

CHILD UNFOLDMENT

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INSTRUCTION IN THE WAY TO
TRAIN CHILDREN THROUGH
THE SILENT INFLUENCE
OF THOUGHT

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PREFACE

IN these days of spiritual psychology, new powers are being revealed by which to teach and train natures, that have not been amenable to mere external methods. Furthermore it has been found that the education of the thoughts and feelings is the best way to bring the external child to its highest culture.

The following teachings are from the experience, as well as the deep spiritual conviction, of many besides the writer, who have proven that "the mind makes the man" and that as Socrates said, "If you would have children act aright, you must teach them to form correct judgments."

May the good Reader be able to profit by these writings, through the sure testimony of three witnesses: the Spirit, the Intellect and the Senses. May what has been written from the Spirit be read by the Spirit within you, that which is given from the Intellect be found reasonable, and that which Sense has experienced be demonstrated to your senses.

And may many children bless the day that this little book saw the light.

THE AUTHOR

Los Angeles,
Thanksgiving Day, 1916.

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"THINE THEY WERE"

"And thou gavest them me." John 17:6.

The mother thinks
The child is hers,
And so, at times, is almost overwhelmed
With that responsibility.
The child, in fact,
Is not her own,
But God's

And she is just the instrument
Which God has used
To manifest in human form
Another bit of His Omniscient Mind.
LOUISE MAYERS MEREDITH,
from *Mother's Magazine*.

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I.

The Holy Family

Beyond Nature to Nature's God

THE Path of Immortal Life leads through Nature to Nature's God. Every step is a transcending of the natural ways. Yet the Christ-method does no violence to natural law while bearing us above it into the great Law of the Spirit, wherein is eternal and unlimited peace and joy.

The virtue of Nature is its simplicity, innocence and freedom. These are negative in character and therefore incomplete. Not until the positive principles of Spirit have supplemented these beauties of Nature, does the perfect Eden again appear. There is no going "back to Nature" on the part of man to find the ideal life as well might he expect to return to the seed whence his body developed. We shall be truly natural, and joy in primeval life again, as we find Nature in God.

Procreation Ascending

The relationships among the lower orders of animal life are, at first, regardless of the welfare of offspring, but as the Spirit presses more and more upon the animal world, intelligence increases, affection develops, order, harmony and wise selection and preservation are more and more in evidence, until the greatest touch of the Spirit upon the natural institution the marriage evolved by man gives us the ideal Family, one father, one mother and their children, living in highest consciousness of the Divinity in each and all.

The father and mother who have come together under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and whose child, in their sight, can be described as the Angel Gabriel foretold of Jesus, "that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." form the Blessed Trinity on earth, the Holy Family.

The Marriage Within

We know in Truth, that the highest state of human perfection is that of Christ Jesus, who had the divine marriage within him, and did not need the form in the outer to realize the bliss of the highest union, oneness with God. Yet, for those, whose perception of this Christ-celibacy is without joy, or not possible of attainment to them, there is an ideal of home, marriage and the family life that, developed under the Christ, will lead on to the heights "of the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Finding ourselves in the family life, husbands, wives and parents, let us work out the ideal, where we are, and fill up the measure of the charge that is upon us, thus being faithful over the lesser things ("the lower nature") we "shall be made rulers over the great things" (the treasures of heaven).

The Way of Holiness (Is. 35 :8) for the Family is, that each member should seek the union with God, making the One our ideal, our love, even beyond any earthly love for the dearest mate or child. Then the earthly father will embody the Fatherhood of God in all its Wisdom and Universality; the earthly mother will be the Divine Mother of all; the child will prove the Ideal Offspring, the joy of its parents and a glory to its Supreme Parent. Where such a company gathers, we shall find

The Ideal Home

Heaven is our true home, and heaven is within each one of us, therefore the ideal home is found there first. Every one is desiring a home, a true place of rest and harmony, peace and beauty. It is right for us to desire this home, and we find it in Truth as we find it first in Spirit. Ours is the worship that is in Spirit and in Truth, the inner and the outer Reality. We find home in the outer when we find home in the inner.

The greater part of humanity has been seeking without before they have turned within, resulting in disappointment, hands full of things, possessions on one's back, inharmony, "ideals" that have become idols, shattered and homeless, all because of seeking this home without instead of within.

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all the things after which the nations seek shall be added." First find the place of Harmony within you, within yourselves, and then you will find it and make it wherever you are. This has been the glorious demonstration of womanhood. Let the woman in you come forth, and the deserts shall blossom as the rose and the slums shall be as palaces. The home can be made a most glorious center, where things gather and express themselves in purity, beauty, comfort and harmony.

While the mother is the standard about which the home crystallizes, and she gives it its principal character, yet every member of the household should be imbued with the spirit of true home-making. This means unselfishness, self-control, harmony, obedience and freedom. These are inculcated by the radiance

of love from the dominant mentality of the family, which is usually the mother ; and by the silent invocation of the best in each (because of trust in the God-self) supplemented by the spoken Word, when it will fit in most effectually.

It takes the genius of a General to found and sustain a real home, and combined with it must be the inspiration of a changeless Lover, whose patience,tact and wisdom never fail. Yet all these are within the endowment of God to every one of us. And whoever exercises his genius to make an ideal home is working towards the establishment of heaven here on the earth.

The True Marriage

Taken out of its false aspect in the human regard, which is often light and contemptuous and, again, merely curious or mercenary, marriage can be returned to its original holy place, a sacrament. Trusting this union to God, the great Good of each, men and women will cease to scheme and fear ; and thus, mismating through false motives and misunderstandings will grow less, and "those whom God hath joined" man cannot keep asunder.

Every one who contemplates marriage should lift it to the highest place, as the symbol of the union with God. Then the man will be seen as the Lord,and all deference will be accorded him as the representative of God's fatherhood, the Spirit that ever moves upon the face of the deep, calling forth its manifestation.

Though the human husband may not seem worthy of such deference, if the wife will honor him as God, either he will change and the ideal Self come forward,

or he will be removed from her life, not necessarily by death or divorce, but in some way that is happy for both.

The woman in marriage is the Soul, the bride of God, which if a man will receive and revere as God's own presence, will open him to the Holy Spirit within himself. And if the wife seem not worthy, this true attitude of the husband will result the same as in the case of the husband, described above.

The child that blesses the union is ever the Christ, the Word of God, come into the world to bless it and bring it back to its Eden and oneness with God.

In the harmonious and perfect unfoldment of the child, nothing is so important as these first thoughts about its parentage. Though all manner of perverted ideas have hampered its orderly growth, yet now these can be corrected, even by one parent holding to the Highest. "And one shall save a city." For no one who works by God's law, works alone. For it is God that accomplishes His own glorious intentions with our children, for they are His children before they are ours.

The Ideal Father

It is an earthly father's privilege to portray the heavenly Father in every department of his life. There is much to be corrected in the old view of God's fatherhood, that of an austere, superior, even overbearing, punishing father. This view came from the belief of the Father as quite separate from the Mother. But in Christ, the two are one and so identified are they that their spiritual offices are interchangeable and the Father, though strong and protecting, is tender and kind, though just and firm,

is merciful and sympathetic. The marvelous teaching of Jesus Christ about God, as our eternally forgiving, heavenly Father, has destroyed to the true Christian, the delusion of an ever-angry God filling his cowering subjects with terror and secret hatred.

The parable of "The Prodigal Son," epitomized the Christ-idea of the true Father which God is, ever waiting for the true Self in His children to come forth and give Him opportunity to pour forth His favors.

The dignity of God-patience, the nobility of faithful service, the love of boon companionship these are some of the glorious lessons embodied in the office of a true father, which he can pass on to his children. They can easily learn to revere God through the daily exemplar of His presence before their eyes.

The Madonna Mother

To receive your children as from God, each one holy, an immortal soul, sent of God to bring heaven to human beings, is to have the mind of Mary, the virgin Mother of Man. This motherhood is the coming to light of the universal Mother-God, which dwells within us all, one with the Father and partaking of both natures, loving but not weak nor partial, nourishing and providing, the wise Counsellor whose eternal sympathy guides ever upward, never compromising with the untrue self, yet without condemnation.

As parents regard each other, so will the children incline, therefore keep the Ideal ever before your eyes and never call attention to each other's shortcomings. Again, as you would have your mate regard yourself, so conduct yourself towards him or her. Children

have a keen sense of justice, and injustice on the part of a parent lessens that one's influence. Let your justice exceed that which is of the world, let it ever look through things to the One, who is ever in the right.

Spiritual Eugenics

It is the eternal right of every child to be well-born. The race conscience is waking to this Truth, hence the foundation of the new culture of Eugenics, which means the art and science of being well born. But the founders are laying a false base for their building, that of material causation, and, "except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it."

It is not a matter of flesh and blood that is the key to good birth, but of true thought and spiritual training. Though the bodies of parents be under physical curses, yet if their minds be renewed, not only will their own bodies be transformed but their new minds will bless the bodies of their unborn children.

The true laws, that shall mate worthy parents, are spiritual, not material or sentimental. Love is truly the greatest cause of marriage Soul-love, not the mere fascination of body-attraction which is often engendered, as upon the animal plane, by the hunger for birth of the waiting creatures. The appetites of all three, man, woman and the invisible, and as yet unconceived, child, rush to a vortex, because none of the three knows how to wait for Soul-guidance, and they are caught in the maelstrom of their unregenerate desires, and a passing fancy, perhaps the result of mere propinquity, precipitates a union most unfit and disastrous.

Eugenics to be a successful science must reckon

with the supreme Father-Mother and also acknowledge the pre-existence of the child as Soul, ancient and great, intelligent and powerful as any that ever embodied upon this earth.

When parenthood is taken as a charge from God, then the office of generating is lifted into a pure and holy expression, and, in place of shame, comes delicacy and temperance; in place of secrecy and ignorance, come the sense of sacredness and mystery and the soul-communion that is perfect understanding.

The Discipline of Marriage

Even the most ideal human union carries an element of discipline with it. For, close association with any one makes that one an instrument to polish us, "diamond cut diamond." If the experiences of marriage, that have been trials and humiliations, will but be received as a God-means of refining or strengthening or transmuting our character into more worthiness for the companionship of angels, we shall always get the blessing out of the companionship, and a minimum of suffering.

God dwells within every human being and the ideal can be uncovered, even in the worst, by God-love working through the heart of another human being. The family was formed and hallowed for this purpose and to this end, and the fact, that the door of life was opened to let a soul into this earth, is a sign that such is a candidate for the honor of Perfection. As long as a human being lives on this earth, there is a chance here for redemption, and each soul committed to our charge is a glorious opportunity to prove the immortal and heavenly presence of God in that flesh.

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Let each husband reverence and exalt his wife to the highest place that he can give her in his ideals of the Perfect Woman which is the divine feminine of God.

And let every woman have a holy respect for her husband, and hold faithfully to the ideal, as the real of him, seeing the One, that surely abides there, which is the divine masculine of God.

And let every child revere and honor his parents, as the embodiment of his Father-Mother, God.

So shall the Holy Family be again manifest on earth, and its home "a little heaven" here below.

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II.

The Prospective Mother

Motherhood, a Sacred Office

CHILD unfoldment means mother unfoldment, the two taking place simultaneously when all things proceed in an orderly way. And one of the first instructions, which a mother should receive from her Divine Self, is as to the greatness and holiness of her position. Called to take charge of an immortal Soul, on its way proving its Godhood ! What more honorable trust in God's world ?

Motherhood is the expression of the protecting, nourishing, loving, creating power of God, which is without beginning and without end, eternal, divine Motherhood, the tender, loving, forgiving, excusing, protecting Spirit, that omits no measures for the salvation of its children, "loving to the end," until the beloved shall come to its place, and be what it was in the beginning.

It is because God is the Great Mother that we believe in universal salvation even of those who seem to be the lowest and farthest from the Kingdom. Though the mother of the earth "may forsake her children, yet I will not forsake thee," says our Mother-God. The perfect love of the human mother cannot touch the hem of the garment of the love of God, which knows nothing impossible, and never fails in its desires for the salvation of its beloved children.

National Respect for Mothers

It is a sign of the spiritual unfoldment of nations, to have a respect for woman and especially for motherhood. The recognition of the Divine Feminine in God hallows womanhood and, through her, the child that she gives to the world.

Every prospective mother should receive a blessing from every one that beholds her, a prayer for her safety when passing through the ordeal that lies before her, and the tenderest and holiest consideration for the little one that has been sent of God to manifest through her.

National consideration for the welfare of mothers is becoming more evident daily, for motherhood is a national benefaction. This is instanced in the provisions that are made to relieve her cares in rearing her babes: the summer nurseries, the free dispensaries, examinations, lectures, food to lessen infantile mortality. And it will not be long before Mothers' Pensions will be in every advanced government. It is not too much for any State to provide pensions for this office, that is greater than that of any soldier in the land, for the mother is constructive and the soldier is destructive. She contributes to life and the soldier takes life. Therefore, if the soldiers should be pensioned, mothers should have a greater pension.

Unwilling Mothers

We know that there are many unwilling mothers as there are many unwilling soldiers and for the same reason, for it is fear at the root, that is the cause of this unwillingness, and selfishness. Almost every normal woman has maternal love and the child is the outpicturing of this love in her. Fortunately,

the new light upon Christ-healing and deliverance from the old curse of painful child-bearing is rapidly removing that fear. And there is no woman in the Truth who expects to enter into marriage who should refuse motherhood on account of such fears.

We have learned that the function of the uterus should be as harmonious and painless as any other large muscle of the body, and all the re-adjustments of the organs, necessary to permit this office to be fulfilled, should be as normal and easy, as in the performance of any other duty.

Mothers in Truth are the best custodians for those seeking to come into this world, and no more useful career upon the material plane can be planned, than to be a "mother in Israel," receiving as many little ones from God as possible, and bringing them up in the knowledge of Truth and to live the life of Jesus Christ.

A word here for those women who long for children but who do not have them. Consecrate yourselves and your lives to God, trusting all to God and, like Sarah and Hannah of old, you shall become the mother of one, who will be a great power for good on this earth. Nevertheless it may be that you are finished with bringing forth after the flesh, and yours must be the life of regeneration, and your children, spiritual perhaps thousands, whom you will bring into the Truth.

The Education of Mothers

Once Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes was asked as to when a child's education should begin and he replied, in his terse and witty way, that it should "begin one hundred years before it was born." That is, its ancestors, teachers, nurses and all that shall con-

tribute to its being, physical, mental or moral, should be rightly trained in the understanding of the laws of life.

Thus again is the welfare of the unborn child expressed in terms of universal welfare, and you who may be reading these words with interest, even though you have no children, may know that you are contributing, by your study of these lessons, to generations that shall live one hundred years hence.

The past we cannot touch, so let us give all attention to the present, to the young men and women who are looking forward to fatherhood and motherhood, even though as yet unmarried.

The spiritually-minded of the two most influential, religious races in the world, the Hebrews and the Hindus, look upon parenthood as a sacrament and contemplate it as a holy privilege, and many are the prayers and other preparations, to receive the Soul appointed them from God.

In the new devotees of the true God, the office is to be no less a sacred consciousness. Before the marriage of the two whose lives are about to be made one, there should be a clear understanding and agreement, to respect each other's views of the marital relationship and to exercise self-control, even as a blessing with which to endow their children.

For it is not as a heritage of the flesh, that one passes spiritual powers to one's offspring but through the power of thought by which the Truth is given them.

As soon as a mother has conceived, she can begin to talk to the Soul of her child and tell it of its divine origin.

Every Child Is a Great Soul

In its true being, every child is as wise as the wisest that ever lived on this earth. But its wisdom is spiritual, not material. As Soul, it is as wise as its parents and if the latter would learn to talk silently, yes, and audibly to their children's Souls, they would develop the most wonderful and charming companionship with them, and their remarks and conclusions and memories would often be most enlightening. The wisdom of the parents as to this relative plane the knowledge that comes from experience is one of the advantages they can give their children; to show them how to express their Souls through their flesh and in their relationships with their world and its people.

But the instruction must begin with a consciousness of oneness, Soul with Soul. As a prospective mother has many times talked to herself so should she learn to talk to that new self, so near her heart, speaking to it not as a babe, or one who is ignorant, but as the very Angel of His Presence (Matt. 18 :10).

As a rule, children grow away from this Angel-memory because of the materialism, sensuality and ignorance of their instructors. Parents can keep the fleshly veils of their children pure and transparent through the years, and so help them to retain much of their original spirituality.

A prenatal course of education in Truth can be given by a mother to her coming child by reading to it some good text-book on Truth.* A lesson from the

*Such as *Maternity Treatments* by Miss Rix, 10 cts.; *Primary Lessons in Christian Living and Healing*, by Mrs. Militz, paper, 60 cts.; cloth, \$1.25; *Christian Mind Healing*, by Miss Rix, \$1.00.

Bible should be read daily and a silent treatment that they may begin early to exercise self-control.

The Pre-existence of Each Child

The Scripture teaches us that its prophets lived and were intelligent beings before they were born, and even before they were conceived. No one, who believes in Jesus Christ, doubts that he lived before he came to Mary. "Before Abraham was, I am," he said (John 8: 58).

Jeremiah the prophet says that the Lord told him, that before he was conceived, He knew him and ordained him to his ministry (Jeremiah 1:5).

"Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou earnest forth out of the womb, I sanctified thee and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."

John the Baptist leaped in his mother's womb when the Virgin Mary saluted Elizabeth, as we read, Luke 1 :41 to 44 :

"And it came to pass, that, when Elizabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost; And she spake with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy."

And the great King Solomon speaks of his own pre-existence, in the Apocryphal Old Testament (Wisdom of Solomon 8:20), "Yea, rather, being good, I came into a body undefiled."

It is a very old teaching, that children have lived before, and that this is not the first body that they have had. The poet Wordsworth writes of it under the heading:

INTIMATIONS OF IMMORTALITY.

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting:
The Soul that rises with us, our Life's Star,
Hath had elsewhere its setting,
And cometh from afar.

Not in entire forgetfulness,
And not in utter nakedness,
But trailing clouds of glory, do we come
From God, who is our Home:
Heaven lies about us in our infancy.

The Unborn Child's Influence

Much has been said of the influence of mothers over their unborn children, and much more can be said about it and how to make it of the very best. But little or nothing has been said about the influence of the child upon its prospective mother.

Many a pregnant woman has been filled with wonder at her state of mind during the pregnancy. Perhaps it has been unusually spiritual, poised and exalted or, on the other hand, she has been surprised at her aggressiveness, loss of temper, untrue thoughts, strange tastes, unaccountable hatreds, etc. Her friends have dismissed it with a light "O, it's your condition, my dear !" ascribing her soul-torture to material causation and looking no further.

Whereas, the mother has "taken on" herself certain former traits belonging to her child, some beautiful, some undesirable; the former are to be established upon an everlasting basis, the latter redeemed.

If such a mother is conscientious and will not yield to the miserable suggestions that arise, then, in spite of these prenatal influences, her child will be sweet and pure and lovely. For the mother and the child

can work out much during the nine months of intimate association. Every earthly child has something to work out that does not belong to the True Self, and fortunate is that child whose mother begins early to teach it self-control.

Prenatal Training

The mothers of ancient Greece believed so strongly in the influence of what they looked upon, to determine the form of their unborn babes, that they gazed for hours upon beautiful statues and other objects of art, to give their children grace and beauty of body.

The mother in Truth, who knows the influence of mind, should devote all her thoughts and feelings daily to the highest, spiritual ideals, that the coming child may be thoroughly imbued with Truth, and so have a noble foundation for a life, all beautiful both within and without.

The little one brings characteristics of its own from a previous existence, which are to be put into the crucible of experience for remolding, or to be overshadowed by Truth, to be redeemed. If the latter is the way that its happy feet shall tread, then its life will have a minimum of suffering and a maximum of joy. But if that little one can learn only by experience, its way will be hard indeed.

Silently the babe can be taught Truth, its soul drinking it in and its mind accepting cool, patient reasoning, even when its anger flames up and its screams are deafening.

Woman's Spiritual Leadership

"It is the ever-womanly that leads us on," said the poet Goethe, and every great man has acknowledged the part that some good woman has had in his success, oftenest his mother.

Children are so mouldable even the worst, although it may require more skill, love and inspiration with them than with others. But with the divine means at hand, no mother need ever be discouraged, but rather, she should become the more earnest and zealous, the more difficulties the problem presents.

Children that seem hardest to guide in their early years often make the finest of men and women. The number of years that a mother can train a child, as a mother, are only about fifteen. When boys and girls have reached that age, they take the reins into their own hands and what aid their mother can be to them after that must be as a beloved companion.

Fortunate that mother who has brought to her child the realization of her wisdom and her desirability as an associate, long before adolescence, for then there can be a fine comradeship between them all the days of their life.

mother! begin early to accept your child as an Angel direct from God, and to disregard its shadow side, many times counting it as nothing; or when considering it, to put it into its place as the unreal and, at most, only an indicator of what is to be accentuated in the child, the opposite virtue that it has come this time to bring into full manifestation.

So shall the earthly mother's complete joy be yours, to which shall be added the joy of your Higher Self, as you hear the welcome of the Lord of us all,

"Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

III.

Co-operation Between Parents and Children

Parents' First Work

IT must be borne well in mind by parents, during all the years that their children are developing, that they themselves are their own first work. Only those fathers and mothers, who are faithfully seeking to perfect themselves, can bring forth the perfection that is in their children.

We teach more by the silent radiance of our habitual thoughts and feelings than by our words. If our secret nature is not consistent with our instruction, children will know it, for most of them are sensitive to the unseen forces, and the result may be heedlessness to the parents' commands, if not willful disobedience.

The work, which a faithful student of Truth gives to the inner life, causes the mind to be alert and keen to perceive the delicate interiors of children where lie the roots of all their permanent habits. Here also are found the innocent intentions of many mistaken attitudes and actions. For children do and say things that look like stealing, lying and swearing and which have shocked parents who, "judging after the appearance and not judging righteous judgment," feel that they have criminals for their offspring, to their shame and humiliation. And sometimes cruel punishment is dealt to the innocent culprits, whose hearts were right and who can make no connection between their deed and the harsh treatment, and the

only impression that remains is of the injustice and malevolence of their parent, with an estrangement that lasts throughout their earthly life.

Very early in the communion between parents and children, must this soul-knowledge be established. All must meditate upon the divine origin and nature of humanity, often reminding one another silently and audibly, of the True Self.

Self-Knowledge and Self-Control

The parent who has true self-respect through revering his own spiritual nature and God-origin, will be respected and honored by his children without demanding deference from them. Nothing is of greater delight to humanity than to have a love for another that is mingled with awe and mystery. No more precious gift can come from one human being to another than such a love, and parents can retain that love forever if they but keep the goal of the Divine Life before them, and at all times exercise self-control.

It is the Spirit within us that gives us the true knowledge of ourselves and the power to rule ourselves, and this same Spirit is within the child, to teach it and to give it self-mastery.

The child can learn early to distinguish between the false self, or "naughty one," and the true or better self, God's Child, and to joy in the sunshine of mother's approval and father's companionship, whenever that self is the only one expressing. Yet there must often be great, and even inspired, skill on the part of the parent, to keep these free souls from feeling themselves leashed and in consequence becoming rebellious against the conventions and forms of too

strict a religious training. The same religious terms should not be repeated too often and the teachings should always be as simple and natural as possible.

The Equality Between Parents and Children

Bearing ever in mind that as Soul, the child is ever the equal of its parent, the latter can establish that perfect understanding with his child that will make them comrades for life. Your superiority in the matter of experience, you will understand as a student of Truth, is not a real superiority, yet it can be of advantage to your child especially in guiding him as to what to avoid. A wise parent can so bring forth Truth in a child, as to make its earth-life full of experiences in good but with few, of an evil nature.

While you may try to save your little one much experience, yet you may discover in it very early, a passion for trying things for itself. Then let such enter into experiences under your supervision, having first told them of what they may find that is undesirable in their experiment.

Herbert Spencer counsels parents not to be too hasty in saving their children from the fruits of disobedience, when the result will not be very harmful to them.

Thus if a child persists in putting its finger in the candle-flame, after it has been told that it is not best, that child will not profit by your advice ; therefore do not move the candle away but let it put its finger in the flame. You may not impress it with the burning power of the flame that is not necessary but it will be impressed with the desirability of accepting instruction from the one that knows, instead of learning by experience.

Happy is the man who learns in his childhood, that Truth itself can teach us all things and that experience is a hard teacher, a taskmaster, from which we are all to be delivered.

True Yoke-Fellows in Christ

We are all upon this earth for one true purpose, to bring eternal happiness to our fellow-beings and be a glory to our Source. This truth should be told our little ones through stories from the Bible such as that about little Samuel; the little Hebrew maid through whom Naaman, the leper, was healed ; young David and his conquest of Goliath, and young Daniel who refused the king's food because he would master his appetites ; the boy Jesus, and the children whom he, when a man, raised from the dead. One Truth- mother made it a practice to tell her children these stories whenever she gave them their evening bath. Another tells them to her little ones as their bed-time stories.

As yoke-fellows with their parents in the same cause, that is, to establish heaven on the earth, children can learn to send out the message of healing to individuals and to the whole world. Thus they can begin their ministry that they were sent by God to bless the world with, while yet their years are few. The aspiration to follow Jesus all the way can be nourished, and the faith, that will "do the same works" that Jesus did, be established. The old ambitions will be supplemented by the new and true aspirations, and the name and the fame, that the worldly mind seeks, shall be resolved into the eager desire to please God, alone, and glorify His presence here on the earth.

If one's child rebels against religious training and it does not come with ease and naturalness between parents and child, then the silent way is to be used. Perhaps there is an old memory of religion as a bondage, hypocrisy, tyranny and cruel martyrdom, and the child's whole nature feels revulsion toward its forms and even the wording. Be patient, good father and mother ! pray faithfully, and the light will come that shall be welcome to your child, and with it you can lay the foundation of a true spiritual life.

Firmness Without Domineering

Most children are open to reason, although desire is so strong as to make some seem passionately resistant to reasoning. It is wise to make few rules.

At all times, parents should be slow about giving orders or making rules, but when what has been ordered has received one's own inner endorsement, the parent should be firm as a rock.

If, on the other hand, a command has been given hastily, or not well considered, and there is a sense that it should be taken back, let a parent not hesitate to set the order aside, even with an apology or explanation.

One need not fear that a child will form false conclusions about its parent. Children understand and love equity and kindness, and are not so apt to be "spoiled" by leniency as by injustice and thoughtlessness.

The old-fashioned idea that because "I say so," an elder should be obeyed is passing away through the youthful consciousness of the present age. The sharp lines between old and young are being erased, with greater gain than loss, although in this transi-

tion time, the respect and courtesies of the young toward their elders seem sadly missing. But let us not fear, for love is increasing, and, in reality, we are all taking a new base, and a new chivalry shall come to us whose foundations will not be fear and convention, but spirit and love.

Good Manners and Politeness

Be what you would have your child to be. Ways of courtesy and even forms of politeness are taught best by example, although some gentle and thoughtful rules of conduct must be described, the reasons given and the practice illustrated at times especially set aside to that training.

The parent who will be watchful not to interrupt his son, without a word of apology; who will never forget to thank him for an attention expressed ; who will never willingly humiliate him before others, will teach many of the small kindnesses of life without a word. The true gentleman is truly of the heart a gentle man, because spiritual and a Christian.

In Japan, sometimes called "the children's paradise," the tiny Japanese learn gentle manners with but few words from their parents. Children are revered in Japan and families delight to welcome every new comer to the household. In consequence they bloom under such love, and are obedient and deferential and take upon themselves the pretty graces of oriental etiquette with little if any prompting from their parents.

Children's Questions

The old beliefs that children acquire knowledge from without, and that, by words only, can most

information be conveyed, are the cause of the much questioning on the part of the child.

The Truth, that an understanding of all things, those material as well as spiritual, can spring from within, opens up a child's interiors in a way most happy and enlightening to the parent that companions it.

Practice meeting the "Whys" of a young mind with a silent "You know," speaking of its Divine Mind, the omniscient One.

Then ask him to give his idea ; never laugh at the unusual and original opinions unless, of course, the child's humor is evident. But encourage children's expressing themselves, and lead their fancies on to facts, and often ponder their utterances, like another Mary, in your heart.

We should give accurate replies to their questions as far as possible, and if puzzled ourselves, we can often reply silently with the absolute truth, which can be heard by the child's heart with a result of satisfaction and thoughtfulness, that will please and often amaze us.

Of Such Is the Kingdom of God

All the time given to the unfoldment of children is contributed to our own return to childlikeness, which must be, that we may enter into the kingdom of heaven to abide forever. An endeavor to see with their innocent eyes, to view life with their guileless perception, brings us to our own Christ simplicity and purity. Also it helps us to a free and happy intercourse with children. We discover by talking to their souls, that they understand truth regardless of the language, the long and unfamiliar words

we use; also when by this same soul-power, we see things from the child's view-point, a communion is set up that requires few words, only the language of the soul.

Then the Christ within blesses little children, taking them out from under the curse of the dark past, that has held the race back so long.

When Jesus had told some of the deep truths of marriage, giving a holy light as to the right relationship between men and women and their possible freedom from sex-appetite, his words removed the curse from women and children, so that the mothers pressed their children upon the Master to bless them.

Jesus' immediate disciples tried to prevent the coming of the little ones. In their eyes, children were still under the curse, the offspring of sin and not ready for the Master's message. But Jesus sweeps aside these old views, and declares children to be in the van of the host that leads us into the heavenly consciousness.

If in your family or environment, there are men and women who, like those disciples, disapprove of children, thinking that they should "be seen and not heard" and in many ways would discipline them as you would not, such may begin to illustrate to the young natures what "taking up the cross" means, returning kindness for meanness, making nothing of evil, doing good to those that hate you, and the other precepts in the great "Sermon on the Mount."

By sympathy and freedom from blaming, or passing harsh judgment upon the peccadillos of youth, a father or mother can so win the confidence of the growing boys and girls, that they will tell their

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parent all that is going on in their lives. The young often feel that they must exploit life, and if their natural guardian refrains from expressing adverse opinions, or fears of serious consequences, or old-fashioned notions in other words will exercise the magic art of keeping still, both within and without, great can be their influence when their counsel is sought, and their comfort and their sympathy will be most welcome.

In the Divine Sight, we are all of one age, children of the same Parent, who has not hesitated to let us take "the portion of goods that falleth" to us and go on "a journey into a far country," knowing that we shall all yet return satisfied, never again to leave our Father's house.

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IV. The Child's Query

Where Did I Come From?

ONE of the most interesting studies in scientific psychology is the mental development of a babe, as it advances from its first stage of consciousness, which it holds in ^common with all sentient beings, to its consciousness of itself when it begins to reflect upon itself.

As a clear spring of water may run in a tiny thread, alone, for some distance, so it is with the simple consciousness of a new human being. But later, other streams join it, and it is then that reflection upon itself makes this consciousness appear more or less complex, and here it is that the guardian of the streamlet has the privilege of keeping its waters pure and limpid, if she, or he, knows the nature of the child, and how best to meet all its needs, spiritual, mental and physical.

At first the child refers to itself in the third person "Bobby wants this" or "Take Baby up," and so forth; then it refers to itself as "me," and finally it is "I."

When this stage is reached, then come the questions about this wonderful beings that is in its possession, and the most important of all is, "Where did I come from?"

When First the Query Is Made

It is a sacred moment when first that little query is made. Fortunate the parent who hears it, if she

realizes that not yet have the pure ears of her little one been touched by the breath of untrue report, but they are open to the fairest presentation of the mystic story.

How false it is to brush a child aside with a fable, a lie or an impatient or weak deferring of the information !

As soon as a child asks the question about its own origin, or that of the little ones, that have come so unexpectedly and mysteriously into its life, it is ready for the answer. If the moment is not auspicious in which to tell the story, then name a quiet hour when you know there will be no interruption and satisfy them with the assurance that then you will tell them all about it.

Divide "our story" into two parts, the first to be about the origin of the soul, the second about the source of the body. Or better still, make it a bedtime story, to be told many nights in succession, as long as there is something interesting to tell about the Real Self and the Little House in which it lives.

The Angel, Ever in Heaven

The first thing to describe to your little pupil is the place and state in which he lived before he came to this earth, or became visible to the eyes of those that love him.

The parent who knows the divine origin of his child, that it lived before its body was conceived and born, may well embrace the opportunity to describe the Real Self of his child to the little listener, so that it will never forget its true nature.

To tell it how it lived with its heavenly Father, as an angel "in heaven their angels do always behold

the face of my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 18:10) that that is its Real Self which is wise and good, loving and pure, unselfish and kind; that heaven is all about us, and we see it while our eyes are pure ; that it has a center in our heart, and our angel is in our good thinking and our good feelings. This is to open a spiritual "Arabian Nights' Entertainment" of endless love-tales between a mother and her child.

In this instruction is laid the foundation of the successful life of the Spirit. For the child to see that its angel-self is always good and cannot be otherwise, is to acquire a power of discrimination between the good One and the bad child, and to work out its own salvation. For each human being has come into this world to embody Happiness, God's own Self, in the flesh, and there are certain errors or forms of ignorance which, like weeds, may seem to grow vigorously under the same Sun of Truth, that causes the Flowers of Immortality to bloom.

And these weeds must be known as weeds the naughty thoughts, words and deeds while they are yet small, that they may not fruit as sins and bring on their miserable harvest of disease, poverty and death.

The Innocence That Is Ignorance

It is possible for every child to pass from a state of innocence, which depends upon ignorance in order to remain intact, to a state of innocence that has the Christ-knowledge as its foundation and therefore is established forever.

The purity of Adam and Eve before the serpent-error insinuated itself into their consciousness, is the

purity of the little child, untried and unproven a negative innocence. But when purity is established upon the principle of the Christ-Truth (not that tree-of-good-and-evil knowledge) then all that is beautiful, holy, sweet, noble and strong in Innocence is retained, and it passes from its weak, naked and untried negative, to its strong, glorified and proven-positive in Christ.

Most members of the human race, who have come to their salvation, have not been able to pass from the negative innocence to the positive innocence without an interim of struggle and plunging through the dark waters of experience in evil. It is from this "forty years wandering in the wilderness" that the Christ came to save us. Therefore, if the Truth is given to our children early, they can be saved from these agonies through which their ignorant ancestors have had to pass.

Without Sin or Shame

Little ones in their simplicity are modest in the truest sense of the word, which is non-assertion of the ego, and this willingness "to stay in the background," making their little personalities a screen upon which the picture of their true Self can be portrayed, prepares them to wear their clothes, as curtains fall over a picture, without sense of vanity or shame.

Instead of inculcating shame as a reason for covering the body, the idea of the sacredness of certain parts should be presented. There is an innate understanding with every soul of the Holy of Holies, and the very words "Pure and clean" become as guarding angels to keep the Way of Life. Never

should the thought of shame be put into a child's mind as to any part of its body.

The Origin of the Body

Often, when the story of where "I" came from has been told, it is satisfying and productive of so much meditation, as to put the question of the source of the form quite into the back-ground, where it belongs. But some mentalities work very quickly, and the knowledge-hunger will soon be in evidence again. Then the happiest way to describe the mystery is to begin with the known, and, through comparison, present the unknown.

The child learns early to observe the hatching of chickens and birds, and a description of how the little bird lies in the egg, tucked away in its nest, while the mother-bird warms it until it is ready to hatch out, can easily explain the coming of the babe.

"The birds have their nests in the trees," mother says, as "Our Story" unrolls, "but the nest, where the baby lies, is within its mother under her heart."

Then can follow the account of the long months that that heart loves the little babe and warms it while it grows.

"And what mother eats feeds the little babe too; and it thinks with her and is happy when she is, and day after day, it lives her life, and loves with her, until at last God makes a way and little baby is no longer hidden, but comes to mother's arms."

So simply and purely can the tale be told, that though it may be the wonderment of a life-time, there is never a sorrow nor a shame associated with it, but only a greater love and reverence for the

mother that, by the power of God, gave it life and its good body.

It Is "Our Story"

It is wisdom to let the little one know that it is a story to be talked over "just between ourselves," and that anything that he, or she, wishes to know, to come to mother, who can always tell the truth about it.

One little boy overheard his playmates discussing these vital matters, and said to them (he reported the facts to his mother) :

"You fellows don't know anything what you're talking about! It isn't that way at all."

"Well, you tell us about it then !" they replied.

"No ! I'll not !" he said. "You had better go home and ask your mothers about it !"

"And, mother," he continued, "they were so ignorant and said they didn't dare to ask their mothers."

How glad that mother was that she had told her son all. She had not hesitated to tell him of the awful agony through which she had passed to give him life, and to let him know that this was the price that every mother paid. It made the little fellow suffer, but a manliness and an awe came upon him as he looked at her with new eyes, and told her how he should always love and cherish her for what she had done for him.

This mother had not learned the Truth of the possibility of painless child-bearing, and this is one advantage that we have in giving the story to our children, thus laying the foundation for a generation that shall be free from fear and danger in its bringing forth.

It is best not to fill the mind of youth with too many

details of the process of impregnation and gestation. The story is so great, that the simpler it is presented at first the better.

The Power of a Mother's Prayers

The early years of a human life carry the primitive tendencies, and therefore may seem open to unmoral influences, a kind of careless freedom that is not necessarily immoral, yet, if the child be neglected, liable to bring to it harmful consequences.

Many of the diseases of children spring from an unchaste atmosphere. The higher standard of living and greater cleanness in thinking will result in reducing the numbers in the statistics of infantile mortality.

Mothers must learn the significance of the intimations that spring up within them concerning danger which threatens their children. Instead of interpreting such impressions to mean that the children must be protected as to their outer health only, let us learn to lift up a prayer for the defense and protection of the child's inner nature, as well as the outer.

By learning to refer every form of anxiety for one's children to the Spirit, and declaring its protection, a mother can be led to the knowledge of the way to save her child from many mistakes.

Thus a mother, who had a knowledge of Truth, found herself continually impressed to keep an eye upon her little boy, who was about seven years old. As he was normally well (although at times very nervous and backward in school), she wondered at these impressions. But she did not put these feelings aside with a sense of annoyance, as she might have done once. Each time she silently sent the word of

God's protecting presence to little Robert. One morning, like a thunderclap, came the inner Voice, "Go and find Robert quickly." She dropped her housework and hastened, to discover her boy in a self-destructive practice that she had not dreamed possible to her innocent baby. The knowledge was a shock, but she took the case to a healer, and together they worked until, by the power of Truth, the boy was set free from a habit that has wrecked the lives of many.

Another, who was the mother of five very lively boys, was one morning suddenly impressed with the feeling that one of her boys was in great need of help whether it was moral, mental or physical she could not tell. But she had grown familiar with these knocks upon the door of her heart from the angel-guardians of her boys. She dropped on her knees and prayed God to protect her boy until there came a sense of relief to her, and she knew the boy was safe.

About half an hour after this prayer, her young son, eight years old, came home looking like a drowned rat. He had been playing on the shore of the bay and had found an old boat lying at the edge of the water, had pushed it off, climbed into it and had rowed from the shore to deep water, when suddenly the boat filled and he went down.

"Mamma," he said, "I went down and came up twice, and the last time I called to you with all my might, and I didn't go down any more. And I don't know how I got to the shore."

As the little fellow could not swim, he might well wonder. But his mother knew.

Strength and Beauty in the Pure Life

At the time instruction is being given the young boy and girl, as to their procreative powers, which should begin at about the time of maturing the age of twelve is not too early ideals of the pure life should be presented also.

Youth is ambitious to be strong and beautiful, and parents should gather material to show "the strength of a clean life" and the beauty, that only remains where purity abides, the shining hair, the clear-cut features, the radiant complexion, the crystal eye.

Many of our young people are ready for the life of regeneration and do not care to enter into generation. Not knowing any but the carnal view of the relationship of the sexes in marriage, they have little desire to marry. They do not understand themselves nor are they understood by their people. Later, they assume the marital relations to find themselves most unhappy and expressing their regretful "I never should have married."

When a sweet and candid companionship exists between parents and their children, all the detail of the ideal marriage can be presented, without touching the dark side of the lawless lives of the unclean, which is so repulsive to minds that have been nurtured in a clean moral atmosphere.

There are youthful hearts and minds to whom all these things are as nothing, and it is well that we do not impress them with the horror of the unchaste. For we remember the words of Paul to the Romans :

"I know and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean" (Rom. 14:14).

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And again,

"Unto the pure all things are pure."

And the words of Jesus,

"Behold, all things are clean unto you."

We bear in mind, that the Spirit is teaching our children the Way of Life, that turns neither to the right nor to the left, but ever mounts up to God, and therefore we can abandon them to His guidance and protection, believing with Milton that,

"So dear to heaven is saintly chastity,
That when a soul is found sincerely so,
A thousand liveried angels lackey her,
Driving far off each thing of sin and guilt."

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V.

Healing Children

Children Easy to Heal

THERE are no more responsive patients to the word of Truth, that brings health, than little children. For the errors that lie back of their diseases have little root in their own mentality, being principally reflections from the false thinking of others.

The same general procedure that is followed in the treatment of adults will apply to the healing of children. Therefore those who would be proficient should study the lessons given in the text-books of Christian healing.*

The soul of the child, being great and wise with the wisdom of God, can hear the message of Truth just as readily as the soul of the adult. Jesus, who understood human nature perfectly, welcomed the little children and gave them special blessings of healing and spiritual endowment.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not : for of such is the kingdom of God. And he took them in his arms, and put his hands upon them, and blessed them." Mark 10 :14, 16.

Parents to Be Treated First

In almost every case of illness in children, there is some one who is anxious and fearful about them, and

*An excellent help is the hand-book, *The Way to Heal* (25 cts. a copy) , especially when used in conjunction with Mrs. Militz' "*Christian Living and Healing*"

this is the first thing that must receive the attention of the healer.

For children are like little mirrors of those they love and look to for comfort and sustenance. They reflect very quickly any strong feeling or state of mind on the part of a dear parent or guardian, even though the feelings have been hidden from the outer senses, and no one has spoken about them.

How often a mother makes remarks like,

"O, troubles never come singly! I thought I had enough to bear and now the baby is sick!"

She does not know that it is the very trouble that is haunting her that lies at the root of the baby's fever. And usually it is the tenderest child, the delicate one, the most negative, though not necessarily the youngest, of all the children, the mother's special care, that is most easily affected. That parent must rise above her trouble and return to the peace of soul that is our only true state, and ever remain in that secret place, if she would rear her little ones in a healthy mind-sphere, which is more important than a sanitary atmosphere.

Children to Reflect Only Good

Yet, it is possible, even before a parent or guardian has reached that place of true self-control, to put a child into that holy consciousness, wherein it shall not reflect aught but the good, but shall become wholly immune to evil suggestion. Here is not only the key to physical health but also to moral soundness.

It is not by keeping a child out of the world that it can be best protected. Rather let the young go forth, enfolded in the aura of its own holy Self-

hood, "in the world but not of it," and nothing can contaminate nor infect such a child. Associating with those who seem unclean and unfit for companionship, instead of catching their impurity, that child will have a purity so positive that it will cleanse its comrades and be a power of God to regenerate its times.

So, if you observe that your unhappiness, financial worryment or marital troubles are beginning to picture upon your child, painful and feverish conditions, begin to hold the little one in the Christ presence, surrounded as in a fortress by the All-Good and reflecting only the Real which is the Good, which is all there ever is to reflect, all else being sheer nothingness.

Infections and "Children's Diseases"

One of the most vicious errors that has ever been saddled upon suffering humanity by its own self-hypnotism, is the belief that certain diseases are natural to children. The lie goes back into "the dark ages," that mumps and measles and whooping-cough must be experienced by every child, that if he escapes them in childhood, they will come upon him in later life with liability of very serious results.

With this distorted view, parents have exposed children to contagion with supine yielding to what they feel to be inevitable, even planning that they shall have certain diseases "the best time of the year" so as "to get over it and be done with it."

Filled with panic at the rumor that diphtheria, scarlet fever or infantile paralysis is in the neighborhood, poor, ignorant fathers and mothers, by their very fears, open the doors to the dreaded foes. Yet they hold the means of their child's defense in

their own mind, and instantly they should use their fears as the railway engineer uses the red flag that he sees waving ahead of his train. It does not paralyze him, but it makes him act at once.

When Fear Seizes a Parent

The instant a fearful thought arises in the heart or mind, turn to the Truth of the omnipresence of God, the Almighty Good of your child. Think of the Health, the Life, the perfect Christ-being that fills and surrounds your child until there comes to you a sweet assurance of its safety; and though the miserable suggestions of danger return again and again, and even symptoms of the disease begin to show, keep returning yourself to the true faith until the false condition succumbs before the Truth you persistently voice in the silent deeps of your watchful soul.

Let no one into the presence of your child that will think and suggest alarming thoughts. This is one reason why the materialistic physician should be kept far from your children. If a doctor must be called in because of the demand of the other parent, then choose a spiritual man or woman who will not be skeptical as to the power of true thought. Many of the most advanced physicians are heart and hand with spiritual healers ; seek them, not the spiritually-ignorant and bigoted doctors.

But best of all, keep to the Great Physician, use no materia medica, trust in the Christ-word as your all-sufficiency. If there are broken bones or cut arteries, a surgeon's skill may be a good aid, but even here, the Truth has been proved wholly able to replace and rebind the broken places, and to heal

quickly "by first intention," that is, from the inmost, out, and without fever.

The healer who is called in to bless the little child, after removing the fears of the parents, and declaring the Truth of the child's freedom from false reflection, must systematically heal the parents of the errors that have made the mental air of the home poisonous.

The Errors in a Child's Mentality

If all these things are set in order and the case is not finished, then the healer may discover by a mental diagnosis that the child itself has some special fear or false practice or foolish imagination, that is producing the untrue condition.

The writer once was able to heal a little boy with a curious breaking out in the skin, which had for some time resisted all treatment, through seeing a mental picture, while treating him. The inner cause of the trouble was a kind of auto-intoxicated imagination, overwrought through reading Jules Verne's "The Mysterious Island."

He was an impressionable boy and often grew feverish after reading and restless at night from exciting dreams.

The Truth brought forward the Wise One in him, the fever passed and his skin was healed.

A child was once thrown into a fever in which its delirium disclosed the cause to be a conversation at the dinner-table between its elders, who did not notice the child's attention, upon the disasters which some one had prophesied would end the world.

Sometimes a terror or dislike seems to haunt a child from its earliest existence, and the folly of

teasing it or scolding and shaming it has but aggravated the error and made it more secret, until some physical condition is the result.

A fierce temper or selfishness, unclean appetite, cruelty, an abnormal habit may indicate obsession and the healing may be a "casting out of demons." A healer delivered a little boy from adenoids, who had not seemed peculiar, except in the matter of a bad temper. But the last day of his trouble, he snarled and scratched and bit like a beast and terrorized the family. But that night his body was convulsed with struggles within him, which finally ceased, leaving him pale and weak, but absolutely free from the bad temper and from the troublesome glands.

The doctor who had examined him and had told his parents that there was nothing for his trouble but an operation, gave him a final examination and pronounced him completely well. When told what had accomplished the healing, he answered, "I cannot understand it, I only know that he had adenoids and that now he has not a vestige of them."

The lady who healed the boy gave him Absolute Truth, which is to see the child as God's own being, never having been sick, not so now, nor ever can be, but perfect, whole, pure Spirit, one with Christ throughout Eternity.

Early Education in Health

All conversation upon disease, disaster and death should be taboo in the Truth-regulated family.

Instead of impressing children with the danger in certain things, emphasis should be placed upon the safety of leaving certain things alone. The matter of warning may seem the same, but the attitude of

mind that is constructive, an attitude the result of spiritual culture, will carry deliverance in itself. The wearisome "don't" should be eliminated from family authority with all expedition possible.

Giving power to food or air, climate, exercise or anything material should cease, these all being subject to thought and only secondary or reflective causes, receiving their power from man's belief.

Most mothers know the virtue of withdrawing the mind from hurts by engaging the attention in something else. The same should be done as to the heat or the cold, as to internal troubles, outer losses, fears and other false imaginations.

When attention is drawn to resemblances to other members of the family, ancestors and relatives, immediate and distant, in respect to some weakness or liability to disease, there should be a reminding that the Soul can manifest quite new results from even the same tendencies, and these be altogether good.

Much can be done by the parent who will change former fears into Absolute Trust in the All-Good.

A lady had always been agonizingly fearful of accidents happening to her little son, and, when physical training was recommended for his development and his father put him into a gymnasium, her fears for him know no bounds. For he was very venturesome and did not hesitate to climb and swing and jump in most reckless fashion.

Then the lady became a Truth-student and she began to have faith for her boy, Edwin, that he, was safe in the divine Omnipresence and no harm could come to him. And everything changed, both within herself and with Edwin. He ceased to fall and make mistakes, and she saw him held by a new force to

the bars, ladders, trapezes, like steel-filings to a magnet, and her heart and mind were forever at peace as to his welfare.

When you see children in what appear to be dangerous places, where no one can reach them, or in which thoughtless parents are neglecting them, remember your thought can hold them in safety like a magnet, or give them wings as they leap and tumble. A baby-girl, two years old, fell twenty-five feet before the eyes of some Truth-students and bounced to her feet like a rubber ball with not a scratch or bruise upon her.

Children Are Natural Healers

Nature and the Spirit are very close to each other in our childhood, and thus children heal very easily by the power of the Truth. They should be encouraged to take up cases early and to give God the glory. Do not praise the child as though it did the work its healing-power will depart with such vain-glory. If unbelief and other errors, such as the common sins and neglect of God's gift, can be kept from a child, it will increase in its healing-power and will never; lose it.

The inner senses are sometimes very open with our little ones and they can aid them, and be a proof that their powers are under Law and not mere happening.

A little girl once proved to her mother her conscious power of healing, by speaking the word for her Aunt Mary, of whom she was the namesake.

Aunt Mary had been very ill, and one evening little Mary's mother, who had been giving her spiritual

treatment, returned home in a worried state of mind, so that little Mary asked,

"What is the matter, mamma?"

"Your Aunt Mary is very sick with a fever and has not slept for several nights," she replied, "and mamma cannot seem to reach her with the treatments."

"Let me give her a treatment," said the little four-year-old, for she knew the virtue of absent treatment.

The mother, thinking that it was to be a little game with Mary, consented.

But as the little one sat with folded hands and closed eyes, the mother watched her. She grew restless and frowned and presently open her eyes and said to her mother,

"Aunt Mary won't close her eyes!"

"Well, dear ! you tell her to close them."

Then little Mary again began her absent treatment and after the lapse of some minutes, she said to her mother,

"Aunt Mary is all right, she is asleep and she will be well."

And so it proved. For when the mother went to see her the next morning the lady told of her impression the night before to close her eyes, and she had slept the night through and in the morning was perfectly well.

Teach a child very early the power of its mind in its co-operation with God. Give it the way to pray prayers of thanksgiving, unselfish prayers, prayers that are praise to God and loving honor to Jesus Christ.

A Healing Prayer

Loving Father! Thou dost now give me a trusting heart, a wise mind and the Christ peace ; and I thank thee heavenly Father for the truth which now makes this thy little One perfectly free and strong and well.

Thou dost enfold thy little child with thy protecting Presence, and no harm can come within its encircling health, life and happiness.

I praise thee heavenly Father that I know my child to be Thine, pure and perfect Spirit, wise with the wisdom of God, loving with the heart of Christ and inspired by thy Holy Spirit.

We thank Thee, healing presence of Christ, that thy regenerating life now is renewing and rebuilding thy child ; and now, perfect and complete health is thoroughly established in thy little One, and all is well !

Peace! Peace! Peace abides forever and our Soul is filled with thanksgiving and praise and loving gratitude for the Truth, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior forever. Amen.

VI.

Developing Talent, Character and Spiritual Powers

Every Child Has Talent

UNFOLDED within every child is its talent, or gift from God, to be uncovered, cultivated and returned to its source, doubled, as we read in the "Parable of the Talents," the words of the Lord, "Mine own with usury."

It was from this parable that this good word, "talent," came, showing how generally accepted has been the idea that our talents come from God, that they are given to us in order to glorify our Source, and that they are given to every child of God, "to every man according to his several ability."

It would seem that some of the handicapped members of the human family must be exceptions to this rule, but we need only remember a few such unfortunates, like Blind Tom, the musical genius, and Helen Keller, that brilliant star in a dark, dark night, to realize that "with man it is impossible but with God all things are possible."

Precocious Children

Each child is a precious gem, some showing their light early, others still remaining in the rough. Those whose beauty and power are revealed early, should not be impressed with their own brilliancy. Whatever beauty, virtue or praiseworthiness a child may show, should be treated as the true manifesta-

tion of a child of God, gifts for which to thank God and to accept in all true modesty and meekness.

By ascribing one's talents and beauty to the Giver of all good gifts, a child can escape foolish vanity, false self-consciousness, conceit, pride, worldly ambition and the folly of seeking name and fame with their attendant heart-breakers, envy, jealousy, hatred and malice.

Precocious children often become mediocre, because they must be veiled in order to do the work which their heavenly Father has sent them to do. To cultivate worldly ambition, to foster pride, to hold the goal before them of a great name, worldly power or position, these may seem to defeat the divine intentions, therefore something is allowed to fall like a veil, curtain or screen over the talents, once so brilliantly visible.

Therefore, no matter how your children excel, teach them that God has planted the same power in all their human brothers and sisters that, in their case, the talents are nearer the surface, and they must thank God and be humbly glad ; that eventually every one's talent will be revealed.

Encouraging Latent Powers

Let us be evenly minded about the gifts bestowed upon children, and not exalt one child's talents far above another's. One may be gifted as a house-keeper, another as a musician, yet each gift held in the highest can be the foundation of a most successful career, the first as well as the last. The housekeeper may become the founder of great institutions, the boy with girl-tastes for colors and fabrics, a

great decorator and designer. Let no gift or inclination that is useful be despised.

It is wise never to laugh at the attempts of little ones to express themselves as, for instance, in singing. Many a lover of music has been made silent as to song, all the life long because some one scorned the childish efforts to sing. They might not have been singers, but they could have had the joy of expressing themselves.

Natures seem slow in revealing themselves in some of our dear little "commonplace" children; they are like springs running underground or choked with the stones of an uncultured or unrecognized spiritual life.

Training in the ordinary virtues of a true life may be quite sufficient to remove the stones and let the inspiration well up and overflow to the world.

Application, continuity, faithfulness, honesty, purity, obedience, sincerity, self-control, these are some of the virtues which should be cultivated as a matter of principle the thing your child is interested in being but the frame upon which to hang these important "treasures of heaven."

Study your child that you may not force it into a round hole when it is square, nor a square hole when it is round. A zealous mother had two sons whom she wished to become finished musicians. She forced the oldest son to practice at the piano, hour after hour, though he had little taste for it. Arriving at manhood, he seldom touched the piano, being ardently fond of books. The second son, some ten years younger, coming to the age for piano lessons, received little encouragement from his tired mother, who had resolved never again to urge her children

to practice. She did not notice how often the little fellow hung over the keys, trying to gain knowledge by himself. When he was grown he was an enthusiastic lover of music, and one of the best musical critics in New York City. And often he voiced the regret that his mother had not obliged him to take lessons and to practice as she had forced his brother to receive and to do.

Whatever a child shows keen interest in, raise to its highest interpretation, then place that as his goal and let him aim for the very Spirit of it and he shall arrive, through it, at God.

Character Culture

In watching over the growth of character in our young charges, it is well to have the same trust in the great motif, the God within them, as one has in the life and trueness-to-species that we see in a young tree or animal.

A guardian overlooks the supreme Guardian, the Power that projected the youth into being. Dearer to God is this, His child, than it could possibly be to any mortal.

Therefore, let us always "reckon with our Host" and never let fear or unbelief, discouragement or despair persuade us that our charge is ruining his life or will become a criminal or an outcast. We always have Prayer as our first, last and eternal resort, and whenever one is tempted to break down or lose heart, there should be a fresh hold laid upon Prayer, the Mighty Word of God.

As a rule, the best trained child is the one least trained, that is, the machinery does not show, because the mind of the mentor does not dwell upon

the fact of training, nor is there much talk about it. Character rises up of its own accord. Give it channels along which to flow, trellises upon which to twine, and violence and wildness will largely be eliminated.

Many times a mother can divert a passion that, were it violently thwarted, might prove troublesome, by giving the thoughts or feelings something else to receive their intensity. One mother, whose little boy would give way, at times, to paroxysms of rage, often averted one by recognizing the symptoms of its approach and taking her little son into the bathroom, would turn on the taps, undress him quickly and put him into a fine, warm bath, which he loved. In the meanwhile she would talk to him silently and aloud of "God's good boy." None but the best of habits can form under the watchful eye of a true and devoted mother.

Misunderstanding Children

Give children always the benefit of the doubt. It is better to make many mistakes in ascribing good and innocent motives, than to make one, in ascribing an evil intention where there was none.

Often a child's misdoings are taken too seriously when, if they were righteously ignored, or overlooked, because of principle ("Only the Good is True;" "The Real Self can do no wrong"), the acts would never be repeated. The names of vices need not be given to a child before it is seven years old, but it can learn early the beauty of virtues.

A child has been called a liar when he was simply imaginative and not able as yet to distinguish be-

tween his subjective experiences his day-dreams and the facts of the outer world.

Most of the deliberate falsifying of children comes from fear, sometimes causeless fear, like the shying of colts that have always been well-treated. With such natures, their statements should not be questioned, especially when one knows the facts ; let one proceed from one's own knowledge. When a child is found telling imaginary things as facts, it should be told that such talk is called "romancing" and then the difference between its external experiences and these mental events should be explained.

Love should inspire all the methods of correction ;punishment should be last in one's thoughts. Nevertheless, a parent should feel free even to administer such to children who prove themselves not amenable to Love.

It is accepted as axiomatic that parents should be free from anger when correcting their children. When parents are shocked or made ashamed, or impatient, or angered, these feelings arise from a belief in the reality of evil, which blinds them and sometimes causes them to do a great injustice to a child.

A lady once told the writer that a shock that she received when little more than a baby had nearly ruined her life. It came through her mother, who really loved her and did not realize what she was doing to the tender mind of the little girl. The child was playing in a neighbor's house and on the table saw a pretty gold thimble which she began playing with and finally put into her pocket and soon after went home. She was only three years old and had never heard of such a thing as "stealing."

The neighbor saw the act and went at once to the little one's mother, with an awful tale of the child being a thief.

The mother was shocked, her pride wounded and in awful tones she denounced the child, calling it a thief, weeping over her, whipping her, sending her back with the thimble, searing her little brain with tales of the terrible fate that awaited her. The child did not know what it was all about, but was so terrorized that for years she suffered the effects of it, and not until she came to the Truth, when nearly fifty, was she able to forgive her mother.

Silent Communion With The True Self

The best work in bringing forth the better self is done in the silent communion. The prayers that are breathed when the little one's human thinking and feeling are still in sleep are most effectual. The prayers of thanksgiving for the power and presence of the True Self and its mastery over the self that appears to need spiritual help. A temper is best reached this way.

A small girl with an uncontrollable temper was healed by the family never speaking of it but silently blessing her and consciously co-operating with her higher self. Her healing came suddenly when one day, as she lay on the floor kicking and screaming, a sobering came to her as she realized she was rather a big girl to be doing such things. She sat up and in quietness she arose and shamefacedly went out of the room. She never gave way to such anger again.

Whenever a parent is puzzled, there should be a constant communion with the Spirit until wise meth-

ods and skillful devices come to one's aid. Many are the happy ways that come to parents who seek the guidance of the Higher Intelligence, such for instance as providing pets for the little ones. They often learn tenderness, consideration and thoughtfulness through the care of pets. Interest in their habits, ways and their homes, brings a respect for their lives and desire to preserve them.

Spiritual Unfoldment

Preaching to the young should be carefully avoided. Moralizing, "oughts," "musts" and "don'ts" should be banished from our converse with them, ever remembering that they have an innate sense of justice and right, that faith in them will enliven and bring forth.

Casual teaching of the deep things of life, indirect presentation of religion, through Bible-stories and true-life stories are best. Children are eager listeners to spiritual talk between their elders, especially if they themselves are not noticed.

Compulsory religious training is often worse than ineffectual, for it even causes a great dislike for what should be one's greatest love.

An early reverence for Jesus Christ has deepened in the hearts of children who grow familiar with the stories of his life. Many a child thinks fondly of its own arrival at the age of twelve through drawing the likeness between itself and Jesus at that age.

Many children are very open as to their inner senses and spiritual powers, and if they are allowed to tell what they see and hear and of what they can do, without any expression on our part of skepticism,

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derision or other crushing resistance, they will retain much that will be valuable to them in after life.

It is perpetual and changeless love and appreciation on our part, of the finest and highest in our children, that furnishes the means for the truest unfoldment of their character. It is the warmth that the mother-bird supplies to her eggs. Let us keep the glow steady for our nestlings and always remember that God does the rest

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VII. Obedience and Freedom in Children

Inspired Management

PARENTS who are spiritually minded should ever remember that in all the care, thought and training of their children, they are developing their own Christ-consciousness to express itself in ever truer forms and language. Thus can "patience have her perfect work." No time is lost, no efforts wasted that are spent in "bringing up a child in the way it should go."

The belated training of our own unregenerate nature -may be mirrored in our children, so that while we are carefully teaching them the lessons of self-control we ourselves may well receive instruction. Thus we may see, repeated in our child, that obstinacy and perversity that has hampered our own life, and while we turn its strength into a fine determination and rock-principle in our child's nature, we can silently pray God that the same blessing be upon ourselves. What a joy for a parent to find that he is not obliged to meet his boy's obstinacy with his own, two wills that sometimes in their clash are like the "irresistible force that meets an immovable object" in that no one knows just what will be the outcome.

Instead of the violence of the old way, we have the skill and silent reasoning of the new way, that does not crush nor break the child's will but turns its mighty force into the channels of divinest usefulness.

Obstinacy Overcome by Truth

As an illustration of the new method that wins, the following is given: A lady who had been a chronic victim of nervous prostration, and because of it had been obliged to give the training of her little girl into the hands of nurses, had finally received her healing through the power of Truth. In consequence, she began to undertake the control of her little daughter, who had become quite "spoiled" under the crude discipline of the servants. She was naturally a sweet child but with very decided opinions of what she liked or disliked.

One day she was dressed in her new spring clothes, all daintily white, but when the nurse wished to put on her new spring hat, she would not have it. Her winter hood had become a great favorite and she had no idea of discarding it. No reasoning, no threats could move her. Her sharp crying filled the house. In former days she would have been quickly indulged, or dragged from the house because of her mother's nerves.

But the mother had her brought to her, and told her to sit down on a hassock at her mother's feet. Her cries had not ceased, but all silently the mother spoke to the Divine Reason in her :

"Child of God, you love to do that which is reasonable and right. You are one with harmony and truth and know the winning way of agreement."

And there came a realization to the mother of the really sweet nature of her child and her "winning ways," which we know are never ways of inharmony or violence. She had not been speaking long to the child's soul, when the little one stopped crying and rising from her seat, slipped her hand into her

mother's, saying, "I will be good, mamma !" and she was changed from that day.

"Give It to God"

Instead of giving up in despair over a child's unruly spirit, turn to prayer and pour all your strong feeling into the prayer of "believing you have received." This is what a grandmother did for the little three-year-old who had nearly worn her mother out with her fiery and prolonged rages of temper. Many were the times that Grandmother spoke to little Virginia's soul to manifest itself, and one morning the little girl filled her mother and grandmother with awe, as she lifted up her little face to her grandmother, while tears welled up in her eyes, and said,

"Virginia, bad temper! Give it to God!"

No one had said anything aloud to her about treatment or her disposition. The words were wholly original. What a proof of the way the Soul can be reached by the Silent Word.

The Common View of Obedience

Few parents know the real reason for exacting obedience of a child. They think of it generally in connection with themselves and their own convenience; that a child should respect its parents' commands and obey "because I say so."

Many times the orders are unreasonable or thoughtless. The child begins to reason. An arbitrary parent sees the child's answer as an impertinence, or a sign of threatening insubordination. Then a demand is made for blind obedience which is given sullenly or with reproachful looks, that raise a sad barrier between two who should be one.

Another parent may realize that the order was thoughtless and that it is not important to fulfill. And he is indifferent to the child's disobedience, neither withdrawing the command nor giving explanation of his own indifference, with the result of a habit of laxity being formed by the child, that afterwards may express as a weak will.

Obedience, a Treasure Through Life

The act of obedience is for the child's sake, the parents' comfort or pleasure being secondary. While quite young, stories can be told a child about its body and how to make it a good instrument through the practice of obedience. It should be taught of the record which the body keeps of every thought, and that if it registers a false thought, just once too often, disaster may result. The ears that will not listen finally grow deaf. Willfulness and disobedience are at the root of many a case of deafness.*

Show them how their fingers obey their every silent command and give them a story of skill, through hands that are swift to obey their owner, like David's skill in throwing the stone out of his sling.

Compare the body and the mind to a fine horse that obeys its master so that it will go up to the edge of a precipice, and stop instantly at the command of its rider.

But more than anything else the whole being should be trained to listen to "the still small voice" within, and so be guided throughout one's life by

*One should never suggest to a child that a disease is coming to it or threaten it with death or "bugaboos" or anything else that causes fear.

the voice of God. This is the principal reason that a child should grow accustomed to obedience and to have it inculcated by love and not fear.

The obedience that comes from love may seem natural to a child, so that he needs no teaching. But if there is any one to whom he does not respond quickly, then the lessons can be given him to obey from principle or because of Truth or Jesus Christ or God.

Freedom in Applying the Law

If one seems to have a natural rebel in the family or a "black sheep," such is an occasion for the exercise of "Love that thinketh no evil," the maintaining of trust in the best, it matters not what appears. Such a child may require close study to find out the meaning of his life, not to treat it with weakness nor sentiment but with insight and understanding.

Many a child puts itself under the Law by its disobedience and rebellion, and fairly invites the exercise of the Law of Cause and Effect. In such a case it is "spare the rod and spoil the child." But to hurt the body is the crudest use of the Law, and to a child who is being taught not to feel pain, a mere farce and ineffectual.

There are sequences which are very appropriate results of certain forms of disobedience or wrongdoing, that will come to the mind that is not too hasty about inflicting punishment. The child that learns without threats, that certain disagreeable results will follow untrue actions or neglectfulness, will be saved much in his maturer years.

The Freedom That Makes Others Free

Sometimes obedience does not seem consistent with freedom and parents who, themselves, were brought up in a very strict way make the mistake of confounding obedience with bondage. Then there is apt to follow an indulgence with their children, that they deem to be freedom, but which interferes with the freedom of their neighbors.

This is one of the truths that can be profitably pressed upon us all, that nothing is true freedom to us which takes away the freedom of our neighbors. By their fruits do we know all that is worth claiming and adopting : the joy that brings joy to others, the prosperity that prospers others, the love that makes others loving, the freedom that makes others free.

As Childhood Merges Into Maturity

A companion ever to your children, they will delight to tell you all their ambitions, trials, adventures, even their mishaps and humiliations, especially as you refrain from expressions of fear, criticism and condemnation.

Good citizenship can often be a subject for discussion especially in connection with the Christ, into whose hands all government shall yet pass. Integrity, equality, honesty, justice, righteousness and many other virtues of the true life can be illustrated by stories of great men and women.

Good husbands and good wives, fathers and mothers can be considered with our youths and maidens if conversations on these themes can be kept free from "barking at the bad," odious comparisons and innuendoes.

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As high resolve and noble ideals begin to rise upon the horizons of those whose feet stand on the borders between childhood and the adventure into ripening life, then can come the time of decision for those who would live the full life of the Christ here upon the earth. Then can be placed before them the choice between generation and regeneration, through knowing the whole truth from the pure lips of fathers and mothers who can say with the Christ, "I have called you friends for all things that I have heard of my Father I have make known unto you."

VIII.

Religious Education

SPIRITUAL upbringing must include a religious education and an ethical training. These three will equip a child with a strong armor with which to meet those suggestions, which are man's undoing the secret thoughts of his own carnal nature "a man's foes shall be those of his own household."

Many parents depend upon a child's reading or schooling or the reciting of the Ten Commandments, for its ethical training. But reason should have its part and sympathy. If a boy is taught honor as the way of a really successful life; kindness as a token of real strength ; and his natural roughness, bravado, cruelty and derision met with silent instruction, so that the reality of these, straightforwardness, fearlessness, power and intelligence may be accentuated and drawn forth, then his basis for ethical living can be well founded.

But morality is not enough for a foundation of a pure life. There must be a real religion, which is a method of union with God, presented to a child. The members of the root-races, that are the oldest and the most orderly in their inner life, were always taught to recite Scripture in their youth.

This is the time to lay up such treasures. But watch, good parent ! that the learning be not made a task but a joy, which may include a regular time for the study, if only fifteen minutes a day, an appropri-

ate prize to be won, a reciting with them, and other devices, such as finding texts in the Bible beginning with A, B, C, etc. One of the first prizes can be a New Testament of one's own a red-letter one, in which Jesus' sayings are given in red type.

Certain long passages can become a daily recital in concert, mother and children together, such as the Twenty-third Psalm, the Ninety-first Psalm and the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:1-17; not too many verses should be learned at a time.

The stories, told the wee ones, from the Bible should be about the children in it. A good way is to tell them the substance of it in your own language, with certain graphical additions, which shall be true to the facts of the scenes, the customs and dress of the times described. Then read the literal story. Ask the children themselves sometimes to tell it, or to help in the telling.

For a beginning, the following can be used, and though there be only one story a week perhaps as a sweet part of Sunday, they will be getting some very good knowledge of the letter of the Bible :

- 1 *David and Goliath*. 1 Samuel, chapters 16 and 17.
- 2 *Little Samuel and the Lord's Call*. 1 Samuel, chapter 3.
- 3 *Baby Moses and Sister Miriam*. Exodus 2 :1-10.
- 4 *Joseph, the Dreamer*. Genesis, chapter 37.
- 5 *Joseph, the Prisoner*. Genesis 39 :20 to 40 :23.
- 6 *Joseph Honored*. Genesis, chapter 41.
- 7 *The Widow's Son, that Elijah raised*. 1 Kings, chapter 17.
- 8 *The Shunnamite's Son*. 2 Kings 4 :8-37.

- 9 *Naaman and the little Maid.* 2 Kings 5:1-14.
 10 *Jesus' Birth.* Luke 1:26-38, and Luke 2:1-20.
 11 *Jesus Twelve Years old.* Luke 2 : 40-52.
 12 *Jairus' Daughter.* Mark 5 : 2 1-43.
 13 *Jesus Blessing Children.* Matthew 18:1-6, 10-14, and Mark 10: 13-16.

After these stories, as a primary teaching, can come other stories from the Bible, the next selections also being interesting.*

The following is a tentative list of subjects to read and enlarge upon with stories:

- 1 *The Creation.* Genesis, chapter 1. (This will be good to learn.)
 2 *The First Spiritual Man and Woman.* Genesis, chapters 2 and 3.
 3 *The Flood.* Genesis, chapters 6, 7 and 8.
 4 *Jacob's Dream.* Genesis, chapter 28.
 5 *Jacob's Blessing.* Genesis 32 :24-32.
 6 *Joseph and his Brothers.* Genesis, chapters 42, 43, 44 and 45.
 7 *The Israelites' Journey out of Egypt.* Exodus, chapters 1 to 20, 32 to 35.
 8 *Further History of the Israelites' Journey.* Leviticus 9:22-24; 10:1-11; 16:1-22; Numbers, chapters 11 to 17, 20 to 25.
 9 *The Story of Samson.* Judges, chapters 13 to 16.
 10 *The Story of Ruth.* The book of Ruth.
 11 *Elijah, the great Prophet.* 1 Kings, chapters

*Much help as to the real significance of the Old Testament can be found in Mrs. Miltitz' articles, *New Light on the Bible*, in *THE MASTER MIND*, Vols. VII, VIII and IX.

- 17, 18, 19, 21 and 2 Kings, chapters 1 and 2:1-18.
- 12 *Elisha, the healing Prophet*. 2 Kings 2:19-22, and 3:11-20 and chapters 4 to 7.
- 13 *David*. 1 Samuel, chapters 16 to 20, 24 to 26 ; 2 Samuel selections to 1 Kings, chapters 1 and 2.
- 14 *Solomon*. 1 Kings, chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 and 11.
- 15 *Story of Esther*. The book of Esther.
- 16 *The Trials and Victory of Job*. Job, chapters 1, 2, 32, 33 and 42.
- 17 *Daniel*. The whole book of Daniel.
- 18 *Jonah*. The book of Jonah.
- 19 *Selections* from Isaiah, Hosea, Joel, Zechariah and Malachi.
- 20 *The Four Gospels*.
- 21 *The Book of Acts*.
- 22 *Selections* from Romans, 1 Corinthians, Ephesians, Philippians and 1 John.

If it is not possible to send your children to a Sunday School where the true message is taught, you should have one in your own home, to which can be added the neighbors* children whose parents are in sympathy.

A plan for conducting Sunday School can be found in THE MASTER MIND, Vol. I, page 166 (or the February 1912 issue).

The following questions and answers have been found helpful in giving a child the epitome of the faith and the truth that saves :

Statements of Truth

1 *What is God?*

God is the All-Good.

2 *What is the All-Good?*

The All-Good is Life, Love, Truth, Mind, Spirit, Health and Strength.

3 *Where is God?*

God is here, there and everywhere.

4 *Who am I?*

I am a child of God ; I am the idea of God ; I am the image and likeness of God.

5 *Who created me?*

God.

6 *What am I created for?*

I am created to manifest the All-Good.

7 *What must I then manifest?*

I must manifest Life, Love, Truth, Health and Strength.

8 *What is my work?*

My work is to do the Will of God.

9 *Where do I live?*

I live in God.

10 *What is the creation of God?*

The Christ in me is the creation of God.

11 *What is the Christ?*

The Christ is the Son of God. Christ is the True Spiritual Self.

12 *Was Jesus the only Christ?*

No, the Christ is in each one of us.

13 *Was Christ crucified?*

No, Jesus, the flesh, was.

14 *What does crucifying mean ?*

Crucifying means putting away the old self.

"Ye have put off the old man with his deeds and have put on the new man which is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created him." Col. 3 :9-10.

15 *What is repentance?*

Repentance is changing the mind.

16 *How do I change my mind?*

I change from believing in evil to believing in what is true and good.

17 *What is forgiveness?*

Forgiveness is giving good for evil, and giving truth for error.

18 *What is salvation?*

Salvation is being saved, made free.

19 *What am I saved from?*

I am saved from sickness and from sin; from pain and death, misery, want and every evil.

20 *What is it that saves me?*

The Truth saves me.

"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." John 8 :32.

21 *What is heaven?*

Heaven is a perfect state of happiness.

22 *Where is heaven?*

Heaven is here.

"The kingdom of God is within you."

23 *Must I die to go to heaven?*

No, dying is no part of my life, and I am in heaven now.

24 *What is the first commandment?*

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength." Mark 12:30.

25 Is there any other commandment?

There is another which is really the same

"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Mark 12 :31.

26 Why is it just the same?

It is just the same because it is God in my neighbor that I love; for there is no one else to love, since God is all there really is.

27 What is consecration?

Consecration is giving myself to God. It is God who wills and works through me to will and to do whatever ought to be done by me.

28 How do I give my hands and feet to God?

By doing good and loving deeds.

29 How do I give my lips to God ?

I give my lips to God by speaking only pure and kind words.

30 How do I give my heart and mind to God ?

By thinking and wishing true and loving thoughts for all.

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer." Psalms 19:14.

It is a good observance, to have a few seconds of silence before eating a moment of praise and thanks to God and declaration as to the true food.
The little

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ones can say the words aloud, while the older members of the family repeat them silently.

The following verses from Psalms and the words of Jesus constitute a good "Grace before Meals" :

"Bless the Lord, my soul: and all that is within me bless his holy name." Psalm 103:1.

"My meat is to do the will of him that sent me and to finish his work." -John 4 :34.

The morning and evening prayer, that even the tiniest one can lisp at his mother's knee, is The Lord's Prayer, which can be prayed affirmatively instead of as a petition, for the original Greek allows of such a translation :

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed is thy name.
Thy kingdom is come, thy will is done on earth as it
is in heaven.*

*Thou dost give us this day our daily bread. Thou
dost forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us. Thou dost lead us, not into
temptation but thou dost deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom and the power and the
glory forever. Amen.*

For a self-healing treatment and also a treatment for others, the verses below are good, either recited with eyes closed, or sung to the tune of Hursley L. M.

PRAYER

God is my help in every need,
God does my every hunger feed,
God walks beside me, guides my way
Through every moment of this day.

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I now am wise, I now am true,
Patient, kind and loving too ;
All things I am, can do and be,
Through Christ the truth, that is in me.

God is my health, I can't be sick ;
God is my strength, unfailing, quick,
God is my all, I know no fear,
Since God and Love and Truth are here.

Keep your heart and mind, Mother in Israel, close
to the great Mother-Heart of us all, and many shall
be the original and inspired directions and devices,
that God can drop into your consciousness, as you
guide His child back to its Christ and its God.

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IX.

Regeneration

ONE closing word must I speak for our youths and maidens, who have come to this earth on their closing visit, to finish the work which their Father has given them to do.

These often disclose their appreciation of their commission by an unusual attitude towards the pleasures and business of the world. Though normal, they seem to have little use for what pleases their companions, and often show no special ambition towards business or marriage. A wise parent will not press these upon such young people, but watch over them with heavenly vigilance.

For the young boy must be kept from those temptations, that often assail youths who have the feminine unfolded in their nature as well as the masculine. Like the angels who visited Lot in wicked Sodom, they may be tested by unregenerate natures, and God's truth must enfold them until, like Jacob, the Angel of His Presence makes them strong in their purity and wise in their freedom. For they are the new Knights of the Holy Grail, the Sir Galahads, of whom it must be said,

"Their strength is the strength of ten,
Because their hearts are pure."

Likewise the maiden who feels that marriage has no attraction for her, except it be for the children

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that might then come to her arms. She should not be pressed into any loveless union for the sake of a home and offspring, or simply because marriage is looked upon as the only true destiny for a woman. Such children should be equipped early for the ministry, and everything that education, art, travel and high association can give them should be theirs, that they may be true priests and ministers of the Christ, eminently fitted to carry the good news to the uttermost parts of the earth.

A word to the Wise is sufficient.
IT is SAID.

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RECEIVE THE LITTLE ONES

And safe indoors, round mother gathered ;
Sweet tales are told and prayers are said ;
Then little heads caress the pillows
And angels guard each little bed.
Dear people, ye, whose homes are lonely ;
Whose hearts and lives are lonely, too,
Oh, do not think that no one wants you
Some little child has need of you.

----JOHANNA DUCK,
in *Child-Welfare Magazine*.