

thing else. If your tale thus told is not remembered, the trouble must be with your story.

If you can sing well, sing: if only indifferently, get somebody to help you. Don't run the risk of forming bad habits in this respect.

Be earnest, never childish; simple, never silly.—*S. S. World.*

Unification.

A *rough* word to describe a very important element in Sunday-school work. Some classes become a unit, and some never are anything but units. That is, a common spirit includes teachers and scholars in the unified class; and in the composite class every one remains for himself. This said a superintendent, pointing to a group near by: This is a class; it has all the elements of class life; it includes that sweet-souled teacher and eleven girls; I could not remove one of them to another class without injury to the whole class. It would be like taking a limb from a tree. Such classes are rare.

But here are five girls and a teacher. She is faithful, and loving, and tries hard to do her whole duty, but the class is not a unit. I could move those girls about to other classes without trouble or opposition. The difference is hard to explain, but I generally find, sooner or later, that a prayerful spirit is at the bottom of it, in the one case; and some kind of selfishness the trouble in the other. Possibly the teacher is a little ambitious, or irritable, or too precise or formal, instead of just quietly slipping into her place and doing her best naturally.

But the worst possible thing to occur is for a class to establish a unity without including the teacher. You cannot break up the class, or modify it, without driving its members away, but its unity is in the nature of a clique or secret society. There are few teachers that have skill to master such a class and thoroughly reorganize it. A school may better have ten classes than twenty collections of scholars. Shall the school be a collection of fragments or a harmonious one? There are hundreds of the former kind to one of the latter!—*S. S. World.*

Normal Work in the Teachers' Meeting.

To do good normal class work in a Sunday-school, it is by no means necessary to have a normal class apart from the teachers' meeting. The true work of the normal class is in training actual or intending teachers to teach. Its chief work is not in teaching about the Bible, nor in showing *how* to teach the Bible. Many a normal class meeting by itself on Sunday or during the week, does little of normal class work; while many a teachers' meeting is so conducted as to do good normal class work in the best way. The superintendent of a small Union Sunday-school, organized at Aubrey, Kansas, by a missionary of the American Sunday-school Union, a few months ago, reports, that his school has a regular weekly teachers' meeting and normal class combined; that he makes a normal class of this meeting, conducting it at times as a class of one grade, and again as a class of another; showing how the next Sunday's lesson may be taught to younger and older scholars respectively. As this school has an average attendance of only forty-five, and is in a widely scattered farming community, where was never a Sunday-school before, the fact of such a meeting illustrates the practicability of normal work in small country schools as well as in larger ones, in or out of the cities.

This method of combining teachers' training work with the weekly study of the lessons was the plan pursued in the earlier operations of the American Sunday-school Union, forty years ago. It is still approved by those most experienced in methods of Sunday-school normal work. Dr. Vincent says in his "Helpful Hints for the Sunday-school Teachers," "The weekly teachers' meeting may combine all the advantages of the institute and normal class. Where this is practicable, it is certainly preferable."—*S. S. World.*

THE Bible is better than a lesson paper or a question book in the hands of every scholar. Reference to different portions of the Bible should be frequent in all Bible study. Each scholar should be ready for a part in this study.