

**MISSIONARY METHODS
FOR SUNDAY-SCHOOL
WORKERS**

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Missionary Methods for Sunday-School Workers by George H. Trull

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for
Sunday-school Workers

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The "Times" Handbooks
for Missionary
Workers. Number 1



**MISSIONARY METHODS FOR
SUNDAY - SCHOOL
WORKERS**

REVISED EDITION

✓
By GEORGE H. TRULL

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First, Second and Third Series*

Introduction by
CHARLES GALLAUDET TRUMBULL

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Philadelphia

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TO

My fellow-laborers in the Gospel of Christ to whose care has been intrusted the training of the youth in the Sunday-schools of our land, this book is respectfully dedicated with the prayer that through their instrumentality the spirit of world-wide missions may vitalize the Church of to-morrow.

INTRODUCTION

The day is coming when the Sunday-school that has not sent some of its members to a home or foreign mission field, while at the same time numbering still others in its membership as volunteers pledged to go, will be ashamed and self-condemned. The reason why Sunday-schools generally have not yet reached this high but practicable standard is because most Sunday-school workers do not know what the Sunday-school is, and what is the real end of its effort.

For example, the Sunday-school is often spoken of as the church of to-morrow, or the child of the church, or the children's church, or as a branch or a department of the church. None of these definitions tells the whole truth. All of them are misleading.

Again, the purpose of the Sunday-school is commonly spoken of as Bible-study. And the great end of the Sunday-school is usually said to be soul-winning. Both of these statements are not only inadequate, but positively harmful in the narrowing, stultifying limitations that they impose.

The Sunday-school is not the church of to-morrow, nor a branch of the church of to-day; it *is* the church engaged in the most important work that God commits to men. As the Church Teaching, the Sunday-

school is the church at work in carrying out the Great Commission : making disciples, or learners, of all men.

Bible-study is, of course, only a means to the end that the Sunday-school has in view. And that end is not soul-winning ; the church would be a body of babes, untrained and useless, if it were. Soul-winning is vital ; the Sunday-school that won no souls would be a failure ; but soul-winning is the first step, not the last, in Sunday-school effort. Soul-winning is the *beginning* of the actual results that every true Sunday-school worker longs to see : God forbid that it should be the end. Yet many a teacher really seems to think that he has done about all he need do for a given class if he has brought the members of that class to an open confession of their Saviour !

What, then, is the end of Sunday-school work ? *Character-training for service in the extension of the Kingdom.* Not a selfish salvation, a saving merely of our own self-centered souls ; but a salvation for one great purpose only : power to win others to Christ, and to train them up in Christ. This is the end, the purpose, that should be held up before every pupil, young and old, saved and unsaved, in every Sunday-school in the world. You are powerless and unprofitable and lost without Christ ; you need Christ, not merely that you may be saved, but that you may make your life count for the eternal enrichment of all lives that you touch.

Where, then, does the work of missions come