### LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD.

Does not this position seem too high for us? Let us recall the reference in Isaiah vi, 1-8: "In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his rain filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim; each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another and said, 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' And the foundations of the thresholds were moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke." What wonder that at this manifestafion of glory and power Isaiah felt dismayed to the depths of his strong, appreciative nature, and cried out, "Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Hosts."

"They flew one of the seraphim unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar; and he touched my mouth with it and said, 'Lo, this hath touched thy lips, and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin is purged."

We are taught that this "live coal" from off the altar of sacrifice, applied to the prophet's lips, "may denote the assurance given-him of pardon and acceptance in the work through the atonement of Christ." And directly after this occurrence, when he "heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go up for us?" Isaiah replied, "Here am I; send me."

At first he felt and needed to feel his utter sinfulness and weakness, so that the Lord could thrill him through and through with the God-given strength of perfect trust in "One who is mighty"-the trust that we all need to make us brave Christians.

So Isaiah learned the lesson that God would teach us our weakness and his strength. And now as we look back we think of Isaiah as one of the grandest, bravest men in history; yet his strength lay simply in his trust in and obedience to the Lord God Almighty; he confessed he was all weakness of himself.

In I Cor. iii, 9, we find Paul using the expression," Laborers together with God;" and turning to Scott's Commentary we are taught that "God does not use men's ministry because he needs either it or them. Paul and Apollos would do nothing unless God of his mere mercy had constituted them laborers." And our attention is alco called to the fact that "even Paul's work could only be external; God alone claiming all that is inwardly done in man's salvation." Yet there were "fellow laborers with God." . "The church was God's, and its power to grow was springing entirely from the grace and efficiency of the Holy Spirit. The Apostles did work which God set them to do no more."

Cleaw we have before us those two examples, the one from the Old, the other from the New Testament,, both "laborers together with God" because they had childlike trust in their Divine Master, and were simply ready to do his bidding at all times.

We see and feel, as we look at the reward of their labors, "what great things the Lord hath done for them;" and so let us realize that the Lord is ready to use us; our very consciousness of weakness, together with our trust in

our Master, is our title to Divine strength. May he help us to take him at his word, that he "hath chosen the weak things, the despised things, the foolish and base things," to be his instruments of victory, that "all flesh may glory in the Lord;" for as Isaiah himself testified later, "In the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength." And as the finest tests of nature could find nothing that is not minutely complete, no matter how humble its existence, so may we pattern after our great Master, feeling that no work lying near us to be done is too small or too commonplace not to deserve our noblest purpose and our best effort-because we are co-laborers with Jehovah. - Chris. Work.

### RELIGION AT HOME.

I heard once of a young person who went to live in a home supposed to be a thoroughly religious home. She said afterward that from what she saw in that home she was inclined to think there was very little in religion. She saw disagreement and contention and strife, and unkindness, which did much to lead her toward infidelity.

Lovers of Christ, is there not for us a very solemn lesson in this? How closely all we do and say is watched by the world, and if they see us in exhibitions of temper, anger, passion, unkindly feeling, censoriousness, etc., how greatly it will tend to undo all the influence of our professions and our efforts for the cause of God.

One of the great wants of the age is more of Christ in the homes. Let us get so much of the religion of Jesus that we will everywhere exhibit the mind and temper of Christ. Christ said: "If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me." He may be lifted up in our lives, and if so, the drawing influence may be

It matters not how gifted the minister or leader, or Christian worker; if there be exhibitions in his life of those things not in harmony with his teachings, it neutralizes the best efforts. Nothing can take the place of a consistent life. Jesus is saying to-day, "Return to thine own home, and show how great things Jesus has done unto thee." We can show by mild Christian temper what he has done, and the world will be powerfully drawn to him.

### Little Lamps to Light the Teacher.

Souls cannot be warmed by icebergs. Life itself is greater than any method. To cease to study is to cease to teach. Count it worth while to be interest-

Whatsoever comes out of life is more easily put into life.

Learn the fine art of surprising the mind with the beauty of truth.

One secret of power lies in the gift of touch. Covet a delicate touch.

Do something more than shovel out facts. Discover, interpret, inspire! There are three things that the race

loves-action, narration, and pictures. What is the use of having the wax soft if the seal is not pressed upon the

wax? The imagination somehow lies close to the heart; therefore give proper food to the imagination.

The most useful eloquence is the homely eloquence that strikes fire on the anvil of the human heart.

As fine flour sifts into many crevices, so will spiritual influence find lodgment in unexpected places.

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tion, and inattention is twin brother of opposition. Brighten things up!

There is a time of silence in the soul when many closed doors are open. The strategic moment is called attention.

There is something that is stronger than words, deeper than tears, more beautiful than wisdom. It is hope. Never give up.

With such a wonderful kaleidoscope as the Bible some picture should be found to transform the soul. Study the use of the instrument.—The Rev. Edgar W. Work, D. D.

Sleeplessness.—When the nerves are unstrung and the whole body given up to wretchedness, when the mind is filled with gloom and dismal forebodings, the result of derangement of the digestive organs, sleeplessness comes to add to the distress. If only the subject could sleep, there would be oblivion for a while and temporary relief. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills will not only induce sleep, but will act so beneficially that the subject will wake refreshed and restored to happiness.

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