

Why the Junior League?

Stands for Effort.

The Junior League, with its pledge and committee work, is a primary training class to fit its members for service in the Church. The Sunday-school stands chiefly for instruction, the Junior League for effort; the first for study, the second for service. The Junior League is set to do some of the praying and speaking, to help carry on the business and enforce the principles of the society, and is a factor in the home mission work of the Church.—*Rev. Wray R. Smith, Durham.*

An Indispensable Agency.

The Junior League has proven in my experience to be an almost indispensable agency for the development of Christian experience in the children and training in Christian service. Our Junior League is under the most efficient superintendent I ever knew, and is doing work untouched by any other organization of the Church.—*Rev. H. S. Magee, Toronto.*

The Primary Department.

Because it is the only department in our Church organization where children can be taught *how to do*, and how to work *together* in a systematic way for the good of the Church and the world. It is the "Primary department" in the Training School for our future church workers, and one reason that we have such a small percentage of efficient church workers to-day, is that this primary department has been so long neglected.—*Miss Brooking, Cobourg.*

Must Have a Foundation.

1. Because we do not expect children to go into the Fourth Book before having been in the First, Second and Third Books.

2. We recognize the importance of foundation or preparatory work in all departments. Only the Junior League can prepare for the Senior League.

3. Children learn to love their own society, and grow from one to the other.—*Mrs. R. H. Leitch, Picton.*

Unique In Its Aim.

There is no other organization in the Church doing the work it is designed to do. It is absolutely unique in its aims and objects. It trains workers for all departments. It is the training school of the Senior League. It graduates into the Senior League skilled officers, capable, efficient, and useful members. It trains to public prayer, and public confession of faith. It stimulates missionary interest and increases givings—helps make missionaries. Its "Mercy and Help," "Sunshine," "Flower," and "Lookout" committees, alleviate suffering, carry sunshine, brighten sick rooms, and reclaim indifferent ones. It trains young soldiers of King Jesus to fight battles against sin.

Above all it aims to save souls. It influences the heart when most impressionable. Eternity will show that it has helped to adorn heaven with many jewels. It gets, keeps, and trains the boys and girls to-day, and thus saves the men and women of to-morrow.—*Mr. G. A. C. Phillips, Toronto.*

Every Why.

Every why. The Junior League is the most important department in the church work, because it commences with the child from six and seven years of age, and trains him to think and act for the cause of God in a practical way. It trains the Juniors to witness for Christ before other children, and by that means strengthens them to be willing witnesses as they grow in years.—*Miss Sumner, Oakville.*

A Recruiting Station.

Because too much attention cannot be paid to bringing the children to Christ, and especially when we remember the potent influence for good or evil awaiting development in their hearts. Because all children have not good home influences and the hour spent in Sunday-school is too short, even if they attend, to make personal, practical application of the truths taught there. Because every argument in favor of our Senior societies is applicable to the Junior branch of the great Epworth army. Because it is a sure recruiting station for the Senior society, and an admirable training school to fit them for service for Christ and the Church.—*Miss Idell Rogers, Cobourg.*

Better than a Year's Learning.

(a) Because the spiritual culture of the boys and girls is the most important work of our Church at home.

(b) Because the Junior League is the best organization for this purpose, as its aim is pre-eminently to guide in the *doing* of the Christian life. One day's *doing* will strengthen that life more than a year's *learning*. A Church that does not embrace the boys and girls in its methods of spiritual culture is unspeakably foolish.

The problem of getting hold of the older boys—from fourteen to sixteen—is to me an unsolved one. I think a Sunday meeting for such boys may be made successful, with a good leader. If we could imitate some of the features of the Boys' Brigade, our Leagues would "catch" the boys.—*Rev. C. E. Bland, Westmount, Montreal.*

Develops Character.

1. Because it aids to develop the Christian character of its members. In the meetings there are the hymns, the Scripture study, the prayers, and the testimony, in all which the Juniors provoke one another to love and good works. Christian character can only be developed by Christian activity.

2. Because it gives direction to the Christian activity of its members, and thus becomes for them a training school in methods of work for Christ. The committee work of the Junior League

gives an object, an impetus and a method for the youthful Christians to labor for the Master whom they love. This work greatly increases their love, and thus they become stronger in faith.

3. Because by developing character and training in methods of work, the Church of the future will be better manned and more successful than the Church of to-day. The Junior League is aiding the young servants of Jesus to form habits which will make them strong and courageous Christians when the full responsibility of life comes upon them.—*Rev. T. Albert Moore.*

The Training School.

We might ask, "Why the class-meeting and the prayer-meeting," for what these are to the Juniors, the Junior League is to the Sunday-school. It is the training-school where the teaching received in the Sunday-school is put into practical operation, and worked out in the young life of the children. In the Sunday-school are taught the fundamental truths of Christianity—the need of regeneration, the brotherhood of man, the duty and nature of service, etc.—and in the Junior League these truths are applied to the individual life of the children. Here they are taught to "work out their salvation" in a practical, sensible way. They are led to participate in the exercises of prayer and testimony so helpful to the development of Christian character. They are taught to distribute to the needs of others, the sick, poor, and unfortunate, coming in for a share of their interest and service. Missionary zeal is also inspired by a familiarity with the condition and needs of the boys and girls of heathen lands.—*Rev. A. F. McKenzie, Toronto.*

To Aid the Sunday-school.

We all admit the necessity of special training for the boys and girls in their secular work. For years they spend the larger portion of their everyday life in school, after which their training is continued, often at great cost, under the most proficient instructors. But what about the soul, that spiritual life that is to live forever? Does it not need some training? You say we have the Sunday-school. Yes, and a grand work it is doing, but do we expect one short hour in the week is enough to instruct them in the great truths of God's Word, and build up strong Christian character that will stand the test when brought face to face with the many evil agencies that abound? It is to aid and further the work of the Sabbath-school that we have the Junior League. Some of our ministers say they cannot find competent persons to undertake this work. This I look upon as the strongest argument why they should at once have a Junior League, for the League would train many good superintendents. Surely your church can supply one or two who are filled with love, and zeal for Christ, and with the helps available they can do much to help the boys and girls to develop into intelligent and consecrated workers for Christ and the Church.—*Mrs. J. R. Real, Belleville.*