WANTED.—A young man wishes a place to work on a farm among Sabbath-keepers. Any one wishing such help will please correspond with Enoch Ransier, Natural Bridge, N. Y., or with the writer at the same place.
H. L. BRISTOL.

—THE total number of business failures in the United States for 1895 is reported as 13,013.