

THE ENCOURAGER

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

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**Urgent
Action
Needed!**

Number of people in the world
as of Jan. 2004

6.339 BILLION

Based on those population
figures BibleHelp.org makes
the following estimate of the
number of souls that leave this
world for a lost eternity.

1.68 per second

101 per minute

6048 per hour

145 thousand daily

53 million yearly

**3.7 Billion per your
average lifespan (70 years)**

Passing onward, quickly passing
Naught the wheels of time can stay,
Sweet the thought that some are
going—

To the realms of perfect day.

BUT THAT IS NOT ALL....

Passing onward, quickly passing
Many on the downward road.

AND... what are we
willing to do about it?



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Sunday School Management

God is not the author of a tumult, or unquietness. "Let all things be done decently and in order". These two verses 1Cor. 14:33,40 certainly have bearing on the work we do both in Sunday School and every other function we fulfill in public service. Here again we bring you some sage words from an esteemed Children's Worker—O.G.C. Sprunt—

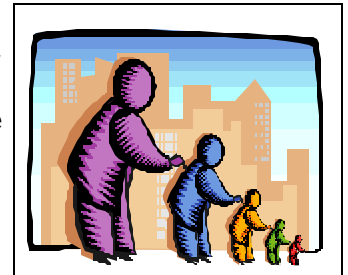
Sunday School work is part of the testimony. No school can remain long in a healthy condition where there is not good order and godly management.

Responsibility—We know there are small companies of believers in many places, and all the responsibility of the Sunday School, as well as other matters may fall upon one or two brethren. Let them keep at it and God will bless. With larger numbers, one brother should have the general oversight of the Sunday School or Children's effort, and could be well served by being free from teaching an actual class. He has a heavy load to carry.

Consideration—The Superintendent should not act in an arbitrary way, so as to cause the teachers to feel that they are 'under authority' but he should give leadership to the work. Once-a-month Teachers' Meetings are a good thing. The superintendent can ask for (*and should be willing to receive*) free expression of opinion. At such meetings all matters can be fully discussed and all sides heard. When there is not oneness of mind, it is wise to give time that the matter may be more fully considered. A superintendent should not force things through that might mar the harmony among his teachers. There is great wisdom in the proverb, "In the multitude of counselors there is safety." (Proverbs 11:14).

Organizing Classes—At these meetings the organization of classes and the promotion of pupils from class to class should be discussed. Might I offer the suggestion that eight or ten scholars are all that an ordinary teacher can manage well. The children should be, as nearly as possible, of the same age. This enables the teacher to speak according to the intelligence and capacity of the pupils. The habit of older girls bringing very young brothers or children to the class should be discouraged, as it distracts from the lesson and is a real hindrance. Younger children are better taken care of in the tiny tots class. The classes should not be huddled together, if it can be avoided. *Adequate buffer zone space aids greatly both teachers and hearers.*

Changes—When it is desirous to re-arrange the classes, this should be done as far as possible with the knowledge and consent of teachers concerned. Teachers are to be considered in this matter, especially when they show a special interest in the spiritual welfare of any particular student. On the other hand, teachers should be willing to part with scholars, even if they are personally attached to them, when it is for the child's welfare and for the general good of the group. When children are being changed from one class to another, it is better to speak of 'promoting' children rather than of changing or transferring them. *And perhaps some little ceremony or certificate might also make the change more readily acceptable.*



Sunday School
Superintendents have
'a heavy load to carry'.

