



A little old lady from the Midwest took her lunch tray and looked for an empty table at a Sunday school teachers' convention. She wore a yellow badge with her name on it.

Three men sat at a table nearby and they invited her to sit with them. They all wore blue badges. They were speakers at this huge gathering where thousands of teachers had come to learn. Although she was a little reticent, she thanked them and sat down.

As she chatted, she mentioned how much she was enjoying all the insights she was picking up, and that she was eager to get back and apply them in her class. She looked about 65; actually she was 85.

"Oh, you still teach a class do you? From what age group are your students?" Perhaps they were thinking she had preschoolers or that she taught an old ladies' class.

"I have thirteen wonderful junior high boys."

"Wow! Thirteen boys! You must come from a very large church!"

"Well actually, no. There are only 55 in our whole Sunday school."

And this lady had come to learn?! But she had a passion that these young men come to know Jesus as their Savior and learn to love Him as their LORD.

As they talked about her class, this little knot of specialists were surprised and encouraged that a number of the boys in her class were planning to go into the LORD's work. She had also seen many of her former students go off to Bible colleges and seminaries. Some had entered the ministry as pastors, missionaries, and other full-time workers. She knew of 89 men whose lives she had touched—some planning, others actively preparing, and still more already launched into ministry.

My professor, Howard Hendricks, was one of those men with the blue badges. When he returned to Dallas Seminary, he knew that he had several of her former students in his classes.

There is great energy in the staying power of a committed teacher of the Word of God.

