

Our entire Church will mourn the passing of Dr. Wilson. He was beloved by our ministers and lay people, to whom he ministered on several occasions. We are deeply grateful that it was our privilege to have him with us at the Youth Rally and Ministers' Conference in May of this year.

We offer our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Wilson and members of the family, and also to the Wesleyan Church.

We offer praise to God for a noble soldier of the Cross and a stalwart defender of the Faith.

Reports To Alliance

REPORT OF CHILDREN'S WORK

Praise God for his faithfulness in the past year. In Heb. 13:8 we read, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever." Today I believe we should praise our God for another year to invest for Him. We should praise Him for his saving, sanctifying and keeping power in the lives of those whom He saves from sin, regardless of their age. We should praise Him for answered prayer in behalf of our boys and girls. This only mentions a few praises but there are so many in my heart today. God is so good to allow us to work for His lambs and try to point them to Him.

Last week nineteen year old Charles Starkweather payed his debt to society. Though only nineteen, he and his fourteen year old companion had left a trail of murder across Wyoming and Nebraska, taking the lives of several persons. He was condemned to die March 27. He was brought face to face with the Gospel while in prison and it is said he wrote a brief note tracing his life of crime back to kindergarten, concluding with these words — "Now I feel no rebellion toward anyone, only love and peace. I received this love and peace through the Bible. If I could talk to young people today, I would tell them to go to church and Sunday School. Then I would tell them to receive the Lord Jesus as personal Savior." A different story would have been told about Charles, if someone had led him to Christ at an early age instead of waiting until he had started a life of disgrace.

"Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be saved." How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe on Him of whom they have not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent? Rom. 10:13-15. **THESE FOUR QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED BY EVERY CHRISTIAN IN OUR CHURCHES. WILL YOU PRAY ABOUT IT?** Ask God what your part should be. Remember that He is not willing that any child should perish. Matt. 18:14.

Last year I quoted statistics to you stating the large percentage of juveniles who never attend a Sunday School or any other of the youth activities. This year the statistics are more alarming even in the communities where our churches are serving. Youngsters are growing up to become teen-agers and youth in communities where our churches are located; and they are going out into the world with no interest in God or His work, and, worst of all, no experience in their heart.

I ask you, at whose hands will God place the blame? As I ask about a work for children in various churches, I get so many various excuses. But I want to ask every Christian a question, "Will the excuses you are offering today for not having an active program for the children of your community be the excuses you will offer to God when He asks you why you shirked your responsibility and privilege?" Remember God has given us a great commission. It includes the lambs as well as the sheep. The Scripture says in Psalms 126:5-6, "They that sow

in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves." What a joy it is to see precious children at an altar of prayer seeking God, and see their happy faces when their child-like faith touches their Heavenly Father. If you have never worked in a youth program, you have missed the greatest joy of a lifetime.

The following happened in a Christian home in northern Wisconsin. The children had gone to bed, and as they lay talking, the conversation turned to the second coming of Christ. Little sister, who was six years old, took in all that was said and began to weep. She said she wasn't ready.

"You can be ready," her big sister said, "wouldn't you like to be saved right now?" I didn't know how to lead a soul to Christ, big sister tells us today, but she did very well, for together they knelt beside the bed and little sister received Christ as Savior.

Little sister is a teen-ager now living for the Lord, and she well remembers the night she was saved. There are many little sisters and little brothers too, who have no one to tell them of Christ who died for them and His coming again for His own — no one to lead them to accept Christ as Savior. Will you be a big brother or sister to someone? It is so easy to point them to Christ now. Their young hearts accept the message so readily.

We often wonder what are the things that hinder child Evangelism in our churches. Why do so many people say, "We must have D.V.B.S. and children's meetings," but they will offer no support or personal help. There are many hindrances which we encounter but the eight listed below are most prominent.

1. Lack of vision. How can we be so negligent when we look about us and see the problems of evolutionary philosophy with its antagonism to the Bible?

2. Lack of definite prayer for OUR boys and girls. We cannot pray long in earnest before God will place the burden on our own hearts.

3. Confusion on subject of Child Evangelism. We must not wait until children in teens because too many counter forces enter in by that time.

4. Fear that children who profess to accept Christ will not be regenerated. Many children profess to accept Christ who are not really born again but many adults do this also. Are we to allow those who really do get through to God to be neglected? God forbid. We who work with children all the time, see many evidences of child salvation.

5. Doubt as to whether a child will keep faithful. No child can hold out without adult help. Would we have a revival campaign once a year and get our adults saved and then close the church until the next year and expect them to remain true to God? Yet this is what many times is done with our boys and girls. They get saved at Camp or V.B.S. and are forgotten until the next year. If we do not provide suitable encouragement for these youngsters, God will hold us accountable for what we can do.

6. Superficial work. Asking a child to "follow" or "love" Jesus is not enough. This is not evangelism. They must come to Christ as a lost sinner.

7. Wrong attitude shown to child accepting Christ. We cannot put old heads on young shoulders. A new convert is a babe and must be fed or disaster will come. He needs encouragement instead of criticism. He needs understanding, teaching, and sympathy when he fails. We do wrong to expect perfection of child believers. We must give diligent attention to seek to lead them into a life of courageous witnessing and living, but never coddle them in any way.

8. Lack of appreciation and support of the Child

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