

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4:12

Centreville, N. B.

On December 18th the Church people gathered at the parsonage for the evening, bringing with them a goodly supply of those things which are always found piled around the pantry after the people of a country community have given their pastor a donation. We had told them a short while before that if they had to live on twenty cent potatoes this winter, we would do the same, but the wood, vegetables, meat, butter, etc., assured us that we will probably not have to do it, at least for a good long while. We always enjoy having the brothers and sisters in our home; they know how to enjoy themselves together.

Some of the Brookville people came to see us about this same time, bringing with them a various assortment of gifts, besides some who sent things to us. They also took up a special offering for us on Christmas Sunday. The Knoxfolk folk did not forget us either, for as one lady said, "Santa left something at our place for you." May the Lord richly bless all these good people. We are under obligation to give them our best with the help of the Lord.

Yours in Him,

H. J. S. BLANEY

FOR "HIS" SAKE

"How can we love those who don't love us? And to love our enemies is lots harder," mused Molly, as she carefully watered her window plants, thinking meanwhile of the Sunday School lesson: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." "I don't see how it can be done. No one uses me despitefully, but if any one did, I am sure, I wouldn't love him, I shouldn't even try."

How healthy your plants are, Molly," said some one who had heard what Molly said.

Yes, don't they grow famously?

"You must be very fond of plants?"

"Why, no, I don't think I am naturally. I used to consider it a trouble to water them every day."

"What made you do it then?"

"O Auntie! You know they were Sister Annie's plants. She loved them and when she died I took care of them for her sake. But now, somehow, I have grown fond of them too. They seem so grateful, and it is such a delight to discover new buds and leaves day after day. See how full of splendid blossoms this cactus is."

"Is that the cactus that poisoned you last spring? I remember your hands were swollen and painful."

"Yes, it is the same cactus, but it was not the fault of the plant. You see, I didn't know how to manage it; I don't get thorns in my hands now, unless I am careless—and really, Auntie, I think I am more fond of it than of the other plants; it blooms so magnificently."

"Is it possible to love those who despitefully use you?"

"Why, Auntie," exclaimed Molly, facing about, a certain light in her eyes.

"Yes, Molly, that is the way. You took care of the plants for dear Annie's sake, and grew to loving them for their own sake, even the one that despitefully used you, the cactus. For 'His' sake, Molly, always for 'His sake,' and the rest will follow."

—Selected

SUGGESTIVE BIBLE STUDY

The Hidden Treasure—Matt. 13:44

INTRODUCTION: We have here the picture of a hired servant who is laboring in the field as usual, not looking for anything out of the ordinary, when he suddenly comes upon a buried treasure. At first he is surprised, and then realizes that the treasure may be his to keep if he puts forth the necessary effort. He quickly hides it lest some one sees him and claims it, and then sets out, determined to buy the field, for he knows that the treasure goes to the owner of the field. With his heart pounding with excitement and joy he hastens away and sells all his other possessions and buys the field. The treasure becomes his personal property.

APPLICATION OF THE PARABLE: Variations of the same general meaning liken the field to Christianity at large, and the treasure to a personal Christian experience; or the field to the Scriptures, and the treasure to the saving gospel found therein; or, lastly, the field to Christ, and the treasure to salvation. In any case, the treasure can mean none other than a personal experience of salvation through Jesus Christ.

The man is one who lives in Christian surroundings, is acquainted with the Scriptures, and believes that Jesus died to save the world; but who has never known salvation, or realized that there is an experience for him, until his heart is pierced with an arrow of conviction, and he suddenly sees himself lost without salvation. Then with joy he embraces his wonderful privilege, gives up his life of sin, renounces the world, and surrenders his all to Christ, that he may know "The joy of sins forgiven, the bliss the blood-washed know."

THOUGHTS TO BE DEVELOPED

Salvation is hid from the world.

There are none so blind as those who will not see.

Not many people are seeking Salvation.

We must hide (guard) our experience, not so no one else will see it, but so that we will not lose it.

Not everyone who sees the treasure secures it.

We cannot buy salvation, but a great many things must be given up, yea, our all surrendered, in order to "Make room for the Saviour."

The willing, earnest seeker gives up all with joy.

We cannot have the treasure without buying the field.

When we have Christ, all things needful are ours.

The treasure will supply every need.

Compare Paul's attitude toward what he had to give up for Christ, found in Philippians 3:7-11, and that of the rich young ruler, found in Luke 18:18-25.

IN SEASON

A Christmas tree would be very much out of place in a 24th of May celebration. Boys will not begin to think of fire-crackers and baseballs until spring. A straw hat worn in the storm that is raging outside now would be about as appropriate as a fur coat in Aug-

ust. Everyone of these things has its time and place but loses its value when separated from the particular event or circumstances for which it was intended.

In God's plan He has provided that there shall be a time for everything that is necessary. "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heavens—a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up—a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh—a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate." Happy is the person who recognizes that life must of necessity be made up of a great variety of experiences, and who prepares himself for, and makes room for, them all. To ignore this is to invite the penalty of a broken law.

The young person who is careless of the seed he sows, forgetting that there must some day be a time of harvest, is really foolish with the man who becomes so engrossed with the things of life that he neglects to prepare for the life to come. The troubled soul who fears that all of life will be tears and sadness, must be careful lest he prevent that happiness which is coming to him. He who is given to criticism must be sure that he knows whereof to replace that which he would so freely pull down. He who gives little time to the art of silence, might well pray for "the tongue of the learned," that he "should know how to speak a word in season." He who gives little of love must some day make his bed with the wicked. He who fills his life with the things of the world, giving no time or place to God, is a violator of one of the greatest laws of the universe. "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

We have to wait for the times and seasons of life—for hours, days, and years; but for God, never. His time is always NOW. His name is the great I AM. God and salvation are always in season. His ear is ever open to our cry. He is "the same yesterday, and today, and forever." His word is always up-to-date. "All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away; but the Word of the Lord endureth forever."

Jesus recognized the NOW of God's plan when he said, "I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day: for the night cometh, when no man can work." Now is the time to find God. Now is the time to start a more devoted prayer life. Now is the time to give more to God's cause. Now is the time for advancement along all lines. Now is the time to have our work revived. Now is the time to "walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time because the days are evil." The promise is that "in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

H. J. S. BLANEY, Ed. Y. P. Page

THE LITTLE CHILDREN

While still at North Head I had my interest aroused in connection with the children of our own church and others whom we might be privileged to help. Where are the pillars for the work of God? In the young people of today. Where are the future stand-bys in our Young People's Societies? In the children of