

# A Message to Sunday School Teachers

by Frank Knox

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*Sunday school teachers must spend time with God, have sympathy and faith in their work, and focus on leaving it with the children and letting God do the growing.*

**Duration:** 31:27

**Scripture:** Isaiah 53:6, Matthew 6:33, 2 Corinthians 5:7, Philipians 4:13

**Topics:** "Biblical Teaching", "Spiritual Growth"

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## Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of preaching the word of God and not wasting time during the week. He encourages the audience to respect God and not to make little of the Bible. The preacher advises against telling fictional stories and instead suggests using illustrations from the Bible. He also urges the audience to pray for more sympathy and precious feed from God. The sermon includes personal anecdotes and references to Isaiah 53:6.

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## Transcript

Our God and our Father in Heaven, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly and reverently and gratefully bow on thy footstool. The earth is my footstool, saith the Lord. We breathe the holy name of our Lord Jesus Christ in prayer because we know it demands thy attention.

We confess our sins together. Strange, Father, that it is so seldom mentioned we confess our sins together. And well we might because that there's no man that was unscathed enough and right where every one of us knew doubt in our hearts.

We have sinned against thee repeatedly but not in vain we hope now. More than likely and good and certainly and far confess it to thee and thank thee that thou art a God ready to pardon. We bless thy holy name for the grace that reached us and awakened us up to flee from wrath to come.

May us feel and believe and tremble at the thought we'd soon be in hell for the world soon to fail. Then legal trials shook us, we trembled and died. How we wished we had never been born but we were born and live we must.

We thank thee for those days and nights when we longed for one thing only that one thing God's great salvation. We bless thee for revealing not to us in thine own way and time making us you creatures in Christ changing our lives cleaning our pockets out cleaning our mouths out making us different men and

women and boys and girls and that's the way it must be we're born again for then we in Christ is a new creature. Honour us where we are honour us our object in being here and honour us what we've listened to O God what thou canst bless out of what we have bless it to our souls we pray let the good hand of God be upon us for the little while it remains for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake.

Amen. Psalm 126 Lee Psalm 126 When the Lord told me give me captivity and science for they looked down on me then with a mouth filled with laughter I don't know what to say then said they among the heathen that all the drunkard things were them that all the drunkard things were us were us we are dry soon again I will captivity O Lord as it streams in the south they that sow in tears shall reap in joy he that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious tears shall doubtless come again rejoicing taking his sheaves with him last two verses again please they that sow in tears tears mind you shall reap in joy he that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious tears shall doubtless come again rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him I'm not going to take my time I'm sure you wouldn't be interested in me giving you an interpretation of a psalm or wandering all over the Bible I'm going to hard facts right away that's exactly what we need moreover as a man who knows an Irish audience well that's what we deserve before I speak to you a little while I want to tell you four compressions from Sunday School scholars I'll give you a minute one was five minutes from where you sit from a far worse day in a drunkard in the bed, the back room she heard and learnt well Isaiah 53 and 6 when she went home the father and you well sent for her I said what did you hear at school today what did you hear at school today what did you hear at school today now we're doing a bit of thinking a little girl said father, Isaiah 53 go and read it for me she read 53 and 6 she said read it again she read it again, it was very poor and he said go down into the kitchen and come and I'll call you a little time she called and he called her and said read it again oh we like sheep have gone astray we have torn everyone to his old way and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity in us all he said that will do that's enough for me he got saved I visited him for twelve months after that he died, I buried him, uncertainly buried him in the sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection preaching to the country from the Armagh country soon had been wrecked years gone by I said we'll try and start one we started one with five little girls that's thirty years ago the school has been going on and there's about thirty or thirty-five in it now one of those little girls on a missionary in Africa turned into Mr.

Maxie little girl this time encountered a rule poor, poor, poverty stricken people as a matter of fact they were beggars very bond family this little girl went home notice this please exactly the same as what happened round here the father's dying while they are dragging the hoe dear sisters, brethren and sisters, teachers when you go in for your soldier children and try and get them saved from hell fire that's horrible that's horrible and God will lay a damnation at your door but mind you, don't you try to juggle with the Sunday school class after praying a fool on Saturday afternoon but after dripping at the King's head for a couple of hours and defiling your soul no, God will not have you no right to have to desperate to see what happened this girl died on Isaiah 53 and 6 and the old

man got saved I had to go from Belfast to bury him I buried him and the concrete turned out to that funeral mall that had been run by a noble man I said I'm going to preach outside for an old chair put up and I said it's not an ordinary burial service it's going to be a gospel meeting and I'm going to preach the gospel to you people who never come where you will hear it to a million mouths I don't say are you going to preach the gospel so not pray and tell us who's going to be praying certainly not the man that preaches to please the past and certainly not the man that preaches to please a certain class of people in the audience no, it's a man that has got a vision got a burden and got a prayer and I believe the family to be in hell and not born again if you don't believe that I'll tell

you why you don't believe that you've never spent much time alone with God I was asked to take a trough in 1905 just to hear the word saved I said no the teacher said why I don't know my Bible I can't find the place I'm calling on this to you people are you all ready to say can't not in the English dictionary can't, can't, can't I said can't and the man can't I didn't mean can't said why I want you to take a trough there's seven teachers missing he pleaded with me he said do please take that trough there of ten little boys and he said they're all Christian children and they'll be able to help you and surely they did so I couldn't find a place and I didn't know what place to look for don't say can't it's only an excuse an excuse is only a lie nicely breathed an excuse is only a lie nicely

breathed it's not honest get down to hard facts relative to the soul of your children I took that trough I didn't know what to say didn't know where to begin didn't know what to read and I don't know you can call it any script whatever you like to say to me and I said we've been singing wonderful things in the Bible I see and I said each one of you little boys tell me some wonderful things you've seen in the Bible one little fella started off with a woman at the well I said that's good never heard it in my life another little fella took three minutes with a blind man said that's really good my boy didn't know whether it was true or not another wee boy took a fella I said that's what they put a man up to and do you know after it all took a few minutes the bell rang the time's up five

minutes to four and like the Apostle Paul I find God into courage and stuck it for twenty years don't take on no, don't do it in the light of heaven and hell don't worry it's on me sometimes I'll not tell you any more stories those stories didn't happen in fairly long they happened with me in the north of Ireland Psalm 126 you've heard it read many a time you've heard it read a hundred or so many a time I suppose men that could do it I'm going to try to do it only the last two verses not concerned about interpretation of Psalm the Jew and the Gentile not concerned about that what I am concerned about is the welfare of you teachers that you might go on to spend in time with God for your children in the light of God's eternity either heaven or hell and you may have to do with that that's

what I'm here for tonight and I'm a hypocrite for being on a platform if that's not my heart's desire seen five of my scholars saved at one spell of meeting all five out of one family who got on to a match five of them came to see me there glad to see them all married and going on well they said God did not tell you to grow He told you to sow it's God's business to make it grow not yours and the same thing applies to the peasants we are to do the sowing let God do the growing but Matthew this verse will tell you what change has seen to sow and again you'll not get anything from God and you'll not get any help from God slap the leg all week Saturday evening go to bed late get up on Sunday morning and you're not afraid to trifle with the things of God a lot not doing the work of God just

faithfully expressively you'll never accomplish much neither in your school nor in your life when you go on like that feel it go forth activity feel it go forth now you got to move on too tired did you go to bed early enough very good form did you pray enough activity maybe very tired many of them I was not went to sleep on my knees praying for my class maybe I'm a fool head maybe I'm not feeling well very good I can understand all that although I'm never troubled with those things I can sympathize with you but if you're going to get anything done for God get a move on activity that's real good spiritual recreation the next thing he said go forth weeper sympathy sympathy you shouldn't need anybody to tell you that you haven't got sympathy in your heart for your scholars you'll likely

never win them for Christ more than likely you'll drive them away by something you say sympathy you can't make it up you can't manufacture it you get sympathy and the right kind of sympathy for your children

alone with God there's no substitute for that and I'm terribly afraid that there's quite a lot of teachers and some preachers and they're defending more on their ability or their knowledge than they are on the power and help of God you'll never get anywhere sympathy it's a great thing I got it sure to me several times on a little boy and God knows I need it I'll never forget I'll never forget standing in a back entry one night twelve o'clock stuck in the town hall broken ass cold hungry what'll I do? don't know here's a man coming a great big heavy foot thought maybe the police man

I'll call in so I made a noise as he was passing and he says who's there?

I'm me sir he goes down here I went down it wasn't the police man it was a big tramway driver coming home of late duty wait a minute he took my dirty little hand and his big hand he said come with me he took me just round the corner took his dinner out of the oven split it in two give me half of it sympathy sympathy practical sympathy not no sympathy that comes from absolutely nothing not good for a lucky man practical sympathy is gone that's sixty years ago and a little more if I could find that man though he's dead long ago I would fight with all my heart fear and go on for activity weeping simply very precious sweet comedy no you're only playing at the job you have wasted your time during the week you've been reading the world's trash you may be reading fiction maybe late magazine and

you've been living carelessly during the week you expect God to help you no that's not the way God does things God goes into reality and I'm not real about the children and I shouldn't be at the job fail out in that comedy act up sympathy quality bearing precious faith precious faith you should never make so little of your Bible or spend your time telling stories I don't say you shouldn't tell any you may tell one that illustrates a part so you can tell a true story moreover if you can give them an illustration from the Bible it's infinitely better than an illustration of your own which may or may not be true if you want an illustration give them one for the Bible give them plenty of the Bible especially these days listen to this when there's so much damnable hell preached all around us

nearly every place and the word of God is denied the people die while they're teaching and the preacher will be in hell that's why we should go in for this more than ever leave it there leave it with them precious faith precious faith surely the word of God is precious recitative very good that bearing precious faith so it is done think of that rarely you plead precious faith the last thing is he shall doubtless certainly he shall doubtless come again rejoicing bringing his sheep with him maybe not in this world but in a sweet by and by your boys and girls you visited and if you didn't visit them you shouldn't be a teacher and I don't encourage preacher that doesn't visit either as a physically fit no time for lazy men don't stand at the door like as if you were a Jew begging something

make your way in don't need to knock at an open door go in sit down make yourself at home and give them to understand that they mean business and on the other hand leave that house without praying not losing it oh but I'm a Christian you are but you're not a church member you don't need me to tell you that that's only an excuse and you'll find God will help you I went to pray in the house down the way down Antrim this time and I was leaving the country I wanted to pray with the people of Goldale when I see that old woman I would talk with her and I'd go down to pray shall I say the first thing I met was I felt was a little chap on the back of the neck couldn't blame the chap the next thing I felt was a chicken on the heels of my boots my toes was down and I prayed away and I asked God to

save the people and when I was done praying the knees of my trousers were sticking to the floor by the heaven or hell don't you trifle with God's work like I am doing today don't you trifle with God's work let it be

but as well there are hundreds maybe thousands of ungodly men and women teaching Sunday school so-called for the money press at all that's all and no reason why you should I go into the booth that we believe from one beginning to the end set it before them with all the power you possess lay before them their sins and their guilt as boys and girls that need to be born again never see heaven without it precious seed precious seed shall doubtless there's no doubt about it shall doubtless come again rejoicing bringing his seed with him four chasers in the last two weeks met me as

I went around all four said I will say that you will meet me in different places one of them thirty years ago that's the first I heard of it never mind here about going for the thing going for the thing like the heaven or hell you do the showing let God do the growing don't be concerned about getting a lot of your children contracted so called let the living God do that he does it as well don't you try to make a mess of it your business is mine precious seed put it before them give it to the living God for him bless it you're doubtless I like this word doubtless certainly shall doubtless come again rejoicing bringing his seed with him in the bright and glorious morning by and by what a joy what an incalculable joy what an eternal joy to make men and women or the boys and girls that you

spent your time for you thought you were spending a lot of nothing in the light of eternity you spend your life to win one's soul for Christ on your life's well spent God will attend to us that you will get your reward I'm not working for a reward I get it to be sure we'll all get it but that's a secondary thing work for Christ on the soul of men want to be a missionary for a good time I told you about one already begin in your Sunday school class somebody said this afternoon never leave your Sunday school class get me at that I left at once a lot of people made me believe I could preach I thought I couldn't myself better find out me for it we live away in the country Mr.

Knox we have nobody to take our meeting on Sunday will you come and I yielded and I left my Sunday school class and brethren don't smile it was like being on the whole gully the whole afternoon that was the first and the last never left my Sunday school class again I did it back with pleasure success or failure I did the best I could and the blessed God doesn't ask you to do anything more than that then get these two verses of Psalm 126 into your soul get down the toe of God on your knees tonight before you go to bed for the Lord's judgment is going to be how much do you pay me on class young man how much do you pay me on class young woman I only pray that my job I'll give a job about heaven and hell much right to be a steed as a preacher going out for souls so as a preacher at the end he said please bring these two verses on your knees and keep on replying to God for mercy as I have been doing a good deal this day thoughts, failures I am the amount of them what a good God that's ready to pardon and ask Him to give you more sweetly Lord precious feed and rejoice in the glorious satisfaction for a better person come again glory to God come again rejoicing bringing His sheaves with Him somebody said just one glimpse of Him and glory will the toils of earthly pain certainly will be eased up with all our lives as I sit down the Lord might come before we lay ready oh that we all say I didn't ask you now the five wise virgins weren't ready they were ready positionally they certainly weren't ready conditionally if I were to keep in company with you in front of you I said are you? do you pray in the face of God almighty when you come to an equal yoke of 2nd Indian 614 can you see that as some people do and as some people sneer at the old powers of Jeremiah 6 how dare you snare at the book of God to the monster I suppose he comes and in the twinkling of an eye I will request in a rise to meet him in the air farewell to you oneself boys left left for the common judgment left for the sinner's doom left for your life of darken ain't yourself doomed left but instead of heaven what will your portion be teachers are careless left and practically prisoners left and overseers are careless and carelessness is the root of Satan the very brightest of our assembly and remember he had brought forth

activity for a joy to work for Christ bearing sympathy weeping Bearing precious food, the precious wood of God, shall doubtless come again and touch him, bringing his sheep. Would you let him to come? Would you let him to come just now? What are your pockets? Nothing wrong with the wise virgins, the lambs were out.

But those fools were there in the dark of night time. Let your light so shine before men. That was means around the collection box.

Third day, they were asleep. Columns six and six. How long wilt thou sleep, O snuggles? When wilt thou arise, have I sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep.

And soon shall I poverty come upon me as well, my brother. And I want as I now am two different things. Did you notice that all the sleepers in the New Testament are believers? Are you sure you're not asleep yourself? I dream every night I go to bed.

Some nights I dream I'm busy working. But I'm sleeping just the same. Some nights I'm busy preaching.

Some nights I'm busy accompanying us in the dream. Sleeping all the time. Are you sure we're all awake? Then those three fools were the wise virgins.

Why, there were three good things with the foolish virgins. The goodness didn't get them.

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