Kenyon’s Living Bible Studies

Child Evangelism

By Norma Bates

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Lesson 1
"Eternal Children"

Do you know your child's Eternal,
That it will out live the sun?
It was planned for bliss supernal,
When its race on earth is run.

Have you reared a family altar,
And the blessing asked at meals,
So your child need never falter,
When the tempter near it steals?

Have your wordly sin forsaken?
Do you walk the narrow way?
All a parent's duties taken,
so your child need never stray?

Have you LED THEM TO THE SAVIOR?
Have they found the way of life?
Do they rest in heavenly favor,
While they live 'mid sin and strife?

Will you meet them in Heaven?
Will there be an absent one?
When he asks for what he's given,
Will He answer you, "Well done?"

Eternal children, can it be,
That God in love has given me?
When earth and stars have passed away,
They'll just begin their endless day.
--E.W. Kenyon

If you should walk down any average American street and choose, at random, fifteen children, you would find only five of those fifteen receiving religious training, and that including those of Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish faths.

Only one of those five children remain in Sunday school after twelve years of age.

Two out of every three children in America are in no Sunday School.

Eighty percent of those in Sunday school are unevangelized.

Priscilla was just ten years old and started attending an after-school Bible class. She was thrilled with the lessons she learned there.

One day she received the Lord Jesus Christ into her heart and was Saved.

She showed her teacher her Bible saying, “I’ve earned two Bibles and always gone to Sunday School. Why didn’t they tell me that Christ died for me? Why didn’t they tell me?”

As the little girl repeated the question over and over again, we turn our thoughts to the millions just like Priscilla who have never been told.

“How then shall they call on Him whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?” Romans 10:14

Today there are 30,400,000 boys and girls under the age of twelve in the United States without any religious instruction.

There are 1,000,000 children unchurched and unreached in the state of Washington.

I have known many Christian women, who, although having taught Sunday School for years, say, “I just would not know where to start to lead a child to accept Christ as his personal Lord and Savior.”

Jesus said, “But who shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.” Matt. 18:6

“And so with the sheep,
We earnestly plead
For the sake of the lambs today;
If the lambs are lost,
What a terrible cost
Some sheep will have to pay!”

What a solemn and inevitable truth! God have mercy on us for neglecting the Spiritual welfare of precious boys and girls.

SOME SHOCKING FACTS

Recently we traveled from Canada to Mexico and our ears and eyes were open all the way. We found the Spiritual plight of boys and girls about the same wherever we went.

Washington, Utah, Texas…millions and millions who have never accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

I have worked among Anglo-Saxon, Mexican, and colored children, and I find, irrespective of race or color, little hearts anxious to have a savior. Little eyes of any color sparkle with tears and joy at the realization of sins forgiven.

Many do not know that the Son of God ever came to earth.

The great majority do not know that Christ died for them.

Many, many have said that they thought the Lord was merely a cuss word.

This may shock you. I pray that it does, and that you will want to do some investigating yourself!

Wherever you live, go to the nearest place where children congregate to play, question those who come into your home to play with your children, ask questions, draw them out, and find out what they know about Salvation.

Friend, Satan , the great deceiver, has tricked us. Because we have considered America Christian, and a land of Religious freedom, we have taken it for granted that our children know the fundamentals of Christianity.

THEY DO NOT!

What will the future nature of our "Christian" nations be, if two out of three children are allowed to grow up with no knowledge of the Word of God?

I believe that the future of Christianity and the Church in these nations, as well as the future of these nations themselves, depends on what the Christians do or do not do about this matter.

This generation of children will be men and women in a few years, so that which is done must be done quickly. Children do not wait.

SOME SUGGESTIONS

I do pray that you will prayerfully study these lessons. I pray that the Father will use every Scripture, every suggestion, every thought, every testimony, to burden your heart to reach lost children.

I am happy to show you the statistics I have gathered; to tell you of teaching experiences I have had and those of other teachers and parents; and to give suggestions, helps, and methods to use in reaching children.

Do study and pray over these lessons. Follow them through and study each Scripture verse.

When you answer the questions at the end of the lesson, add bits of testimonies, observations and teaching experiences you have had. They will instruct, encourage, and strengthen others.

"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest." Luke 10:2

You must realize that every hour a little child is outside the Ark of Safety his heart is growing harder and Satan is constantly at work, while the Savior stands helplessly by, waiting for you, His ambassador, to take the Good News to the precious lambs.

"Our boys and girls, growing older,
Are the lambs of Jesus' love;
He, to make them fit for heaven,
Gladly left His home above.

Our boys and girls, growing older
Cannot long from sin be free;
And to us 'twas left to win them
If they would God's children be!"

More is being done now to reach boys and girls with the Gospel than has ever been done before. Many believe the next great revival will be a children's revival.

A <u>special</u> effort to reach children is being carried on in nearly every foreign country today.

THE WORLD NEEDS THIS MESSAGE

I worked with Dr. Kenyon a number of years in his office, school, church, and over the air. His ministry has meant much in my own life. What a privilege and joy to be able to see its effect in the lives of countless others.

His unusual expounding of the Scriptures has given to multitudes a new lease on life here, and a future life "Up There."

Now the world needs his message of faith today.

Boys and girls must have it.

I witnessed the birth of "Kenyon's Herald of Life" and his Bible studies and Correspondence courses.

How thrilling it has been to watch them circle the globe!

Most of you have taken one or all of Dr. Kenyon's correspondence courses. I am glad for this.

He has convinced us that the Pauline Revelation is for US. The New Covenant truth is priceless for children. We really have a message to give them.

It takes faith in the Word of God to lead a child to Christ. Here your own understanding of the New Covenant is involved. What of the integrity if the Word? What

of the reality of redemption? How can you know if children will "hold out"? Why teach children that Satan is a personality?

Dr. Kenyon has said:

"God has done all that He can do in our redemption.

"He gave His only begotten Son a substitute for our sins.

"His finished work meets every need of man.

"He perfectly satisfied the claims of the Supreme Court of the Universe against outlawed man.

"When He planned our redemption it covered every need. He knew what was required.

"He furnished a Redemption that utterly meets the need of every man, woman, youth, and CHILD."

MANY REASONS FOR CHILD EVANGELISM

There are many reasons why ALL Christians should engage in Child Evangelism.

1. Perhaps the greatest reason is the fact that children NEED eternal life. In Matthew 18:11 we are told, "For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost." In speaking about children, Christ inferred that children are LOST and NEED a Savior.

2. Christ died for children as well as for adults. He loved them dearly and shed His blood to save them.

3. Satan is seeking to increase his power to a greater extent over a child every additional day of his life. His aim is to mislead and destroy both body and soul.

4. Children may die.

5. Christ warns of the penalty for neglecting them. Matthew 18:6-10

6. “It is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.“ Matthew 18:14-32

7. It is a wonderful thing to receive Eternal Life in childhood and escape a life of sin and its scars.

8. “Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will
not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6

9. The nations of the world can never be evangelized unless children are reached.

10. There is a rising tide of juvenile delinquency.

11. Many public school studies are anti-Christian. There is a planned attempt to rob every child of his faith in God. The subtle philosophies of communism, atheism, and evolution are introduced in the lower grades now. We need to give children more Bible teaching.

12. A child must be born again and taught before he can confess the Lordship of Christ. How we honor the Father by inviting Him to plan our lives!

QUESTIONS

1. Name five great reasons why we should lead children to Christ.

2. How many children in the U.S. are unreached and untaught?

3. How many boys and girls in Washington State need the "Good News"?

4. What percentage of children leave Sunday School unevangelized?

5. How can we "offend" a child? Matthew 18:6

6. What has been one of Satan's subtle tricks to blind us in regard to Child Evangelism?

7. Why is it important, as children's workers, to have a clear understanding of Paul's Revelation?

8. Why does it take a special measure of faith in the Word of God to lead children to Christ?

9. Why does every day count in neglecting to evangelize a child?

10. Who should engage in child evangelism?

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By Norma Bates
Lesson 2
"How Old Ought I to Be?"

" Dear Mother," said a little child.
"Please whisper it to me,
Before I am a Christian,
How old ought I to be?"

"How old ought you to be, dear child,
before you can love me?"
"I always loved you. Mother mine,
Since I was tiny, wee.

I love you now and always will,
” The little daughter said.
And on her mother’s shoulder laid
Her golden, curly head.

“How old, my girlie, must you be,
Before you trust my care?”
“Oh, mother dear, I do, I do,
I trust you everywhere.”

“How old ought you to be, my child,
To do the things I say?”
The little girl looked up and said,
“I can do that today.”

“Then you can be a Christian, too;
Don’t wait till you are grown;
Tell Jesus now you come to Him,
To be His very own.”

“Then , as the little maid knelt down,
And said, “Lord, if I may,
I’d like to be a Christian now,”
He answered, “Yes, today.”

---Author Unknown

Through years of experience and work with children, I am thoroughly convinced that childhood is the God-appointed time to receive Eternal Life.

Not only can little children believe, not only will they be lost if they do not believe, but our Lord made it our duty as believers to bring them to Christ to receive Eternal Life.

God’s plan has ALWAYS included the child. “And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children.” Isaiah 54:13.

It seems to me that we do not give the child credit for understanding (undoubtedly the subtle work of the adversary) until he has passed through this reachable and teachable period. Then we realize he has begun to wander, so we feverishly work to “reach” him and “hold” him.

Richard Lewis has said, “There are NO good reasons for allowing a child, placed by the Almighty in a purposeful period of some dozen years of dependency upon others, to grow out of his faith-life into a period of doubt, and then have to gather together all the Church and Sunday School forces for a campaign intended to lead him back into a trustfulness he has so recently cast aside.”

“Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth. While the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them.” Ecclesiastes 12:1.

Mark 16:15 gives the Christian his commission and marching orders, “Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.”

Is a child a Creature?

The Epistle to the Ephesians is addressed to the “saints”, but among those addressed are the children. Ephesians 1:1, 6:1.

So we conclude that children in the family of the Ephesian Church we Saints. Only Believers were called Saints.

A like reference occu8rs again in the Colossian letter. Colossians 1:2, 3:20.

Yes, a little child can be led to the Lord for Regeneration; he is LOST if he is not led to the Lord.

Each little child has a SOUL. He will spend Eternity somewhere and if he does not come to Christ after the tender age of accountability, he will not spend Eternity in Heaven!

God has made a little child humble, teachable and trustful for a purpose!

How sweet is the natural Faith of a child.

I truly thank my Father that He led me to guard and nurture the natural Faith that was in my daughter until her Faith could be based upon the Word of God.

Many Christian workers believe that most children receive Eternal Life at the age of twelve. I have not found it so. I find that y the time a child is about ready to leave grade school he is definitely difficult to reach.

We have made a dreadful mistake. We have given Satan free reign for approximately twelve years! Every hour a child is outside of the Ark of Safety, Satan is at work and the heart grows harder.

How logical it is that Satan would have us believe that children are safe. If he can keep us asleep on the job, cause us to neglect and procrastinate, to misinterpret Scripture and underestimate the value of a child’s Soul, he will give us a hard race by the time the child is twelve years old.

It is easy for a child to trust. Tell him that Jesus died and that He will save him if he will just trust in Him, and his simple child-like way he can trust Him with no difficulty at all.

"Faith," as one little girl said, "is taking God at His Word and asking no questions."

An adult has a hundred and one things to question and unlearn before he is willing to trust the Lord Jesus.

A child is not steeped in sin; he does not have fixed, wicked, sinful habits as an adult has. It is easier for a child to be Saved.

A child's conscience is not seared, but instead it is very tender. When they have confessed Jesus as Lord, they will be grieved over the little sins which often times adults do not even notice after they have become Christians.

God INTENDED they should be won before the evil days some upon them.

Many statistics show that our great Christian Leaders are those who were saved as children and grew up with the knowledge of the Lord.

THE LOGIC OF WINNING CHILDREN EARLY

How helpless a little child is to help himself. He is unable to find the Way by himself. He cannot question nor read.

I have known Christians who insist that we must make no effort to bring the child to Christ, that the Holy Spirit must deal with him until he comes by himself, and that he must choose his religion.

In the eighteenth chapter of Matthew, verses thirteen and fourteen, Jesus gives us the parable of the lost sheep. This follows immediately the verse which declares that little children are lost.

In these verses He makes it the duty of His disciples to go out and find the lost children and bring them into the fold, as a faithful shepherd would do if a single sheep had gone astray.

How ridiculous this parable makes the idea that little children should come to Christ by themselves, for how could a lost sheep come back to the fold by himself without the help of the shepherd?
The shepherd, in this parable, is not the Holy Spirit or our Lord, but the disciples.

THEIR TRAGIC CONDITION

May God melt our hearts as we contemplate the tragic condition of the boys and girls, without Christ and without hope.

Whose fault is it, that only one-third of the children in America go to Sunday School? Whose fault is it that 30,400,00 have never heard the Good News nor had a chance to receive Eternal Life?

Surely it is not the fault of the dear innocent children. No, they are victims of OUR OWN inconcern and sin.

Conditions now are similar to that which existed in Israel in the time of Jeremiah. Read Lamentations 2:11, 19; 4:4; 5:21,22.

Jeremiah, the "weeping prophet", was weeping over the plight of the little children in that land.

The adults were suffering too, but they suffered because of their sin, their having forsaken God. They knew the way back, but the children were the innocent victims of the folly of their parents.

DO YOU CARE?

All over the world children are starving for "bread of life" and are dropping into eternal Hell!

Do you care? Do you REALLY care?

If a little child who lives on your street were run over by an automobile, would you care enough to run out in the street and pick up that broken little body?

Would you care enough to weep when the child passed away?

Oh, yes, we can weep and we are unashamed of our concern about the physical welfare of our boys and girls.

But, have YOU ever done anything about that child's SOUL? Have you?

Oh, the unconcern of the average Christian!

Is it possible that we are more touched and concerned over earthly and physical things than over Spiritual and Eternal things?

How the heart of the Father bleeds over the impeding doom of these millions of lost children.

"For the Son of Man is come to Save that which was lost." Matthew 18:14.

In Jeremiah's time, God made it clear that the fault was wholly that of His own people. God didn't blame the unbelievers, the ungodly, and the enemies of truth, and neither can we.

THE LORD'S PEOPLE IN A NATION ARE RESPONSIBLE UNTO GOD FOR THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE CHILDREN OF THAT NATION!

We cannot blame infidels, agnostics, skeptics and modernists for the fact that most of the children are not Saved. God does not expect anything from them.

God makes it clear as crystal that it is the solemn duty of BELIEVERS to win them.

IT IS OUT DUTY

We who, by God's amazing grace, have Eternal life " by grace through faith" in the Lord Jesus Christ are to blame.

We have the message of Salvation. John 3:16.

We have the commission, "Go ye into all the world." Mark 16:15

We have the appointment as "Ambassadors". "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ". 2 Corinthians 5:20. We are to be "The salt of the earth", "the light of the world", and "My witnesses".

But we have settled back in smug complacency and are letting the precious children be lost. Our hearts are cold and unconcerned.

God grant that our hearts may be touched, and in genuine sorrow for past failures, determine by His grace, to "capture the children NOW for Christ."

How MUCH do we care? Most of us shrug our shoulders and say, "Too bad" . . . and that's about the extent of our concern.

The fact is that we JUST DON'T CARE!

We DO the things we are concerned about.

Do pray over this matter, renew your Fellowship with the Father, study these lessons carefully and prepare "That I might by all means Save some." I Cor. 9:22.

"Let none hear you idly saying
There is nothing I can do,
While the little souls are dying
And the Master calls for YOU."

QUESTIONS

1. Give two Scriptures which show that the Father's plan included the children.

2. What has Richard Lewis to say about the logic of reaching small children? Do you agree with him?

3. Who are the Saints?

4. Give ten reasons why childhood is the God-appointed time to lead children to accept Christ as their personal Savior.

5. A child possesses all characteristics necessary to come to God. List ten.

6. Give the Child Evangelist’s Commission and message.

7. Give four of the Christian Worker’s appointments

8. Explain fully, Matthew 18:12, 13,14. Who are the sheep and the Shepherd?

9. Explain why we can say that the condition of Israel in Jeremiah’s day was similar to ours today. Explain Lam. 2:11.

10. Prove, from observation and Scriptures, that Believers are responsible for Scriptural condition of their Nation’s children.

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Lesson 3
"TOO LITTLE"

Said a precious little laddie,
To his father one day,
May I give myself to Jesus,
Let Him wash my sins away?"

"Oh, my son, but you're too little,
Wait until you older grow,
Bigger folk, 'tis true, do need Him,
But little folks are safe, you know."

Said the father to his laddie
As a storm was coming on,
"Are the sheep all safely sheltered,
Safe within the fold, my son?"

"All the big ones are, my father,
But the lambs, I let them go,
For I didn't think it mattered,
Little ones are safe, you know."

Oh, my brother! Oh, my sister!
Have we too made that mistake?
Little hearts that now are yielding
May be hardened then . . . too late.

"'Ere the evil days come nigh them,
Let the children come to Me,
And forbid them not," said Jesus,
"Of such shall my Kingdom be."

--Selected

D.L. Moody believed in Child Evangelism. As a result of his great interest in a little child he had found in the street of a large city, the entire family met the Master.

Marion Lawrence stated, “Save an adult, and you Save a unit, Save a CHILD and you Save a multiplication table!”

Dr. George Bailey writes as follows: “Observation and experience justify the statement that less time and effort are necessary for the winning of twenty children than one adult 50 years of age. And other things being equal, a child won to the Lord at ten is worth more than in the extension of the Kingdom than many adults converted at 50 years of age.”

Dr. Charles H. Spurgeon, one of the greatest preachers, said, “The Apostles’ rebuke of the mothers who brought their children to Christ arose in a measure from ignorance of the children’s need.

“Also, no doubt, this feeling that children may not come to Christ may be derived from a doubt about their capacity to receive the blessings which Jesus is able to give. Upon this subject, if I were at this moment to deal with facts alone, and not with mere opinion, I could spend much time in giving details of young children whom I have personally conversed with, some of them very young children indeed.

“I will say broadly that I have more confidence in the Spiritual life of children that I have received into this church, than I have in the Spiritual condition of the adults thus received.

“I ill go even further than that, and say that I have usually found clearer knowledge of the Gospel and a warmer love to Christ in the children than in the adults.

“ I will astonish you still more by saying that I have sometimes met with a deeper Spiritual experie4ncee in children of ten and twelve than I have in certain persons of fifty or sixty.

“Capacity for believing lies more in the child than in the man.

“ We grow less, rather than more, capable of Faith; every year brings the unregenerate mind farther away from God, and makes it less capable of receiving the things of God.

“Some too, have hindered the children because they have been forgetful of the Child’s value.

“The Soul’s price does not depend upon its years. ‘Oh, it is only a child! . . . . They are a nuisance! . . . . Children are always getting in the way!’ This talk is common!

“God forgive those who despise the little ones!

“Will you be angry if I say that a boy is more worth saving than a man?

“It is infinite mercy on God’s part to Save those who are 70, for what good can they now do with the fag-end of their lives? When we get to 50 or 60, we are almost worn out; and we have spent all our early days with Satan, what remains for God?

“But these boys and girls, there is something to be made out of them.

‘If they now yield themselves to Christ, they may have a long, happy and holy day before them in which they may call them blessed. Whole nations may be enlightened by them.

“Oh, brothers and sisters, let us estimate children at their true valuation, and we shall not keep them back, but we shall be so eager to lead them to Jesus at once.”

Clarence H. Benson tells us, “A child is wax to receive, and granite to retain.

“A university professor in giving up a class of men in order to teach boys, gave as his reason, ‘If you were to write your name on brick so that it would remain, would you write it before or after it was baked?’”

“The Word of God, which promises regeneration to those who receive Christ, makes this promise to ‘Whosoever will’, and that included children; and the command, which has never been rescinded, to preach the Gospel to ‘every creature’, also includes children.” So writes Carleton E. Null.

Dr. Thomas E. Pool gives the following information in “The Free Methodist: “The following are some of the names of the leaders of the church and the ages at which they were converted: Bishop William Taylor, six years; Richard Baxter, three years; Esther Carson (missionary) four years; P.P Bliss, twelve years; John Fletcher, seven years; Bishop Asbury, seven years; David Brainerd, when a child; Adoniram Judson, four years; Adam Clark, four years; Bishop Clark, four years; Bishop Simpson, four years; Matthew Henry, ten years; Polycarp, nine years; Robert Moffat, about ten years.”

Please turn to the eighteenth chapter of Matthew. You will find the first fourteen verses are about children. Read this Scripture in other translations, if you have them. (Some translations omit verse 11).

You will find the word “Little” used seven times in these fourteen verses. Underline them in your Bible.

As you mediate upon this passage of Scripture, I am sure that you will be impressed with the importance, which the Lord Jesus gave to children in His teaching.

I would like for you to study this Scripture until you can take you Bible and give clear explanation of it, verse by verse.

The disciples came asking Jesus who should be the greatest in His Kingdom. Matthew 18:01.

They wanted to know who among believers would get the greatest reward.

Jesus told them in the clearest of words!

God's Word teaches that the greatest rewards God has to offer will be given to those who win Souls.

"The fruits of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth Souls is wise." Proverbs 11:30.

" . . . . . They that turn many to Righteousness (shall shine) as the stars for ever and ever." Daniel 12:3.

Paul that blessed old soul-winner, knew he had a "crown of Righteousness" waiting as a reward. 2 Timothy 4:8.

Since this is the case, you would expect Jesus to deal with soul winning if He were to answer this question, so that His answer would harmonize with the rest of Scripture.

And that is just what He did! The soul winning of little children!

Jesus gave a great object lesson in verse two. He called a little child and set him in the midst of the disciples and everything He said in the following verses, He said about this child or children like him.

The disciples did not seem to realize the children's need of the tender touch and blessing of Jesus, "But when Jesus saw it, He was much displeased." Mark 10:14.

Spurgeon, in on of his sermons says, with regard to this verse, "Certainly He (Jesus) was not often 'much displeased', and when He was 'much displeased', we may be sure that the cause was serious.

"He was displeased at the children being pushed away from Him."

In addition to the recordings in the Gospels, God's Word abounds with references to children, proving further their place and importance in the heart and mind of the Father.

How old was the child Jesus used for His object lesson?

Mark 9:36, 37 tell us that Jesus took the child in His arms.

Mark 10:13-16 gives us information about the children Jesus picked up and blessed.

He must have been a child not over seven or eight years of age. We cannot very easily picture Jesus picking up a big, long-legged child in His

arms when speaking to the disciples. It is not natural for a man to take a child in his arms unless the child is quite young.

“Except ye become as little children!” Matthew 18:3.

Little children are trusting, humble and teachable! Each of these characteristics is essential to come to the Father through Jesus Christ and accept the free gist of Eternal Life.

Jesus is surely teaching that it is easier for a chi9ld to come than an adult.

Children DO come when given the opportunity.

Jesus taught that those who would be greatest must place the proper estimate on the value of the Soul of a little child and act accordingly: that this shows true humility.

Matthew 18:5 puts high value on the little child.

Many doubt whether little children of six or eight can believe on Christ and receive Eternal Life. Jesus settled that question forever, for He said, “Whoso shall offend one of these little ones WHICH BELIEVES IN ME . . ." Matthew 18:6.

To offend (or cause to stumble) a little child is dangerous because of the child’s helplessness. What woe is pronounced . . . better to lose a hand or a foot!

Heaven regards a believing child of such value that each such child has a special angel. Matthew 18:10.

Children will be lost if they grow up without being evangelized, for Jesus said in verse 11, ""he Son of Man is come to SAVE that which was lost.” He was talking about little children.

The Lord gave the parable of the lost sheep in verses 12 and 13 to urge upon us they duty to go out after the children. There are millions and millions of them.

According to verse 14, when we seek to evangelize children, we are surely in the Father’s will.

That soul winning is the hardest work, is inevitable. Because it is the most effective sort of warfare against Satan, it is the kind of effort Satan most bitterly opposes, seeking always to lure us away from it by the subtle,

poisonous suggestion that we may harm the cause of Christ if we attempt if just now.

For this reason, it will never grow easy . . . . . nor ought it. Its costliness is the secret of its effectiveness, and when it is too easily done, there is grave question whether it is effectively done.

QUESTIONS

1. Name six great Christian Leaders who believed in and practiced Child Evangelism.

2. Give and explain Marion Lawrence's statement.

3. What had Spurgeon to say regarding the Spiritual Life, knowledge of the Gospel, capacity for believing, and Soul valuation of the child?

4. What two Scriptural reasons for Child Evangelism does Carleton E. Null give?

5. Explain the statement made by Clarence Benson.

6. Explain Matthew 18:1-4, verse by verse.

7. How many times is the word "little" used in these fourteen verses?

8. Why do we believe it was a very young child that Jesus used for His object lesson?

9. Give three Scriptures which promise rewards for soul winning.

10. Why is soul-winning the hardest work?

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Lesson 4

"THE HEART OF A CHILD"

"The heart of a child is a scroll,
A page that is lovely and white;
And to it as fleeting years roll,

Come hands with a story to write.

“Be ever so careful, O hand;
Write thou with a sanctified pen.
Thy story shall olive in the land
For years in the doings of men.

“It shall echo in circles of light,
Or lead to the death of a soul.
Give here but a message of right,
For the hear5t of a child is a scroll.”

■ Mrs. Bessie S. Ashton

It is comparatively simple top LEAD a little child to Christ. God has made a little child humble, teachable, and trustful.

It is not difficult to TEACH a little child. It requires much less of secular education and Revelation knowledge . . . no arguing and satanic-inspired objections here! Nothing to unlearn!

In Child Evangelism we must have the RIGHT MESSAGE, and we should be constantly working out the BEST METHODS.

If our message is not the Word of God, there is bound to be complete failure; and if our methods are slipshod and faulty we will have indifferent success.

Through ignorance we may teach unscripturally, cause to stumble, bring Child Evangelism into disrepute and hinder God’s cause.

It will be the finest thing if you have already taken Dr. Kenyon’s Correspondence Course on “The Bible in the Light of our Redemption in Christ.” In it, he gives basic teaching on the great plan of Redemption.

One just cannot alienate Child Evangelism from these basic teachings.

As Child Evangelists, we must possess a clear understanding of Redemption and the New Covenant truths.

God has given Dr. Kenyon a deep insight into His Word, and a remarkable ability to expound the Scriptures in such a clear way.

The Father has truly blessed his ministry in many marvelous ways.

Through his clear unveilings of the scriptures, thousands have received Eternal Life.

Thousands have come back into Fellowship.

Thousands have been healed, strengthened, and encouraged, both Spiritually and physically.

Without a doubt he has been the greatest builder of Faith this age has known.

Dr. Kenyon has been a Bible teacher for over 60 years. His life has been one of utter yieldedness to God's Word. He has unrelentingly driven himself to a constant and persistent study of the Word.

To him, and those who sit under his teaching, the Word does not remain a theory but becomes a living breathing personality . . . it becomes Christ Himself!

Dr. Kenyon states in his "New Creation Realities": "The Word was a living fact when Jesus spoke it. It is still a living fact.

"Reality throbs in it, flows through it, lives in it.

"The Word gets into your blood, into your system and becomes a part of you.

"You can so soak in the Word and the Word so soak in you, that your word and God's Word become blended into one.

"Treating the Word as though it were a common book is the reason why in daily life the believer breaks down, why the adversary has no trouble in overthrowing him in a crisis; the reason why he is a Spiritual hitch-hiker, always depending upon someone else's prayers, someone else's wisdom, someone else's interpretation of the Word.

"Let the Word of Christ become a Living Thing in YOUR lips.

"Speak the Word fearlessly!

"Let the Word live in you gloriously!"

What a message to give children!

No "flowers and butterflies" in this!

There is still some hope for the world if the Lord's people will prepare themselves and teach the truths and realities of the Word to the children.

THE LORD'S PEOPLE ARE NOT REALIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING THE <u>WORD</u>.

Nothing will take its place.

Religious education, moral teaching, etc., etc., have their place, but we, as Child Evangelists, must raise the Word aloft, and yet ever higher, so that the lambs will see the living personality there . . . . . Christ Himself!

Everything is being done to undermine the children's faith in God.

Those evil forces who wish to make America over" fully realize that Christianity is the great bar to their establishing the worldwide military dictatorship and money monopoly they have in mind.

The war on Christianity is on a worldwide scale, and is most intensively pushed right here at home, and all across our nation.

Perhaps you have not been aware of it. You have only to look for it in the "funnies", over the air, in children's books and papers, and they say the "movies" are infested with it.

I have not been there, but I have made it my business to gather authentic statistics.

J. Edgar Hoover furnished lists of pictures after which a wave of juvenile delinquency has swept every community where they have been shown. The shame of it!

Those subversives responsible realize that their most efficient means of combating Christianity is to teach the destructive evolutionary hypothesis to our American youth while in the formative period of life.

These destroyers know perfectly that this hypothesis is false. Greater scientists regard it only as a plausible theory without one single transition ever demonstrated.

My daughter has suffered ridicule and lowered grades in grade school and high school because she refused to give up her belief in the Genesis account of Creation.

Now what of the children who have no Spiritual training? God have mercy on America!

Great efforts are being put forth night and day to obtain absolute power over the schools and exclude the public, that built and maintains them, from any voice whatever in what is taught therein, claiming as a "right" of "academic freedom" to teach anything they see fit.

As a Christian parent I vigorously object to the great satanic pressure brought to bear, no, <u>forced</u>, on our youngsters in our public schools. It is not only a reprehensible practice, but also a transgression of religious freedom.

The average American does not realize to what extent our school textbooks have been tainted and contaminated with un-American propaganda.

The greatest potential danger in our school today does not lie in the unadulterated communist poison which some of our textbooks contain, but in the type of propaganda which is appealing, seductive and misleading in that cunning way in which it subtly, slyly, insidiously, but SYSTEMATICALLY, plants doubts and distrust toward Americanism in the minds of our children.

Many textbooks falsify history, cultivate class hatred, and tend to make radicals and criminals of our boys and girls.

The rising tide of juvenile delinquency is appalling. We almost hold our breath as we see the age of delinquency sink lower and lower. Boys and girls convicted of misdemeanor and crime before they are in their teens!

Communism, I believe, is the moral and religious breakdown of the home, the materialistic trend of our modern education, and the failure of the Church in evangelism.

How I wish I had the ability to show you the importance of giving the Word to the precious boys and girls.
The world is full of communism, in fact a whole string of "isms", cults, religious and irreligious.

If we do not major the Word, Satan will quickly move in and fill those little minds with the world's errors and Satan's planned program.

Now if you think your child is not being touched by these influences, it is high time you were opening your eyes for he is COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY THEM!

Someone has said, "The nation travels forward on the feet of its little children."

Oh, how necessary to evangelize the LITTLE ONES and lead them into the Word. It is the only sure and dependable guide through this cursed world dominated and ruled by Satan.

Oh, that God will lead YOU to reach and teach the little ones, is my ever-prevailing prayer.

If you possess Dr. Kenyon's "The Two Kinds of Knowledge". Read and ponder it again. It will greatly help you as you prepare to win souls of boys and girls. Lend it to the high school students of your acquaintance so that when they come to the boundaries of sense knowledge they will not turn philosophical, metaphysical or speculative.

As Child Evangelists and Christian parents we have the power (The Word) in our hands to lay a foundation that all the devils in Hell cannot destroy.

"Remember also they creator in the days of thy youth, BEFORE THE EVIL DAYS COME, and the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." Ecclesiastes 12:1.

The BIBLE is the Child Evangelist's textbook.

By reading and studying the lessons and books that Dr. Kenyon has prepared, you will gain a clearer understanding of God's great plan of Redemption than you have had before. They will lead you into a thrilling, closer fellowship with the Father.

Instead of leading us to the Father, as a tramp coming to the door begging for food, Dr. Kenyon teaches us to come as sons, not only claiming our legal rights but claiming the natural rights of a child that is begotten in Love.

How often have I heard him exclaim, “Christianity is not a religion; it is a family, a Father and His children.”

He has written a book entitled, “The Father and His Family.”

The three outstanding facts that Dr. Kenyon stresses are: (I give these because as Child Evangelists it behooves us to stress them.)

1. What God really did for us in Christ in His great Redemptive work.

2. What God does for us in the New Creation, through the Word, and by the Holy Spirit; building His Nature into us and making us like Jesus in our Love walk.

3. What Jesus is doing now for us at God’s right hand as Mediator for the lost, as High Priest for the believer, as surety for the New Covenant, as the Advocate for us when tempted, and as our Lord as Sustainer.

His studies will give you new light on the reason for Creatio0n, man’s treason and results, the reign of Spiritual Death, and the Incarnation, and Jesus as man’s Mediator.

In Child Evangelism work it is imperative we major the New Covenant teachings. Regardless of the lesson material we use, we may and must incorporate these truths and realities . . .. if we want the Bible to be not only the child’s guide, but his dearest and most intimate companion.

We have come to know that one cannot know the Incarnate One as we have seen Him in the four Gospels, unless we have had an opportunity to become acquainted with Him in the Epistles.

In the Gospels He is the Lone Man or Galilee, the humble unknown, who ends His earth walk on Calvary.

In the Epistles, He is the Risen, Triumphant One, the conqueror of death, sin and Satan.

He made possible the New Creation, a new race of men, who can stand in God’s presence without the sense of guilt, condemnation or inferiority.

(If you have Dr. Kenyon’s book, “Identification”, Please re-read it before you start Lesson5.)

QUESTIONS

1. Explain “the word is Christ Himself.”

2. What happens when we treat the Bible as a common book?

3. What study in our science textbooks combats Christianity? Explain.

4. Why is the Faith of our children being undermined? What do the evil forces want to accomplish?

5. What is communism, and how is it carried into our school textbooks?

6. Why is such effort being made to put the power of our educational system into the hands of a few?

7. What are the three outstanding New Covenant facts we should understand clearly?

8. Why do we need the Epistles to truly know Jesus?

9. Why is it extremely important, in this age, to give young children the Word? Explain fully.

Kenyon's Living Bible Studies

Child Evangelism

By Norma Bates
Lesson 5
"LIVING CLAY"

"I took a piece of plastic clay
And gently fashioned it one day,
And as my fingers pressed it still,
It moved and yielded to my will.

'I came again when days were passed,
The bit of clay was hard at last.
The form I gave it still it bore,
And I could change that form no more

"I took a piece of living clay,
And gently formed it day by day,
And molded with my power and art
A young child's soft and yielding heart.

"I came again when days were gone,
It was a man I looked upon,
The form I gave it still it bore,

And I could change that form no more."

■ Author Unknown

Satan seeks to keep us sin conscious and to rob us of our Son consciousness.

Almost all of the teaching today tends to keep the people under condemnation.

The ministry had never realized that its work is to free man from sin consciousness.

When we realize that we have been Born of Love, and that we have the love nature of God in us, we will begin to show forth the fragrance of Heaven. Romans 8:37.

Stand fast in the Liberty wherewith His Redemption has set you free, and start reaching and molding the little lives about you.

Jesus said, “I am the way.”

It is not a road; it is a PERSDON>

It is not a theory; it is REALITY>

I t is not a doctrine; it is LIFE.

Dogma and Doctrines have lost their significance. They are the worn-out shells of yesterday. They held us in bondage for years.

When we know what God did for us in Christ, what He does for us in the New Creation, what Jesus is doing for us now; when we recognize our standing with the Father confidently declare, “Greater is He who is in me, than any opposition or any lack that may confront me. As a Child Evangelist, God-created, God-indwelt, God empowered, and God guided, I WILL lead boys and girls to the Savior and lay a foundation which Satan and all his evil hosts cannot uproot.”

The New Creation is one with Christ. We are acting in His stead, taking over His work.

In the first chapter of Acts, Luke says by the Spirit, “The things Jesus began to do and teach . . .”

We begin where He left off. We take up the work He laid down.

He was the burden-bearer, the Lover.

We are His burden-bearer and love’s transmitters.

We carry His load with His ability.

He is living His life in us.

“It is no longer I That live, but Christ is living in me.”

His strength had made us strong and we take over the weaknesses and burdens of others.

We are not their critics, we do not condemn them because they have failed, but we take their burdens and let them walk by our side.

We do not condemn the one, who is held in prison by Satan, for we remember that once we were slaves.

We are the strength-givers, the burden-bearers, and the Light-leaders in the world of darkness.

What a ministry it is to take Jesus' place!
We are to love as He loved, pour out our lives as He poured out His.
Our identification with Christ puts us on the throne.
His identification with us puts us in the place of Child Evangelists, teachers, comforters, helpers.
We are Love's lips, Love's hands and feet.
Without transmitters, God in all His ability is helpless. His Love can find no expression except through the New Creation.
Can't you see, if we fail Him He is helpless?

What an opportunity we have! 2 Cor. 5:20.
What a responsibility! James 3:1.
What a message we have for the children. We should ask His forgiveness for neglecting to teach it to the YOUNG children.

"Arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches pour out thine heart like water before the face of the Lord: lift up thy hands toward him for the life of thy young children, that faint for hunger in the top of every street." Lamentations 2:19.

How splendid it would be if we all had a thorough and complete knowledge of the Word, how fine if we all possessed the qualifications for a PERFECT teacher and had a broad understanding of child psychology!
How wonderful if we could all just step right out this very minute and accomplish all we would like to for the Master.
How all wise our Father is! He told us that we must "grow". 2 Peter 3:18.

If I could become a Child Evangelist, winning souls to the Master with what I had, you can do the same with what you have, because it could scarcely be less!
I once heard a sermon on "Personal Evangelism." It really frightened me.
I had never doubted my Salvation, nor did I then, but I did not possess a special love for lost souls, nor felt I was to do Evangelistic work.
That night I could see just ONE thing . . .. I was to take Jesus' place and carry on His work; He was DEPENDING on ME!! How ashamed I was of my past neglect.
I went home and got on my knees with the two Scriptures God gave me that night, Phil 4:13 and Matt. 7:7, and told Him He would surely have to

supply me with all the “necessary equipment” . . . I was so ignorant of the Word, and felt so utterly helpless.

The best I could do at first was to carry tracts and leave them in public places. Then I had boldness to HAND one to a woman. She did not ask me questions I could not answer, but thanked me for the tract and read it! That settled it. After that I handed the tracts out.

I was not satisfied and kept reminding God of His commission and promises to help.

I later had boldness to speak to people about their souls. It was not easy. It never WILL be EASY. Any time that souls are about to receive Eternal Life, Satan and his co-workers are right there to try and snatch the seed out of the heart.

How bold and definite he is in his accusations!

I did not turn back, but studied to understand the Word and to “grow”, and trusted the Father to lead me. I pray you will do likewise.

We may not feel we are accomplishing much, but when God leads, He takes over where we leave off.

My first “sale” was to a father and a mother one morning, then to their 14-year-old daughter in the afternoon. (This girl died soon after.) This experience gave me my first definite impression of the importance of leading children to the Savior.

I hesitate to say it, but I doubt if I then had a working knowledge of over three of four Scriptures, but I gave them, and God used them to His Glory.

However, you can readily see it is not the wisest thing to start see the foundation and reality of the finished work of Jesus, until you know a few vital Scriptures.

The Word, of course, is the message you want to bring. You may draw illustrations from a wide field, but the truths you teach must come from the Word.

The importance of Child Evangelism grew as I observed my own daughter, Yvonne.

Having taught the upper grades in secular school I had had little opportunity to observe very young children.

I was daily amazed at the understanding and Spiritual depth that was manifested.

Yvonne has not only been my “laboratory”, but has taught me much about simple Faith in the Word.

How it grieves me to hear folks say, “Children cannot understand.”

Jesus did not say, “Little child, look at Peter what a fine fisherman he is. I trust that you will grow up and some day be like Peter. Here is Matthew. He is a successful banker. I hope that some day you will know as much about banking as Matthew.”

Instead of pointing to the elders as an example, He pointed to the child and said, “Except ye become as little children.”

When I started dealing with children there were not all the aids that are in print and use as now.

Everything I used had to be originated, created, and tried by the trial and error method!

I could find no one to teach me.

Be glad there has been such advancement in this field.

More is being done today for the Scriptural development of children, but not near enough.

The Master needs YOU!

He wants YOU with just what you HAVE.

He has given you Eternal Life.

You give Him yourself, and He will lead you into what ELSE you need to carry out His commission.

Don’t be afraid, hear His gentle voice, “It is not the will of your Father which is in Heaven, that one of these LITTLE ones should perish.”
“Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.”

Don’t forget, dear Christian friend, you are the fruit-bearing part of Christ.

WHAT IS CHILD EVANGELISM?

It is necessary in this study to clearly define the term “evangelism”.

It is an old term, and yet there is a great deal of misunderstanding and confusion as to its meaning.

The Greek work “Evangel” and the English word “Gospel” mean the same, that is, “Good News” or “good Tidings”.

The New International Dictionary defines “evangelize” as “to instruct in the gospel; to preach the gospel; to convert to Christianity.”

An “evangelist” is defined as “a bringer of gospel” or system of Christianity.

Child Evangelist is presenting Christ, God’s Son to the child as the only Savior from sin, and seeking to lead the child to receive Him.

Child Evangelism is also a teaching ministry.

An unsaved soul needs a Savior, not extensive teaching ABOUT the Lord. He cannot discern Spiritual truth until he is Born from Above, that is unless he has Eternal Life.

We lay the foundation first, then build upon it. I Cor. 3:11.

It is much more than teaching the Bible or seeking to interpret its meaning to the children, although this, properly done, is vital in this work.

There is always danger that baptism, confirmation, church membership, and participation in the Lord's Supper may become substitutes for Saving Faith in Christ, or put in place of the New Birth.

A Christian is one who has received Eternal Life, the nature of God the Father, be he four or forty.

You who are familiar with Dr. Kenyon's writings understand the Legal and the Vital side of the New Birth. Such precious truths.

Salvation can, and must be, presented as a Gift from the Father.

A child knows HOW to accept a Gift!

In Evangelism, we must use the WORD in every step.

We need not use the word "Believe" or "Repent."

Believing is really acting on the Word. When you believe or act on the Word, you repent, and you do not repent UNLESS you believe on the Word. Child Evangelism then seeks to lead the child to receive the Savior, and then to establish his Faith in the Word of God, and to lead him into a life of victory and service.

QUESTIONS

1. What should be the chief work of the ministry in regard to sin-consciousness?

2. What are some New Covenant facts we need to know to be better Child Evangelists?

3. Explain " we begin where Jesus left off".

4. Why is the Savior helpless without Ambassadors?

5. Why is it best to have a working knowledge of their basic truths of Redemption before starting Child Evangelism?

6. What is Child Evangelism in its fullest sense?

7. What are some of the things we must guard against putting in place of the New Birth?

8. What is Eternal Life?

9. What is the best way to present Salvation to a child so that he can understand more readily?

10. Why do we not use the words “repent” or “believe” in dealing with children?

Kenyon’s Living Bible Studies

Child Evangelism

By Norma Bates

Lesson 6

"PARENT'S OPPORTUNITY"

Oh, parents, are your children young tonight?
Are their eyes starry with life's wonderment?
Gather them close within the circling light
Of fire and lamp; tell them of Jesus,
Sent to lie upon a stable's fragrant hay,
A little babe, the earth's own Savior, King;
Tell them the story; give them this gift, I pray,
For now, and for their future comforting.

No greater thing can any parent give
To any child than this great glorious truth,
Foundation on which lives may build and live!
Oh, lay the rock of faith while there is youth!
So swift the years will carry them away,
Beyond your reaching hands, your voice's call!
Give them Christ, the greatest gift of all.

--Grace Noll Crowell

WHO WILL EVANGELIZE THEM?

First, the parents. In Eph. 6:4 believing fathers are commanded to bring up their children in the nurture of the Lord. It as the plan of God for a child to be led to the Savior by those whom God gave him . . .. his parents.

Second, the Church. In John 21:15 Jesus commands Peter to feed His lambs, little children. Peter was an Apostle or leader in the Church.

Jesus thus gave the Church the second responsibility for the Salvation of the children.

Third, Christians everywhere. In Matt. 18:12,13,14 the parable of the lost sheep is not dealing with children at home or in the Church but the UNREACHED. All His Disciples are responsible for their Evangelization, wherever they are.

The Divine purpose is that the first and chief responsibility for evangelizing of the child rests with his parents.

The first sphere of influence is the HOME.

The parent can never escape this, nor pass this responsibility to the Sunday school Teacher, Minister, or anyone else.

The teaching of Scripture is most plain on this point.

Genesis 18:19, of Abraham, God says approvingly, “I know that he will command his children and his household after him, they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment.”

Deuteronomy 4:9 “Keep they Soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them to thy sons and to thy son’s sons.”

Psalms 78:5,6 “He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our father, that they should make them known to their children, that the generation to come might know them, even teach them to their children: that they might set their hope in God.”

Ephesians 6:4, “Provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”

Dad and Mother, God gives the chief place to YOU, with the earliest and largest opportunity of influence.

This brings duty and responsibility, of course; but also high privilege and great blessing.

No one else has a right to that first place as long as you can hold it.

Thank God every day of your lives for all this, and resolve that you will make the best possible use of your rights.

When I hear a child of Godly parents say that So-and-So led him to the Savior, I am proud of the worker but sorry for the parents.

It will always be true that, whatever else they did for him, they did not lead him to the highest good . . . the Savior.

Do not leave the Evangelizing of your children to any worker or minister.

What right have they to the strongest gratitude of your child . . .. God gave this right to those who gave him birth.

Now unsaved parents, not valuing the honor, may b glad to think that, because of their unfitness for helping their children, they are free from the obligation; but they are not!

They ought to be Christians and ready to do the Father’s will. Their failure is a wrong to Him . . .. to their children . . . and to themselves.

Here the saddest feature of the matter presents itself to us.

Take a hundred children at random from out our streets and lanes, and inquire as to the character of their home influences.

It will be found that the vast majority have parents incapable of discharging their responsibility because they themselves know not God nor own His Son.

Ninety per cent of the children would be found to be Spiritual orphans, with no one to lay in their opening minds the sure foundations of the Divine Truth.

The pity of it!

As we look at these, in an unkind world, surrounded by all manners of evil influences, we say in our haste, “What chance have they?”

The answer comes back from the lips of the Master, “It is not the will of your Father in Heaven that one of these little ones should perish.”

Dad and Mother, there is a very important thing you should do TODASY . . . you should be sure your children are ready for heaven. ARE YOU?

You must realize they are LOST if they have never been led to the Savior.

You must realize they are not only precious to your own heart, but precious to the Savior’s heart, and lost Eternally without Him.

It is extremely difficult for some parents to discuss with their children the most vital thing in their lives, their need of receiving Eternal Life through Jesus Christ.

Surely this is one of Satan’s most subtle tools.

With some it may be indifference.

With others it may be actual ignorance, because there has been no personal contact between the Savior And the parents themselves.

We cannot teach others things we do not know ourselves.

I believe God intended each man to be the high priest in his home. To be God’s chief representative there, to rule the home for God, to lead his family in all Christian matters, even to Heaven. This clear from one end of the Bible to the other!

“YE FATHERS…. bring them (your children) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”

The Bible clearly distinguishes between fathers who have fulfilled or failed in their responsibility as parents.

Abraham was told that his posterity would become a great and mighty nation because “he will command his children and his household after him.”

Eli, on the other hand, lost his prestige and priesthood because “his sons made themselves vile and he restrained them not.”

Paul wrote Timothy that the office of bishop or deacon should only be conferred upon a man “that ruleth well his own house.”

God forbid that you, Dad, should ever be in a position comparable to that of Lot when the time of judgment came for Sodom and Gomorrah. It is heartbreaking to read in the account that when he went to his children and warned them to flee the city, “he seemed as one that mocked to him.”

In other word, they laughed in his face because he had failed to win them for God. They had no respect for their father.

We have a tragic ending to this story with Lot rushing from the city leaving his children behind to be destroyed because he had failed to win them for God.

Win them now, Dad, or some day they will mock at you and laugh when you try to win them to Christ.

"My father, thou art the guide of my youth." Jeremiah 3:4.

God said to Old Testament parents, "Ye shall teach them you children, speaking of them as thou sittest in thine house, and when thou risest up." Deut. 11:19.

When you study the causes of Israel's failure and terrible disaster, beyond question the main reason was their neglect of this supreme duty.

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.

"Remember now they creator in the days of thy youth." Ecclesiastes 12:1.

Read Eph. 6:4 and see how many like verses you can find in the New Testament. There are many.

Th great problem of the juvenile courts of America that are hearing increasing number of crimes every year, is to find a father who is willing to be a companion and chum to the delinquent boy or girl.

Napoleon was once asked what France most needed. The reply of this great man, who was a statesman as well as a soldier, was "Mothers".

Lincoln stated, "ALL that I am or hope to be I owe to my mother."

During the most impressionable year of life, the Mother is the child constant companion. From her he acquires the materials for the construction of his moral and Spiritual nature.

Juvenile delinquency follows a Mother's ignorance during the habit-forming days of early childhood.

J. Edgar Hoover stated bluntly, "criminals are homegrown."

It devolves largely on the Mother to make the home atmosphere what it is.

How many times in the Old Testament we find the name of the Mother given as apparently responsible for the MORALS of the ruler, just as the Father's name gave him status.

It is easy for parents to win their children to Christ if they begin in time and follow God'' plan. (Don'' wait another day in starting.)

First, family discipline prepares the heart of the child to become a Christian. Prov. 23:14.

A child who is spoiled and undisciplined and does not obey his parents will not want to obey God nor give up his way to trust and love and serve God.

Children need the daily Christian EXAMPLE of Father and Mother.

They should have the family altar or worship period, the reading of the Bible, prayer, and opening of the Word.

Christian parents, which are you more concerned about . . . that your son should enter the university or the Family of God; that he should pass examination after examination, or that he should pass from death unto life by Faith in Christ; that he should get on in the world, or that he should grow in grace and the knowledge of Christ Jesus? Let us be CAREFUL!

Dad, Mother, perhaps you have been heard to say, “They are too small, our home is Christian, they will grow into the Family.”

“Children cannot fully understand.”

“A child would have to receive Eternal Life in a different way than an adult.”

“Leave them alone, they will find their way to Heaven.”

“I don’t care what you say, small children cannot be won to Christ.”

That is EXACTLY what Satan wants you to say and believe.

But listen, according to Scripture, if you do not believe in winning children, if you do not believe they can be won, then you are hindering their Salvation, you are despising them, causing them to stumble, and leading them AWAY from Heaven.

A child is Saved by Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ exactly as an adult is saved.

A child needs Eternal Life just as an adult does, and he gets it just like an adult, by hearing and acting on the Word of God. John 5:24.

The ideal time to lead a child to Christ is between the ages of four and eight.

Regardless of age, if we receive the Gift, the Father gives us the right to become His child. John 1:12.

Dad, Mother, if you have unsaved children in your home, ACT UPON GOD’S WORD FOR THEM TODAY! Don’t put it off any longer, do your part!

QUESTIONS

1. Who is responsible for the evangelizing of the children? Give in order of importance.

2. Give three Old Testament references for Scriptures which command parents to teach their children.

3. Memorize and give Ephesians 6:4.

4. What percentage of the children in our nation are spiritual orphans?

5. Give four instances in which the Bible clearly distinguishes between Fathers who fulfilled or failed in their responsibility to teach their children.

6. What was the chief reason for Israel's failure in many cases?

7. Name at least five reasons why parents sometimes free themselves from this responsibility.

8. How does the Mother's place in the home differ from that of the Father?

9. Give four actions in the home, which will help parents to evangelize their children.

10. Does a child receive Eternal Life in a different manner than an adult?

Kenyon's Living Bible Studies

Child Evangelism

By Norma Bates

Lesson 7

"THE BUILDER"

A builder builded a temple,
He wrought it with grace and skill…
Pillars and groins and arches
All fashioned to work his will.
And men said as they saw its beauty,
"It shall never know decay."
Great is thy skill, O builder!
Thy fame shall endure for aye!

A teacher builded a temple,
With loving and infinite care
Planning each arch with patience,
Laying each stone with prayer.
Laying each stone with prayer.
None praised her unceasing efforts,
None knew of her wondrous plan,
For the temple the teacher builded
Was unseen by the eyes of man.

Gone is the builder's temple…
Crumbled into the dust;
Low lies each stately pillar,
Food for consuming rust.
But the temple the teacher builded
Will last while the ages roll,

For the beautiful unseen temple
Was a child's immortal soul.
---Pearlman

God has given to the Church the second greatest responsibility for evangelizing and teaching the children, yet 80% leave the Sunday School without receiving Eternal Life.

In New Mexico, 90% of those enrolled in public schools between the ages of 5 and 17 are totally unreached by any Church!

"I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly." John 10:10.

Our supreme task in carrying on the Master's work is to lead boys and girls to accept Christ as their personal Saviour and into this abundant life.

What do you mean to your pupils, teacher?

Do they see Jesus in YOU?

Do you love them as He would?

Are you walking in Fellowship with the Father so that you can love them into the Father's family? I Cor. 13:1

TEACHING OBJECTIVES

1. The Reality of God. Lead a child to know Him as his loving heavenly Father.

2. Eternal Life. "When it comes to winning souls the Pastor is across the street, the superintendent is at arm's length, but the teacher is face to face." The teacher is responsible for the Salvation of each of his pupils. What an objective! Scholars can escape conviction under collective teaching, but alone, face to face with the teacher, the issue cannot be dodged. Many are brought to Eternal Life through the individual touch. It is said that hand-picked fruit counts for more than wind-falls!

3. Fellowship. It is easy for a child to grasp the fact of fellowship between himself and the Father because he has confidence in those about him.

4. Testimony and Confession. Encourage children to speak. Give them opportunity. Only in this way will they develop freedom.

5. The Plan of Redemption. All should know the story. Even the very young can understand the basic facts, and when taught to do so, make the best of soul-winners!

6. The Word. "Feed my lambs." Faith life is inevitable when one realizes the integrity of the Word. Stress this fact in all classes.

7. Acting on the Word. The mind is renewed as on ACTS on the Word. Children will take their place if instructed right…teacher, that child's eyes are upon you; do YOU act on the Word?

8. The Christian's Place and Standing Now. Present the "Jesus way of life" a living reality to your pupils.

9. Prayer. Major the use of Jesus' Name in all its different phases. Give the child opportunity to pray in class. Children who have Eternal Life should be encouraged to keep a prayer list, even checking off answered prayers!

10. Christian Service. The new life is one which begins on the inside and works out. All children should be given much training and opportunity for service and love acts.

11. The Personality of Satan. It is vitally important that children know Satan IS a personality. They must know in order to guard against him. Eph. 6:11, 12.

No matter what lesson materials we are obliged to teach, the New Covenant message can and must be interwoven in all lessons.

Jesus was the TEACHER'S TEACHER. He knew His theme; He knew His pupils; He appreciated the good in pupils; He taught in simple form; He varied His methods, and taught by His personality.

The Teacher

The teacher embodies and personalizes Christian education. So important is this factor in our process that the pupil often sees no other.

"Teaching is the conscious act of the trained spirit of the teacher influencing the less-trained spirit of the pupil."

Needless to say, there are certain fundamental qualifications for a worker among children; we acquire and develop and grow in these as we go along. Most teachers are made, not born.

1. Like all of those who seek to win souls for Christ, regardless of age, the worker should know that he has been Born Again and repent with Paul,

2 Tim. 1:12.

2. He should have answered the challenge of Romans 12:1.

3. The teacher needs the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. (Read Chap. 12 of “The Father and His Family.”)

4. A teacher needs to pray much. Every pupil should be on his list.

5. The worker should be acquainted with the Word. Show children how to use the concordance. Do not be afraid to tell a child that you do not know the answer to a question, but do not forget to find the answer for him. 2 Timothy 2:15. A child will hold the same reverence for the Word as his teacher does. Handle it with care!

6. A teacher should walk in Fellowship with the Father. How important it is that a teacher should be one who enjoys Fellowship and Communion with Him. How much more effective our work is when the pupil realizes that we are a living example of the truth we teach! Fellowship gives us confidence, poise, and power. Guard it!

7. .A teacher should have enthusiasm and earnestness. Garfield once said, “See to it that you do not serve your pupils cold vitals. Serve them hot and steaming, and your pupils will have an appetite for your instruction.” Only as we act on the Word; only as sincere vitality, verve and enthusiasm characterizes our work will we get a real thrill out of teaching..or the pupil be set on fire to translate what he has learned into action. A fire is never started by dead embers!

8. Be a lover. A little boy quit attending his class in a large Church to go to a mission Sunday School. Asked why, he said, “They love a fellow

down there!”

9. Develop a pleasing personality. Teachers who are careful of their appearance, speech, and manners and are as gracious to a child as to the most honored guest are always more successful in their work than those who neglect these important matters.

10. Make every effort to understand the child. Not only must the Child Evangelist realize the wonderful possibilities hiding within the life of a child, but he must understand the child. Love for the child will lead the worker to enter into the child life, to seek to really understand the child. In order to do so, he should become familiar with the various ages of childhood. Educators have concluded that children may be classified according to age groups as follows:
INFANCY…. ages birth to 3
BEGINNERS. ages 4 and 5
PRIMARY….ages 6, 7, and 8
JUNIORS….ages 9, 10, and 11
EARLY ADOLESCENT.. ages 12, 13, and 14
MIDDLE ADOLESCENT…. ages 15, 16, and 17
LATER ADOLESCENT…ages 18 to 24.

11. Be prepared. One hour on the lesson during the first part of the week is worth ten at the end. The lesson will not only master the mind, but will affect the heart!
A. Pray
B. Study the Word
    1. Get setting
    2. Context
    3. Historical and geographical background.
    4. Consult other translations

C. Use lesson books, quarterlies.
    1. See what others have to say.
D. Analyze or outline lesson.
    1. Introduction
    2. Point of contact
    3. Approach
    4. Difficulties
    5. Climax
E. Always seek to connect lesson with pupil’s knowledge.
F. Move the pupil to action

G. Always go back, review, evaluate your lesson before you give it.

12. The lesson may be taught in many different ways:
   A. Recitation method.
   B. The lecture method.
   C. The questions method.
      1. Arouses interest
      2. Reveals point of contact
      3. Tests knowledge
      4. Leads the decision
   D. The special research method:
      1. Assign subjects
      2. Appeal to sense of duty
      3. Give <u>full</u> directions
      4. Expect and <u>ask</u> for work.

I believe a teach should be on the lookout constantly, to find new teaching-aides, ideas, plans, materials, suggestions, object lessons, helps, pictures, and so on. Make your efforts count…hold attention…get results!

Scientists declare that children remember ten percent of what they hear, fifty percent of what they see, seventy percent of what they say, and ninety percent of what they do.

Do not even try to teach in a noisy, disorderly confusion. Do not demand attention. Earn it!

Our problem is not to make a lesson interesting by tricks of methods, but to bring out of each lesson its intrinsic value. Teaching aides make truths live. They make us see things it tells; they stir hearts to feel and wills to act; they help to build character.

13. Always be prompt. Teacher, you pay a great price for arriving in class, tardy. Time yourself in the period it takes you to gain control of your class the next time they have assembled in their room…<u>before</u> you have arrived!

14. Devote much time to study of the Word.
   A. Study for Spiritual help.
      1. Consecutively
      2. Topically

3. Biographically
4. By books
5. Word Study

B. Study for pupil's needs.
1. Diligently
2. Prayerfully
3. Thoughtfully
4. Believingly

QUESTIONS

1. What percentage leave the Sunday Schools without having received Eternal Life?

2. Why is Sunday School a God-appointed place to evangelize children?

3. Name ten of the most important teaching objectives.

4. What outstanding qualifications for teaching did Jesus show?

5. How much do children remember of what they hear, see, say, and do?

6. Name the different methods of teaching a lesson. Which do you think is most effective?

7. Name seven steps which help in preparing a lesson.

8. Give the Sunday School age classification according to age and department.

9. Name two important reasons why the teacher should spend much time in study of the Word.

10. Name the five fundamental qualifications you feel most important for a teacher to have.

Kenyon's Living Bible Studies

Child Evangelism

By Norma Bates

Lesson 8

OPEN THE DOOR

Open the door for the children,
Tenderly gather them in,

In from the highways and hedges,
In from the places of sin:
Some are so young and so helpless,
Some are so hungry and cold;
Open the door for the children,
Gather them into the fold.
--Selected

Seldom is there a class in the Sunday School for the Nursery age: Those one, two and three year olds. However, I find a three old capable of learning a great deal, and I challenge the wisdom of skipping this fertile period in the Sunday School.

The young child should be taught in the home, but I have found that children from Christian homes are many times not taught as they should be.

Most Sunday Schools have a Cradle Roll Dept. which consists of a list of names of the nursery children. The Supt. enters the names, visits their homes, sends birthday cards, and keeps in touch with the little ones until they are old enough to come to the School.

There is real ministry here in send a good Christian periodical into the home, one with articles on child training, and with good Spiritual food.

THE BEGINNER DEPARTMENT
Ages 4 and 5

We must consider the four “general characteristics” of this age group: physical, mental, social and Spiritual.

1. Physical. The Beginner is active and playful. Growth is rapid, muscles are stretching, and the result is much restlessness. Among other tasks a teacher must provide outlets and guidance for the child’s energy.

2. Mental. The Beginner learns through the senses and questions. He is not full of doubts or unbelief. This is a rich time to implant Spiritual truths.

3. Social. The Beginner is self-centered and imitative. The child is the center of his own world, and thinks in terms of “I”, “me”, and “mine”.

4. Spiritual. The Beginner is credulous and trustful. Spiritual truths are accepted without question.

Physical Characteristics

Restlessness of this age is natural and normal. Annoyed grown-ups may frown and say, “be still,” but the Mother Nature smiles and says, “Keep on wiggling.”

The normal child of four and five is essentially occupied with four activities….all necessary.

He will spend the greater part of his time eating, sleeping, playing, and asking questions.

Much of irritability in children is due to improper nourishment and lack of sleep: in addition to the tricks of the adversary.

Dr. Kenyon tells us that the children born to parents who have received Eternal Life are easier to handle than those born before the parents were saved.

Then too, we who believe in prevailing prayer have a help and a confidence that the professional psychologists know little or nothing of.

Teaching by objectives and pictures is so essential at this period.

A child can gain much knowledge from what he sees. These children just cannot sit still and give their attention more than few minutes at a time.

It is possible to give a minute or two of rest and change every eight or ten minutes, it just has to be done, but teach a lesson by everything you use.

It rests the children to sing.

If I see they are getting restless, I just start singing a chorus they know, and soon they all join in.

It helps to clap the song, to stand, to work out motions; work off energy by being God’s tall trees; sway, reach, bend, and march.

If you want stories to leave a lasting impression, Act them out. Make them most simple; a chair will be a donkey, temple, chariot or any property needed at the moment.

When Yvonne was four I noticed her one-day playing in an apple box.

She was rocking the box and had the most horrified expression on her face. I was about to speak to her when she suddenly stood up, stretched out her arms and said very quietly, “Peace be still.” She then sat very still with her hands folded in her lap.

I started experimenting with these simple dramas and found them to make an indelible impression.

To grown-ups life consists mainly of work; play is a sideline.

We are therefore inclined to regard children’s play as of little value, but play is their business in life!

YOU CAN TEACH A CHILD VIRTUALLY ANYTHING THROUGH PLAY.

This is possible because he thinks in mental pictures, these are developed by play and so become real to him.

This “playing” gives relaxation, change, and teaches cooperation, friendship, manners, and gets them ready for a brief quiet period again.

Remember, we retain 90% of what we do.

Mental Characteristics

We must not suppress the natural instinct for knowledge (manifested by questions) but turn it in the right direction.

Answer the child’s question, add little more just then.

Do not be disturbed if a child interrupts your well-planned story with a question. Make it a golden opportunity to drive the truth home.

The beginner lives in a world of imagination and is very sensitive to every impression.

The newer education is in danger of going beyond the bounds of parental control.

Greatness of personality is NOT in self-assertion.

If parents will lead their child to Christ, train and discipline him, the world will not find it necessary to do so in later years.

The world’s discipline is harsh and cruel, and scarcely ever corrective.

Home discipline when properly administered is both merciful and corrective.

The world’s discipline, coming too late, is punitive and often destructive.

Social Characteristics

The little child is naturally self-centered. He constantly talks in terms of himself; yet this is not selfishness, his social instincts have just not yet awakened.

A redeeming feature of this trait is the fat that the child is sensitive to the feelings of others toward him.

Attitudes of approval or disapproval affect his feelings and consequently influence his conduct.

Children imitate those experiences that have impressed them. This aim is not the mere copying of a character, but attainment of an experience, which comes from imitating.

Knowledge of these facts should serve as a warning for adults. We are told of a teacher who was puzzled to know why her class of forty Beginners swayed from side to side with a curious kind of rhythm when singing. One day, with a shock, she realized that was exactly what SHE had been doing.

A good rule for adults is: avoid those actions, which you do not wish children to copy.

I have found this a wonderful period to teach reverence, lead children to praise the Father and thank Him for the everyday things they enjoy..they can recognize needs also. To know God hears and answers

prayer is no strange miracle to a Beginner..why should it Ever become such?

The very way a teacher picks up and holds her Bible teaches a reverence and respect that may influence and be instrumental in the child's salvation.

The Beginner is pliable, fertile soil..let us handle the "Seed" most carefully.

A four or five year old can learn the story of Redemption as easily as Mother Goose ditties.

He can learn the great Faith-building hymns as easily as the popular non-sensical jingles of the hour.

Too much of our Sunday School literature is substituting methodology for Bible content.

Spiritual Characteristics

The little child is naturally credulous. He believes everything you tell him. The child lacks experience to distinguish truth from falsehood, yet he does have some "instinctive knowledge". Remember the old adage, "You can trust a man whom children and animals trust."

Credulity and trustfulness may and should be turned in the direction of Spiritual and moral truths…….it takes teaching and training.

I believe a Beginner is naturally religious. I think it was God-ordained to be so. I believe a four or five year old can understand the story of Redemption, can see his need and can truly receive Eternal Life.

A child should be assured of having Eternal Life by the Word; not because he has changed his conduct, but because he has believed in Christ as his own Saviour.

When believing children fail and make a mistake, and we too severely condemn them, let us remember how we adult believers have failed many times, even with our greater knowledge and ability.

Let us remember that the "praise" of "babes" is perfected praise, compared to that of adults.

I have found if a child is Born Again he will manifest it. All in a different measure. Look for Scriptural proof: real love of the Father or of Jesus or for God's Word. A love for prayer or a supernatural love for other believers, or a desire to see folks receive Eternal Life is ample proof.

Dr. Kenyon says, "The great need of the hour is not more faith, but more knowledge that will produce an unconscious faith in our great Father God."

I have seen what has happened when I nurtured and directed the natural faith Yvonne possessed until it naturally merged with her knowledge of the Word and produced this unconscious faith. There has

been no evident “break” between that natural faith and that which has come through knowledge of the Word.

I always jealously guarded her natural infant faith, and have led her into the New Covenant Revelation as best I know how.

She is now at the age where most educators say a child can BEGIN to understand the simplest of Spiritual truths, if one can hold them in Sunday School.

There has never been a period of doubting or questioning in her life.

She is now at the age when most of the Sunday School children drop out, early adolescence.

A few months ago she unconditionally consecrated her life to God for all time to come.

She is still a child and makes mistakes as we all do, but I believe her Spiritual development proves many points.

Let us do all we can to help our children shoulder the responsibility of carrying the lighted torch or the Gospel after we are gone, if the Lord tarries.

REMEMBER…

It is better to drive ONE truth home than to partially teach half a dozen.

For Beginners take ONE major truth for the class period and correlate

EVERYTHING with that: prayer, song, story, New Covenant teaching, illustrations, handwork, memory work, etc.

REMEMBER to use the simplest of language.

REMEMBER, to the child, the Heavenly Father will be Loving, as YOU are Loving!

<u>QUESTIONS</u>

1. What four activities comprise most of the Beginner’s life?

2. Why do we say that we can teach virtually anything through play?

3. Why is home discipline to be preferred instead of that which the world gives?

4. Why must we be careful of our conduct before a four or five year old?

5. Why is this a good period to train for reverence and prayer?

6. How should we assure a child of his Salvation?

7. How should we look for Scriptural proof that a small child has been born again.

8. What is the greatest need of the hour, and just WHAT will produce it? Explain fully.

9. How can we lead a child to guard against a “break” in his faith in God?