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BLUE RIDGE BAPTIST. Established 1900 by Rev. W. R. Bradshaw, N. Wilkesboro. Published by the BLUE RIDGE BAPTIST CO. Wm. M. Lee, Editor. D. W. Lee, Associate Editor and Manager. Subscription price: One year .50 Six months .25 Club rates per year .35 Entered the Post-office at North Wilkesboro N. C. as second class mail matter—September 7—1901

A GIRL OF HER WORD.

"You can depend upon her; she is a girl who does what she promises." This is one of the highest compliments that can be deserved or received. A man must be a man of his word to be trusted and to be successful. He must begin, then, by being a boy of his word. He cannot put on the characteristic as he dons a uniform or attaches a badge to his coat, upon occasion. Well, then, in this "woman's age," when there is such a clamor for equal chances for boys and girls, should not the girl grow up with as strong a sense of responsibility about her pledged word as a boy? The demand is for a girl of her word, who does not hold a promise lightly nor break her engagements easily.

A girl of honor is worth as much as a boy of honor. A girl is as much bound to be honorable as a boy. Unflinching, unfaltering truth is required of both alike. The same quality of steadfast adherence to a pledge, and the same tenacity in fulfilling what is promised and expected, makes both boy and girl trustworthy. It is belittling and unworthy and unwomanly for a girl to be careless and culpable on these points simply because she is a girl, and thinks no one will be so impolite as to scold her for her failures.

If you will stop a moment to think how often people are put out and inconvenienced by trusting to promises which are not kept, you will no doubt be able to recall instances enough to prove the need of greater trustworthiness. Somebody else has to do the work of the delinquent, and, perhaps, a dozen or more are kept waiting, or fail to secure something desired, because of the failure of one person to do what was promised and depended upon. It is not right to assume a responsibility unless one means to be faithful to it, and girls should be ambitious of the distinction of being reliable, of being counted upon to do their promised part.

The trouble is, very often, that promises are too lightly made. One's word should be held sacred, and there should be a little consideration before giving it. "Too much trouble to think always," is the excuse offered; but it does not excuse. It is never too much trouble to spare others trouble, and to do right for one's own.

The only way to become such a girl is to form the habit of faithfulness in little things. These are like the filaments which are twisted into a cord. Enough of them will make a cord which cannot be broken, although a single one may seem insignificant and useless.

A girl of her word is respected by others; but she is also self-respecting, and self-respect is a treasure beyond compute. It is a costly thing; it cannot be gained in idle, haphazard ways; but it is worth all it costs. —Religious Herald.

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