



THE ENCOURAGER

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

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Finding Out What Matters

The signs on the walls in Amanda's classroom say lots of things. It is not about rules for class behaviour though it is important to have rules! It is not about the Bible Stories her class has been learning either though there is great value in putting them up there where all will be reminded. Nor is it just nice attractive posters to look at though they too have their place!

Just for a moment let me take the role of Sheena. The sign talks about Me. It says more than just a little! It tells me that I am important to my teacher and that I have a place in this class. If you look around the classroom you will see other things that have my name on them. They really say a lot about Me.



1. My teacher thinks I am special. She made a **"The Wonderful Kids in My Class"** Sign—and then she let us write our names in our favourite colour on it. Every time I see it—I am reminded that my teacher believes that I am wonderful too.

2. The others in the class can see that I have learned a lot of solid Bible truth. **"The Verses I Have Learned"** — tells it's own story.

3. There is one sign up there **"All about Me"** that tells about the things I think and do (my teacher can learn a lot about me from what I have written down). I might not get the chance or be brave enough to say all of this out loud but I can write these things right from my heart.



4. The sign on the left

tells it's own story

"How I Like to Be Treated" -
Sheena
I don't like to be bossed by others.
I don't like people that fight.
I want someone to listen to me.
I don't want to be badly hurt.

5. Another sign— **"The Walk of Fame"**—tells about my mom and dad and me. It has pictures too— I drew one of "Me" and my teacher took one as well.

Sheena

So what does all this say:

A. It says something very tangible to the Student — that they are not a number or a statistic but the most important thing about the class! Let's not lose sight of the value of a soul—and the potential for God's Grace in them!

B. It says a great deal more to the Teacher who reads what is written and the things that are indicated 'between the lines'.

We are given several strong hints as to the people and things and stresses that are part of this student's life. We are given insight into the tremblings of a little girl's heart. We are reminded that this child has made an effort to attend and to learn the memory work assigned. We are made aware again that there are questions that need answering and there are precious souls that need someone to listen to them. We are told that there are some things she considers most precious.

Let's be reminded of 3 things. 1. How important it is to stop, look and listen! 2. How instructive to take the time to see the things that are right there to help us understand. 3. How intelligent it is to apply the Word carefully and lovingly to what we know that there might be eternal results.

