



# THE ENCOURAGER

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

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## GEMS OF WISDOM FROM THE PAST

I came across these notes written for all who are interested in Sunday School Work. The writer, Ormer G. Sprunt, was well known for his ability with Children for many years. Here he sets forth this appeal requesting that the reader earnestly consider the 3 following questions—

1. What is a Sunday School Teacher?
2. What is the Sunday School Teacher's Work?
3. What is the best way of doing the work of a Sunday School teacher?



**Accounted as a preacher  
and a good deal more !**

Not only are these questions important—but a right understanding of them is also essential for everyone engaged in teaching.

1. What then is a Sunday School Teacher? In the first place—they must be a true Christian. How can anyone, who is not, ever set forth two of the fundamental truths of the Bible? First, that sinners are lost and, second, that Christ came to save the lost. A blind man's lecture on sight or a deaf man's on hearing would be just as useful as an unconverted man telling of Christ and his salvation. Sometimes we are asked "Is there any scripture for Sunday School? Are not the children to be instructed by their parents?" We have no definite scripture but we have scriptural principles for a Sunday School and Sunday School Teachers. In Deut. 31 we learn that children and others were gathered together to receive instruction. In Mark 16:15 we read, "preach the gospel to every creature"! This alone is sufficient ground for preaching to any number of children. Though a teacher is not looked upon as an evangelist or a preacher of the gospel—he could be accounted as such and a good deal more!

If all parents were able and willing to instruct their children at home in the things of God, Sunday Schools would not be so needed. When many parents send their Children to a Sunday School they tacitly acknowledge that they are not in a position to provide for their Bible training. The responsibility then falls on the teacher who steps into the place the parent has relinquished, and is therefore armed with authority to take upon himself this solemn undertaking. Looking on the teacher, then, in a measure as a parent, we turn to God's Word and find he has the command to train (or literally 'catechize') a child in the way he should go. Timothy may be taken as an example of what ought to be the result of such teaching, who from a child knew the Holy Scriptures. See 2Timothy 3:15.

Every Christian though is not suited for Sunday School Work. It is necessary to have a real love for children. No one who has not love for them is fitted to teach. Other necessary points are patience and perseverance. The answer then, in brief, to question one is— An instructor of children in divine things—a true Christian who acts as a caring parent to train and teach the young. It is one of the most blessed spheres in which a Christian can act—to train children up for the Lord. *Questions 2&3 follow in future mailings*

**STOP EXPLAINING—YOU'VE ALREADY SAID ENOUGH!**



*Sometimes we're so sure we know what they're thinking!*

Paula Kibbe from Michigan tells this little tale about her charming son....

"Mommy - you're a good looker!", my four year old son warmly informed me with shining eyes.

Feeling flattered, I thanked him—which prompted him to explain, "Yes, whenever I can't find something, you always can!"