

THESIS.

Subject, The Responsibilities of the Teacher

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To the person entrusted with the training and development of the child life, there are many grave responsibilities. He who would lead others must himself know the way and the true teacher will always be a leader. The responsibilities of the teacher are three-fold in their nature: first; responsibility to self; second, responsibility to those under his charge, and third, responsibility to those with whom he comes in contact - the patrons and the community in general.

The teacher is responsible to himself in fitting himself for the proper performance of his duties. This should include the development of his physical, mental, and moral powers. The old maxim; "That you cannot teach that which you do not know," should be always before his mind. He who has the store-house of knowledge well filled will always be prepared for his work. We must not conclude however that we know enough.

The teacher must be abreast the times in the various departments of knowledge and this demand is more imperative to day than ever before.

The growing mind only can impart its stimulus to those minds with which it comes in contact.

Again, the teacher must be cognizant of the physical responsibilities of his position. No other profession requires so great an amount of physical reserve force. I do not mean by this that the teacher should be an athlete but rather one who has a sound body with good control of the nerves. There are more teachers who fail from the lack of this law from any other one cause. I have observed that the teacher who enjoys good health, has a cheerful, sunny disposition and who works with a will succeeds better than the one with a sickly, nervous disposition even tho the latter has greater mental attainments. It behooves the teacher to husband well and if possible increase physical being and nervous forces.

For is his moral responsibility a mere trifle. It has been wisely made one of the essential qualifications of the profession and it is the sacred duty of those who license teachers to know that he who enters the ranks has a character above reproach. The character of the teacher is the most potent lesson in moral training. The teacher must have faith in himself, in his fellow man and in his God. He is in truth a living epistle known and read of all and his responsibilities are as great as his opportunities for good deeds and kind actions.

His responsibilities to his pupils are manifold. He is responsible for their physical welfare while they are in his charge and indeed he may do to further these interests in the home. It is his duty to see to it that his energies are directed in this direction as this one of the pressing needs of the day.

When we stop to consider that in a very great measure the welfare of generations yet to come depend upon the proper training of the boys and girls of to-day we begin to have an idea of the measure of the teacher's responsibility. His responsibility for their mental and moral training is equally great but I have neither time nor space to treat of them in this paper.

The teacher should be a leader in the educational interests of his community. It is in his power to arouse an educational spirit among his patrons and any lack along this line is partly due to his neglect. Let him associate freely with all and by his very manner and enthusiasm win their respect and co-operation and depend upon it. The good seed sown will bear abundant fruit.

In view of all this, the teacher should
not be dismayed. He should go with
humble spirit to the Great Teacher who
said, "I am come to you that ye might
have life and that ye might have it more
abundantly." Realizing the responsibil-
ities of your mission, go forth with a trust-
ing heart, do your best and leave results
with Him.

Meet the Teacher

in the Church

of the Gospel