



# THE ENCOURAGER

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

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## Time to Keep our Focus

Is what you do for the Lord, a job, or a ministry?

Some people have a job in the local church; others involve themselves in a ministry. If you quit because somebody criticized you, it was a job.

If you keep on serving, it's a ministry.

If you quit because no one praised you or thanked you, it was a job.

If you stay with it even though nobody recognizes your efforts, it is a ministry.

You ask, 'Then what is the difference between a job and a ministry?' If you are doing it just because no one else will, it's a job.

If you are doing it to serve the Lord, it's a ministry.

If you'll do it only as long as it does not interfere with your other activities, it's a job.

If you are committed to staying with it even when it means letting go of other things, it's a ministry.

It's hard to get excited about a job. It's almost impossible not to be excited about a ministry.

If our concern is success, it's a job. If our concern is faithfulness, it's a ministry.

An average local church has many people who are doing jobs'. A great and growing church is filled with people involved in ministry.

Where do we fit in? What about us?

If God calls you to a ministry, don't treat it like a job. If you have a job, give it up and find a ministry. God does not want us feeling stuck with a job, but excited and faithful to Him in a ministry. *Author Unknown (Reproduced from the 'Precious Seed' Magazine - 60th Anniversary)*



**WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?**



## HELP WITH THE VEGGIES

A little girl returned home from Sunday School and proudly announced that she had already memorized her new Bible Verse.

"Eat carrots for me," she recited.

The confused mother called the Sunday School Teacher for an explanation. When she checked the verse turned out to be 1 Peter 5:7 "HE CARETH FOR YOU."