

48. "THE 'RIVERS OF LIVING WATER' FLOW FROM HERE, BELOW THEIR RIBS." --(David giggles) "David! I didn't know you were so ticklish! Anyway, the voices of many waters run right here--the power comes from your tummy, like a bucket bringing water up to the top of the well, the full tone comes right up to your head.

49. "IT ALSO HELPS TO SING AT THE RIGHT TIME. The best time for voice class is in the morning or afternoon about two or three hours after the last meal. Try not to have your voice lesson or singing lesson or dance lesson too close to mealtime. Right before mealtime is fine, in fact the best time, when the meal is well digested & you can sing out & really soak it to'nt!

50. "DON'T KEEP 'M SINGING FOR TOO LONG AT A STRETCH OR THEY'LL TIRE EASILY. Half-an-hour of singing is enough if they're really going to sing out with lots of strength.

51. "ESPECIALLY WITH YOUNG CHILDREN, BECAUSE THEIR RANGE IS SO LIMITED, YOU HAVE TO FIND SONGS THAT FIT IT, rather than have them straining their voices & trying to hit notes they can't hit & getting them off tune, off-key. And even if the song has a small range of not more than six notes in an octave, be sure it is pitched in the key which stays within their range. If they can't reach it, they'll drop down out of tune, out of time & off-key. You've never heard anything more awful than a little group of kids trying to sing some chorus that's too high--& it happens often! See, most songs are for sopranos & tenors because the high voices usually lead.

52. "DAVIDA HAS A LITTLE GREATER RANGE & A LITTLE BETTER EAR FOR MUSIC. Probably she inherited that. Heritage has a lot to do with it, also a gift from the Lord has a lot to do with it. It's probably not David's particular gift--His gift is memorizing the Word & preaching! Singing may not be his main gift, but he can sing if he tries hard enough & works at it. He can carry a tune fine if he's not distracted or led astray. The notes that are easily within his range he hits, if you give him the note--so does Davida.

53. "YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GET THE SONGS WITHIN THEIR VERY SHORT RANGE, at least as far as their range is developed. If you can't, then you're not going to get a good song or good performance out of them.

54. "TRY TO FIND A REPERTOIRE OF SONGS

THAT ARE EASILY WITHIN THEIR RANGE. It's better if you pick a tiny group of songs that are pitched in their key, within their range, that they can sing well, than a hundred songs all of which they sing poorly--it's the quality, not quantity, that counts!"

55. (DAD PRAYS FOR THE CHILDREN AGAIN & ENCOURAGES THEM TO PRACTISE & SING UNTO THE LORD WITH ALL THEIR HEARTS:)" Amen! You can do it with Jesus' help, amen! GY! ILY!"



Dad loves, encourages & prays for the children after his singing lesson!

#### SUMMARY

- 1) Test the children's vocal range so you'll know how high & how low they can sing.
- 2) Pitch every song within their vocal range--Play on the organ, piano or pitchpipe at least the beginning notes they are to sing to help them sing on-key!
- 3) Lead their singing (in practise) with a good loud, lead voice, pitched rightly by the organ or pitchpipe.
- 4) Practise singing individually & together the musical scales, "DO-RE-MI" etc. Sing loud & strong to hit the high notes! Correct any mistakes & practise

to improve.

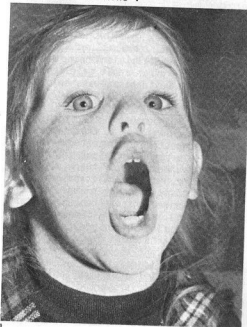
5) Sing at the right time--preferably before mealtimes, & for only about half-an-hour at a time.

6) Choose a few good songs they can all sing well & that are easily within their range, pitched in their key.

7) Remember to pray for good fruits and Jesus' help in singing, performing, witnessing & working for Him!

56. "THANK YOU, THANK YOU, DAD! AND YOU!"

With a great burden to do better & fun drill & singing practise for the next little while, the kids relearned to sing according to these pointers by Dad! By our carefully pitching every song within their range using our portable organ & by having them sing the "DO-RE-MI" song, the kids within only a couple of weeks time could not only sing clearly & loudly the range that Dad had picked out for them, but had also increased their singing range to a full octave! We were also pleased to see that by changing the pitch & chords of many of the kids' songs on guitar, they were finally able to sing some of these songs that they could previously not help but sing off-key, such as "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands", & "This Little Light of Mine".



That's a good strong DO, Tech!

57. IF YOU FIND THEREFORE THAT YOUR CHILDREN CAN SING SOME SONGS QUITE WELL & ON-KEY BUT HAVE DIFFICULTY IN REACHING THE NOTES IN OTHER SONGS, MOST LIKELY THEY ARE NOT WITHIN THE CHILDREN'S LIMITED VOCAL RANGE & can simply be altered to fit their singing range, or replaced with other songs to sing instead for a better sound & better witness! Hallelujah! Davido proudly belted out his full-octave scale on the little organ only two weeks later for Mommy, & Davida too in imitation sang loud & bold, in fact, so loud that it seemed her last note would nearly crack the windows! Ha!--We're still learning!

58. THE MAIN PROBLEMS I HAD BEEN HAVING WITHOUT EVEN REALISING IT WERE NOT ONLY CHOOSING THE WRONG RANGE FOR THE CHILDREN TO SING IN, & just picking out any note I thought suitable to begin a song on, but that even when playing along with a guitar, the melody was not strong enough, there was no strong lead. Dad's tips opened up a whole new door to us, the fact that the guitar is not a lead, melody instrument, & we therefore clearly understood why some songs on the guitar are quite difficult to sing, especially for children, whereas others when more simply played to lead a melody will come out much better & stronger & consistently on-key!

59. WE IMMEDIATELY CHANGED THE CHILDREN'S REPERTOIRE TO MORE SIMPLE SONGS THAT THEY COULD SING VERY WELL, including ones David could learn to play on the guitar.



Richard instructs David on guitar --what patience!