

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S DIVISON
of the
MINNESOTA SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
DECEMBER.

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BULLETIN NO. 2

Suggestions to help build the Worship Program for the Opening Session of your Sunday School for the month of December.

THEME for the month, "Learning to be Generous."

December 5.

Theme "Learning to be Generous with our Possessions."

Scripture Readings.

1. God gave His only Son. John 3:16
"Given, not lent,
And not withdrawn, once sent,
This Infant of Mankind, this One,
Is Still the little Welcome Son."
Why God gave his Only Son. John 3:17.
2. Christ gave Himself. Luke 22:19, 20. Phil. 2:5-11.
"He emptied Himself taking the form of a servant"
He lived out the principle of losing oneself to find it.
3. A young man who lost God's great gift because he could not part with his possessions. Luke 18:18-30.
4. The woman who gave of her possessions. Luke 21:1-4.
5. Paul's charge to the elders. Acts 21:32-35.
(This topic would lend itself very nicely to a program on the Near-East Relief.)

December 12.

Theme "Learning to be Generous in our Service."

Scripture Readings.

- Matt. 5:13-16. A follower of Jesus must do something. Salt if it is good, really does something to that to which it is added. It preserves, makes sweet. Does our life sweeten the life of our home, our church, or own town?
- Luke 22:24-27--Great law of discipleship--willingness to serve.
- John 13:1-17. The true disciple cannot say, "I will do anything save - "There can be no halfway ground for those who call him Master.
- James 2:17-20.
Give short account of the works of one of your denominational Missionaries.

December 19.

Theme, "Learning to be generous in our relationships with others."

Luke 6:37-42.

When Lincoln delivered his first inaugural address, Ex-President Tyler wrote a letter to Francis Lieber, not praising the fine sentiment and idealism of the speech but CRITIZING LINCOLN'S GRAMMAR. In that petty spirit we waste so much of our time. Disregarding the splendid note in the lives of others and criticizing their little shortcomings! Just picking on each other. Lets make up our minds to try and see other people as God sees them and so love them into their best.

Matt. 5:38-48. Not the spirit of give and take but Love which must be the spirit of the child of a loving Father.

Matt. 18:21-22. Forgiveness a limitless spirit.

Matt. 5:23-24. The unbrotherly spirit that will not forgive nor seek to be forgiven makes fellowship with God impossible. "No one can be wrong with man and right with God."

Psalms 103:1-13. Not giving but forgiving is the highest test of love. It means suffering and cost. Think what our forgiveness meant to God and Christ. John 3:16, Isa. 53:5.

"Here at the threshold of Christmas let us think for a moment about God's great gift of forgiveness. Sin means separation from God. Forgiveness becomes the key which unlocks for us the wonders of his giving and the door to which we must pass to understand his love."

December 29.

Theme, "Learning to be Generous in the Gift of Self."

Rom. 12:1.

"Christmas time means the giving of our best." Would it be too mostly a gift, to present ourselves at our very best to God?

Sing--"Just as I am, young, strong and free,
To be the best that I can be
For Truth and Righteousness and Thee
Lord of my life, I come, I come."

"And after all, Christmas living is the best kind of Christmas giving." Henry Van Dyke.
Have someone tell the story of "The Other Wise Man" by Henry Van Dyke.

Give Pageant, "The Gift of Self" by Phillip Osgood. Price 10 cents. Send to The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, 281-4th Ave., New York City.

No attempt has been made in this Bulletin to work out definite programs but suggestions which will help you in making a real worship program for the opening session of the Sunday School. The songs and prayers should be built around the themes. The following books you will find very helpful:

"Youth and the Church" Cynthia Maus
"Manual for Training in Worship" . . . Hartshorne
"Story Worship Programs for the Sunday School . Stowell.

More material has been given than can be used in the length of time that the ordinary Sunday School has for its Opening Worship Period. The suggestion is made that especially in cases where there is no Young People's Society, that there be an evening meeting of the Young People's Classes, from 12 or 13 to 24 years, and a program worked out in detail on the same Themes as was touched in the Sunday School Session.

SUGGESTED THRU-THE-WEEK ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENTS AND CLASSES.

- Send a Christmas Box to a Home Mission Station or Sunday School.
- Fill surprise bags for poor children.
- Help in having a Community Christmas Tree.
- Assist in the Sale of Red Cross Seals.
- Help in the Christmas program of your Church and Sunday School.
- Sing Christmas Carols outside, at the homes of friends on Christmas Eve.
- Tell Christmas stories some afternoon to younger children of the Sunday School.
- Monthly Mission Study Class.
- Co-operate in the Near-East Relief Campaign.

A great deal of helpful material will appear each month in the "Herald" the State Sunday School Association publication. The subscription price is 50 cents a year. Subscriptions should be sent to the

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