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Sunday School Banner.

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How the Home Can Help the School.

THIS subject is often discussed at Sunday-school conventions. It is one of great importance. Too often parents seek to roll off upon the Sunday-school teachers their own God-given responsibility to their children. This they can never do. No teacher or superintendent, however good; no school, however successful, can stand in the place of the parent. Long before the child enters the infant class it should learn in its mother's arms, and at its mother's knee, to love the Saviour. It should be told the sweet story of Bethlehem and Nazareth, and the tender meaning of Gethsemane and Calvary.

After the children go to Sunday-school, parents can do much to help the teacher. They should learn to duly appreciate, and be grateful for, the devotion and assiduity of the great army of Sunday-school teachers in our land who give

hours of study, with the best helps available, to the lesson of the day, and in winter's storm and summer's heat are found faithfully in their places, with unwearied love and zeal, seeking to win the scholars to the Saviour and instruct them in the way of eternal life. From our schools come the greater part of the converts for our churches. Those who early enlist in the service of the Master become His most faithful and valiant and successful soldiers in the grandest of all crusades—that against sin and wrong.

But this appreciation of the teachers and sympathy with their work should be practically shown. The young people should be liberally supplied with the lesson helps, the BANNER, Onward, Pleasant Hours and primary helps, according to their needs—all of which contain important and essential aids to the study of the Word of God. "He that provideth not for his own house," says St. Paul, "hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." If this is true with respect to providing daily bread, it is still more true concerning providing the Bread of Life. That father would be pronounced unfatherly who grudged his child the books and requisites for his day-school work. Shall he be less careful in providing the necessary helps for the still more important Sunday-school lessons, which are furnished at such trivial cost?

Not only should parents furnish these, but they should help the scholars to read them. They can do this by adopting the daily Home Readings announced in connection with the lessons. By thus taking an interest in these Sunday lessons, and reading them with the boys and girls, it is wonderful how interesting these lessons will be found, and what a pleasant topic of conversation they will furnish. Especially at the Sunday meals, when the father and mother, often busy throughout the week, have more time for conversation, a talk on the lessons will be found wonderfully inspiring and religiously helpful. We have known families where this plan has been found to establish a community of interest between parents and children, and to unite young and old in a sort of home class for the most profitable kind of study. It will make the Bible readings not a tame, perfunctory performance, but one of vital interest and earnestness. The scope of our schools can thus be enlarged to take in the whole family. Thus, the twenty million persons throughout Christendom who are now studying the same portions of the Word of God every Sunday might be enlarged to three or five times that number. Such ennobling and elevating studies and reading will crowd out and give a distaste for the trashy books or papers, often frivolous or pernicious, which abound on every bookstand, and, like the plague of frogs in Egypt, find their way into every household.