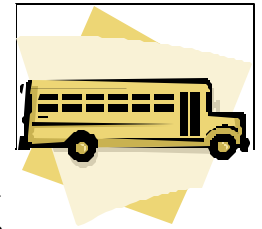


THE ENCOURAGER

Help for Sunday School Teachers— Dedicated to those who take the Word of Life to Children Everywhere



TELLING YOUR WORLD ABOUT HIS LOVE

Bill Wilson works with an inner city group in New York City. His mission field is a very violent place. He himself has been stabbed twice as he ministered to the people in the surrounding community. Once a Puerto Rican woman was contacted and was led to Christ. After her conversion she came to him and said, "I want to do something to help." He asked her what her talents were and she could think of nothing---she couldn't even speak English---but she did love children. So he put her on one of the SS buses that went into neighborhoods and transported kids. Every week she performed her duties. She would find the worst-looking kid on the bus, put him on her lap and whisper over and over the only words she had learned in English: "I love you. Jesus loves you."

After several months, she became attached to one little boy in particular. The boy didn't speak. He came to Sunday School every week with his sister and sat on the woman's lap, but he never made a sound. Each week she would tell him all the way to Sunday School and all the way home, "I love you and Jesus loves you."

One day, to her amazement, the little boy turned around and stammered, "I---I---I love you too!" Then he put his arms around her and gave her a big hug. That was 2:30 on a Sunday afternoon. At 6:30 that night he was found dead. His own mother had beaten him to death and thrown his body in the trash. "I love you and Jesus loves you." Those were some of the last words this little boy heard in his short life---from the lips of a Puerto Rican woman who could barely speak English. This woman gave her one talent to God and because of that a little boy who never heard the word "love" in his own home, experienced and responded to the love of Christ.

What can you give? You and I each have something in our lives, which, if given back to God, could help to spread His message along the road.

TEACHING RESOURCES

— by Marcel Giraldi —

I'll share what we find helpful.

The most used Bible lessons are from Gospel Folio Press. Building Blocks for Beginners by Mervyn Paul, is valuable, since that suits the youngest class. GFP has many levels of teaching books, but we have found the Intermediate Level the most useful. We have a copy of all the modules (Genesis I & II, Egypt to Canaan, Joshua, Judges, Ruth etc.) and lend to other teachers as they request it.

Also useful is a set of workbooks from "Life of Jesus Series", by Rebecca Daniel. These are activity pages to do at the end of each lesson -- not a teacher's guide. We purchased them at Mitchell's (Toronto) a few years ago -- not sure if they're still available.

We also use SS Notes by W. Rodgers and SS Lessons by G. Sharp! (available freely online at www.gospelhall.org or in print from the author).

We keep a file of SS papers / tracts / outlines that "catch our eye", as ideas for future use. Priscilla Smith (nee Kember) gave us information at least a year ago about a set of lessons that she uses and found very helpful by New Tribes Mission. We called about them, but decided not to invest in them at that time as it didn't suit the age group of oldest boys or tiny tots class that we were teaching. (These can be purchased online at <http://canada.ntm.org/>)

These are not new ideas -- just what we find useful.

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A LITTLE BIBLE STUDY 'PROPHETS' EVERYONE!

The following are some insights young Sunday school students turned in to their teachers:

Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.

Noah's wife was Joan of Ark.

Samson slew the Philistines with the axe of the apostles.

Moses went to the top of Mt. Cyanide to get the 10 Commandments.

The 7th Commandment is 'Thou shalt not admit adultery'.

Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.

Solomon had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption.

The people who followed Jesus were called the 12 decibels.

The Epistles were the wives of the Apostles.

Paul preached 'Holy Acrimony', which is another name for marriage.

A Christian should have only one wife. This is called monotony.

Parables mean there is more than one bull.