

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."
—ECCLES. 12:1

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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A VACATION SCHOOL? WHY?

In your city, in my community, all about us, are children who are growing up without ever experiencing the intimate, personal touch of Jesus Christ in their lives. There are scores of boys and girls, from tots to teen-agers, who know literally nothing about God, about the Bible, the Word of God, and of Jesus Christ as a Saviour from sin.

Gone indeed are the days when parents gathered their children about them to read God's Word and teach them to pray. Religious education in the homes of today is practically non-existent. Grace no longer precedes the family meals. Mother is too busy to hear the once familiar, "Now I lay me down to sleep." The Bible story books which once filled an important shelf in a child's library have now been replaced by faith-destroying, crime promoting comic books. Picnics, car drives, sports, home work are the order of the day now for the Sabbath, with no time for church.

At public school the emphasis is on the child's intellectual nature. Except for a few verses of Scripture hastily read and the indifferent mumbling of the Lord's Prayer, the average child can glean little there of spiritual value. And while the religious education in our schools continues its gradual decline, the steady, infiltrating progress of the doctrine of Evolution strikes its faith shattering blow.

But how about the churches, are they not reaching the children? Thank God, the churches are awakening to the necessity of saving the children! For decades past the church has been placing the emphasis on the sheep of the flock while the lambs went unnoticed and unfed. We are now reaping the results. A pitiful minority are the parents who bring their children to church and Sunday School. Few—when compared with those attending public school—are the children who attend Sunday School regularly. And many are they who never come under the influence of a religious environment at all. The Sunday School at best provides only between 25 and 30 hours of Bible instruction yearly.

It was to bridge this gap that the Daily Vacation Bible School came into being. Here in a ten day vacation period the child can receive 30 additional hours of concentrated Bible study. Through songs and choruses, object talks, and flannelgraph lessons, the Word can be implanted in the young minds in a never-to-be-forgotten manner. Expression too has its place in the co-related handwork, and a supervised recreational period completes the well-rounded programme prepared for the various age groups. But best of all D. V. B. S. provides the time and privilege to deal individually with the children and lead them into a vital, personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ which in the average Sunday School is impossible.

The challenge is before us. But we need your help. The task is too great for so few. Would you not like to share in the joy of leading one of these little ones to Christ? You can help!

"He that gathereth in summer is a wise son, but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame." (Prov. 10:5).

EILEEN FLANDERS

DELIVERANCE OR DISAPPOINTMENT?

The Eleventh Hour is an Hour of Haste. Why Postpone Your Soul's Salvation? Seek Christ Now?

Professor Drummond, in one of his books, graphically tells the story of an overladen coal-barge, which stood in the river. A sailor reported to the captain that the water was gaining upon the vessel, but he was driven away with scoffs.

Twice, thrice, the warning was repeated, and each time went unheeded. At last the barge began to give evidences of sinking. The captain ordered the men into the boats, and they took their places. He then said, "I told you there was plenty of time." Then he took out his knife to cut the cable which bound the boat to the barge. He fell back with a cry of horror—the cable was an iron chain!

The eleventh hour is an hour of haste, danger and disappointment. The thread becomes a cord, the cord a cable, the cable a chain. The time to get clear of a sinking craft is now. And the time to turn from sin, to forsake wrong-doing, to cut every cable of evil habit, appetite and passion is today. NOW is the accepted time? Delay may mean danger and death.

NEVER—

Put off till tomorrow what it is your duty to do today.

Be too reserved to say you are sorry for a man, woman or child in trouble.

Grumble. It never has done, and it never will do, yourself or any one else any good.

Say you love souls, if you cannot suffer for them.

Say, "I can't" if you have never tried.

THOSE NASTY JOLTS!

May Prove to be Jars Containing Honey and Blessing

When you get a jolt in life, don't resent it. It may do you a world of good. Many a blow is struck in the erection of a building.

Many years ago there was found in an African mine the most magnificent diamond in the world's history. It was presented to the late King Edward VII. to blaze in his crown of state. The King sent it to Amsterdam to be cut. And what do you suppose happened to it?

The expert took the gem of priceless value, and cut a notch in it. Then he struck it a hard blow with his instrument, and lo! the superb jewel lay in his hand cleft in twain. What recklessness! What wastefulness!

Not so! For days and weeks that blow had been studied and planned. Drawings and models had been made of the gem. Its quality, its defects, its lines of cleavage had all been studied with the minutest care. The man to whom it had been entrusted was one of the most skilful gem-cutters in the world.

Was that blow a mistake? No, it was all in the plan, and was the very thing that brought the gem to its most perfect shapeliness, radiance and jewelled splendor. The blow instead of ruining the value of the stone immeasurably enhanced its value.

So, sometimes a stinging blow falls in the

shape of a stern rebuke, or it may be that something unpleasant occurs for which you are not responsible. Never mind, you will be wise to regard the experience as an instrument to polish your character, and whereby you may be profited.

God is the Master Gem-Cutter and in His hands we are safe. He will make us to blaze in His diadem.

Like the stars of the morning,
His bright crown adorning;
We shall shine in His beauty,
Bright gems for His crown.

USEFUL RECIPE

Take equal parts of Kindness,
Unselfishness and Thoughtfulness;
Mix in an atmosphere of Love;
Add a piece of Usefulness,
Scatter a few grains of Cheerfulness,
Season with Smiles, and
Dispense to everybody. —Sel.

EVER—

Strive to do your duty, come what may.
Be ready to extend a helping hand to the distressed.

Face your trials bravely, and with prayer.
Acknowledge your gratitude to God, and encourage His people.

Show the world by your life that you are a lover of souls.

Remember that "can" is four-fifths of the word "can't."

CHILDREN'S CORNER

OUR BIBLE STUDY

Frances Moses

We've been studying the Bible as a whole, and now we are going to start to study the first division which is called the Pentateuch (pronounced, Pent-a-tuke). This is the name given to the first five books of the Bible. Can you name them? That's it, Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. The book of Genesis, called the book of beginnings, tells us the story of creation and about the flood, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. The book of Exodus tells us about Moses and Aaron, and their leading the people of Israel out of Egypt. It is here in the twentieth chapter that we find the ten commandments. Now, Leviticus is the book that tells us about the Laws that governed God's people. Isn't Numbers an odd name for a book? It is called that because it is this book that records the numbering and counting of the tribes of the people of Israel. Deuteronomy is a book of review. It reviews the law of Exodus and Leviticus and the numbering of Numbers.

Now these books are all written by Moses. The first book, Genesis, was given to Moses by God to write so that we would have a record of what happened before Moses lived. The other four books are written by Moses about the journeys of the people of Israel. Now don't we feel more acquainted with those first books of the Bible?

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are called according to his purpose."