

SEVEN GOOD RULES.

1. Say nothing you would not like God to hear.
2. Do nothing you would not like God to see.
3. Write nothing you would not like God to read.
4. Go to no place where you would not like God to find you.
5. Read no books of which you would like God to say, "Show it me."
6. Never spend your time so that you would not like God to say, "What art thou doing?"
7. Of every doubtful thing always ask, "What would Jesus do?"—Author unknown.

A DESIRE.

By Adelaide Proctor.

Oh, to have dwelt in Bethlehem
When the Star of the Lord shone bright!
To have sheltered the holy wanderers
On that blessed Christmas night:
To have kissed the tender wayworn feet
Of the mother undefiled,
And with reverent wonder and deep delight,
To have tended the Holy Child!

Oh, to have knelt at Jesus' feet,
And to have learned His heavenly lore!
To have listened the gentle lessons He taught

On mountain and sea and shore!
While the rich and the mighty knew Him not,

To have meekly done His will—
Hush! for the world reject Him yet,
You can serve and love Him still.
Time cannot silence His mighty words,
And though ages have fled away,
His gentle accents of love divine
Speak to your soul today.

Oh, to have seen what we now adore,
And, though veiled to faithless sight,
To have known, in the form that Jesus wore,

The Lord of life and light!
Hush! for He dwells among us still,
And a grace can yet be thine,
Which the scoffer and doubter can never know,

The Presence of the Divine.
Jesus is with His children yet,
For His word can never deceive;
Go where His lowly altars rise
And worship and believe.

"How many folk there are who put up the plea, 'I don't need to repent, I never did anything very bad, I have always been honest and moral.' They may rejoice if they will, in their wretched rags of self-righteousness; but all heaven mourns, for even the angels know that 'God now commandeth all men, everywhere to repent,' and that 'except ye repent ye shall all perish.'"

"We are saved by grace, through faith, and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God." Grace, bringing Salvation, is God's gift, and Faith is our unanimous ballot to have Him rule over us. We exercise our Faith and receive His Grace.

WAIT ON GOD.

Not so in haste, my heart!
Have faith in God, and wait;
Although He seems to linger long
He never comes too late.

He never comes too late;
He knoweth what is best;
Vex not thyself, it is in vain;
Until He cometh, rest.

Until He cometh, rest;
Nor grudge the hours that roll;
The feet that wait for God, 'tis they
Are soonest at the goal.

Are soonest at the goal
That is not gained by speed;
Then hold thee still, O restless heart,
For I shall wait His lead.—Sel.

HOW MANY THINGS

Seems to me I'm always doing things for mother," grumbled Jack, when she asked him to water the plants. "I've done lots of things this morning."

"How many?" asked Aunt Amy.

"Oh, I went on an errand, and I fed the chickens! There's always so much to do on Saturday. And now those plants!"

"How many things has mother done for you today? Suppose you make a list." "I will," said Jack. He brought it later saying, "I really didn't think it would count up so, Aunt Amy."

The list read like this: Found my collar; sewed on a button; got me a shoe string; wrote a note to ask if Tom could come over; got a sliver out of my finger; got a knot out of my kite string; found my fishing tackle; made me some paste; showed me about an example; fixed my hatband; some nails for my shelf and helped fix it.

"I lost count there," said Jack.—Our Little Ones.

FAITH AND MERCY.

"A gentleman crossing a dreary moor came upon a cottage. When about to leave, he said to its occupant, 'Are you not afraid to live in this lonely place?' "O, no," said he, "for faith closes the door at night, and mercy opens it in the morning."

That is a true picture of Christian security. Whether on the broad city avenue, where multitudes are passing, or amid the wildness and solitude of the wilderness, all is well. God is his defense. Angels have their encampment round his dwelling. At morn and eve mercy closes him around. Faith makes the gracious promise a verity. He knows no fear. In solitude he looks to the day of high and holy assemblage when, with all the blood-washed millions, he shall sing his great Deliverer's praise.—Sel.

"The very raising of the question whether misisters can attend theatres proves a dreadful fallen state of some ministers. Asked once whether a Christian could dance a Bishop replied that Christians never wanted to dance. We hereby apply this answer to the question about ministers attending theatres. No Christian minister desires to attend theatres."

LIFE WITHOUT THE BIBLE.

A young lawyer, an infidel, boasted that he was going west to locate in some place where there were no churches, no Sunday Schools, no Bibles.

Before the year was over he wrote to a classmate, a young minister, begging him to come out where he was and start a Sunday School and preach, and "be sure to bring plenty of Bibles," closing his letter with these words, "I have become convinced that a place without Christians and Sabbaths and churches and Bibles is too much like hell for any living man to stay in."—Record of Christian Work.

HONEST DEALING.

A certain man who had an extensive business was in danger of financial wreck. He went to another leading business man, saying, "I am ruined unless I have help. Will you give me so much for my goods?" Naming a sum far below their value.

"No," was the reply.

"Then I am ruined!"

"But I will give you five thousand more than you ask."

When asked why he did not take the man at his offer and make five thousand dollars, the other's answer was:

"I am a Christian, seeking to please Christ. I could not have prayed if I had taken advantage of his distress."

The sermon on the mount tells us we must buy and sell as we pray. This man was tested and found true.—Sel.

WITHOUT LOVE.

If I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, but have not love, it profiteth me nothing. There is such a thing as charity without love. There is a charity which seeks only the praise of men, and there is a charity whose motive is personal relief from the sight of misery. The rich man who of his superfluity cast much into the treasury as Jesus sat and watched is an example of the one, you yourself when you toss a nickle or a dime to a blind beggar on a street corner are an example of the other. There is no love in either transaction. "A copper farthing," says the Irish proverb, "given with a kind hand is fairy gold, and blesses as it goes," but a gold coin given grudgingly brings no blessing to the giver.—Sel.

WALKING WITH GOD.

A little child gave a most exquisite explanation of walking with God. She went home from Sunday School, and the mother said, "Tell me what you learned at school." And she said: "Don't you know, mother, we have been hearing about a man who used to go for walks with God. His name was Enoch. He went for walks with God. And, mother, one day they went for an extra long walk, on and on, until God said to Enoch, 'You are a long way from home; you had just better come in and stay.' And he went."—Selected.

"Victory brings joy as a river. Defeat always has the blues. No real consecrated, obedient man of God is unhappy."