

bine to give. It is absolutely necessary to throw around all teaching of the young an air of gladness and of holiday enjoyment, in order to make them associate that which is taught with all that is pleasant and agreeable. To teach children abstract theology is exceedingly difficult; but it is possible to make them connect the learning of God's word with all that is delightful and joyous to their minds. Take then, for instance, the *singing* of our Sunday Schools. Here you will see thousands of happy children joining with heart and soul in spirit-stirring songs, whose melodies will linger in their minds years after the days of childhood are past. To deprive a child of all this, to keep him from all the music, the illustrations and diversified enjoyments is, I maintain, a real wrong to the child. It is robbing him of some of the most charming scenes of youthful life, and preventing him from throwing around all the teaching of the Word of God the inexpressible charm of a pure and sanctified enjoyment.

My *Third* reason for advocating the Sunday School is: *Because it is absolutely necessary to teach our children Christian sympathy and self-denying activity.*

Now, if there be one fault more grievous than another found with us as a church, it is our want of fraternal sympathy both towards our own people and those of other communions. We may some of us be very rich, some of us very learned, all of us very respectable, but the truth remains—we seldom get nearer each other than the pews of the church. As one has well put it: "we have been frozen together by a mutual coldness, rather than united by a mutual love," and the result is our energies are crippled and our usefulness terribly marred.

If therefore you are anxious to retain this evil, by all means keep your children from the Sunday School, by all means let them grow up with the vicious idea that their parents do not approve of their even coming in contact with the common unassorted mass who may be found in the Sunday School, and that such people are on all occasions to be avoided, and *that* fatal impression will paralyze their energies and obstruct their