

The Welcome and the Dismissal.—The teacher will recognize that here are great opportunities. To meet a little child with a welcome is to win its affection and interest. To send it away with a kind word is to give it something moving to remember all the week. It is what the teacher does rather than what she says that is important at this stage. If the teacher is a friend to the children, they can understand how her God can be their friend as well.

QUESTIONS.

1. What should be the aims of the teacher of the Beginners?
2. Name six characteristics of children at this period, and indicate in each an opportunity for the teacher.
3. Make out a programme for a day's exercises.
4. What should be the nature of (a) the singing and (b) the prayers in a Beginners' class?
5. Why is it not necessary to have a new story for every lesson period?

LESSON IV.

THE PRIMARIES (AGE 6 TO 8).

The years six to seven and seven to eight form a period in many ways different from that of early childhood. Some of the main characteristics of this period will be mentioned in this chapter.

Physical Development.—Rapid bodily growth still continues; there is a development of power to use the smaller muscles; there is marked susceptibility to disease. All of these things indicate the frailty of the organism at this period and suggest the possibility of overtaxing strength through undue pressure or prolonged effort. Work must not be too serious, and must be followed by sufficient rest. Changing activity is necessary to prevent fatigue. One form of activity that is very necessary is play. The teacher must pay particular attention to the bodily position of pupils at this stage. She must