



THE ENCOURAGER

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

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Experience Speaks to Us

Doreen Buck is a highly respected Sunday School Teacher of many years experience. She writes reluctantly at our request. Headings are mine.... per Editor.

I find it difficult to put experiences in writing, and it seems like bragging.!!!

EARLY DAYS & LASTING RESULTS

Anyway, to give you a little background. I started teaching back home at Lakeshore, ON when 17. I visited around the farming community, brought them and taught them. Some of these girls are now in assembly fellowship in various assemblies. A number were from unsaved homes, moved away, but I still remember them in prayer and see some occasionally.

STARTING OVER & CONTINUING ON

After my move to Jackson, MI it all started by picking up kids for SS, then teaching as a fill-in, then was asked to take a class which I did full time from 1974-2004. Even now, I still substitute and pick up for SS and Childrens Meetings.

I started out with 9—11 yr. olds, some from saved homes. When it came to year's end to transfer to other classes, it was difficult to part with them as I had such good rapport especially with non-Christian homes. So, the decision was for me to graduate each year with them. I had most of them through High School graduation. This may not work for others, but was good for me and the girls at this particular time.

I used a point system - for attendance, Bible, verse-learned well, quizzes. Every 2 months I had a 'dime Sunday' for each verse well learned. Of course I learned along with them, and if I made a mistake, that was FUN, teacher make a mistake!

SPECIAL EVENTS & TIME IN OUR HOME

We did special things together— Christmas was an important occasion to emphasize Christ's birth. He was given to us by His Father in Heaven— FREELY giving His ONLY SON to die for our SINS, to be our Savior. I would have the girls over, we would play games, bake goodies to take to older folks and shut-ins, then the next day we would deliver the packages— the girls would sing Christmas Carols; by the same token teaching them to give to others and be thoughtful, to give of ourselves.

TEACHING & TOGETHERNESS

At Easter I emphasized the Lord Jesus' death, burial and resurrection— learn portions of scripture pertaining to these important elements of the gospel. Took them on many different outings: Zoo, educational places, Birthday parties. All the class would be taken along to celebrate one of the girl's birthdays making it a special 'together' time. Played games, especially Bible Games, had Valentine Parties for them. Had treasure hunts— at Christmas I had a gift for each girl with her name on it, hid around the house which they had to find, plus in suitable weather we enjoyed outside fun; we would sing "I have a wonderful treasure" and other SS choruses. That was always a big hit!

*Doreen's work has stood the test of time. May the Lord help each of us to work as selflessly as she did. It should be clear that it takes **time, truth, teaching and togetherness** to make us effective in this work. Look for more input next month as well.*

In a recent April 7, 2007 "FAMILY CIRCUS" by Bill Keane—Dolly admires a plant her mom has just brought home—here's the dialogue.

"Nice plant, Mommy!"

"It's an Easter Lily—for ages it has been the Easter Flower." says her mom.

"But know what? I think the Easter Flower should be a **ROSE!**"

"Cause of what Jesus did— He **A-ROSE** from the dead!"

