

Revitalizing Sunday School

Part 3: Re-Selling Sunday School

Participant's Handout

Purpose:

See Sunday School effectively making disciples

Objectives:

- *Develop ways to get people to consider Sunday School as a desirable method of spiritual growth*
- *Make Sunday School "user-friendly"*
- *Prepare leadership to promote Sunday School*

The Sunday School is _____ fellowship around God's Word.

- In your mind's eye yank Sunday School out of the typical classroom and place people in a living room.
 - The class _____ fellowship.
 - The classroom setting is to be _____ and inviting.
 - Imagine soft chairs, sofas, and lamps instead of chairs and tables.
 - Sunday School _____ people to enjoy the learning experience in a relaxed atmosphere.
- Families _____ the Father's values and behavior
 - Christian education cannot stop with merely learning _____.
 - Christian education results in _____ what is important to God.
 - Education through Sunday School _____ behavior.

The Sunday School is an _____ task force.

- The successful Sunday School class will be _____ oriented.
- Sunday School classes will _____ adults to become inclusive.
- An evangelistic Sunday School class will _____ people to develop friends among sinners.
- Sunday School will _____ hospitality as a priority service.

The Sunday School is a pastoral _____ unit.

- Sunday School classes will assure its members are _____ spiritually.
- Classes will _____ for emotional and physical healing.

Classes will _____ people to relate well socially.

Sunday School can be _____ in new ways (as suggested above).

The important question is: How do we _____ these ideas to people?

Small Group Exercise

Work with the team members from your church to complete the questions. You will have 15 minutes to complete the questions.

1. Add to the following ways to communicating the values of Sunday School:
 - a. Pulpit announcements
 - b. Personal explanations
 - c. Descriptions in the newsletter
 - d. Listing of classes in bulletin
 - e. Invitations mailed to non-attenders
 - f. Retraining the leadership team
 - g. Running all programs of the church through the Sunday School classes
 - h. Plan a high-visibility event through the Sunday School
 - i. Honor teachers and/or class officers publicly
 - j. Give testimonies of Sunday School's successes

2. Which four ways will best communicate the new Sunday School?

3. Which of the following facts most impress you?

- a. The religious consciousness of America was shaped by Sunday School.
- b. America's language and symbolism is heavily influenced by the Bible.
- c. Twenty-four percent (24%) of America is in Sunday School every week. — The Gallop Poll
- d. "Sunday School is the small group method of choice for large and fast growing churches."
— John Vaughn, Church Growth Today
- e. "As goes the Sunday School, so goes the church" —Bill M. Sullivan
- f. "Sunday School Christianized America." — Bill M. Sullivan
- g. Growing churches usually have growing Sunday Schools. — Nazarene Church Growth Research Center
- h. America wants to study the Bible. — Princeton Religion Research Center, The Unchurched American
- i. Eighty-six (86%) percent of America want their children to receive religious instruction.
— Princeton Religion Research Center, The Unchurched American
- j. "Sunday School can live again if we are willing to love again." — Bill M. Sullivan

How can these facts be used to heighten the importance of Sunday School?

Action Planning/Reporting

Based on the responses to the questions in the Small Group Exercise, develop an action plan for communicating the value of Sunday School. Also, develop a plan for two teaching opportunities where the material from Revitalizing Sunday School is taught.

Communication Method: _____ Target Audience: _____

Actions Necessary to Implement Task	Person Responsible for Actions	When Actions will be Completed?	What were the results?	What might you do differently next time?

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Action Planning/Reporting (cont.)

Teaching Experience: _____ Target Audience: _____

Material to be Presented	Person Responsible (communication, facilitation, etc.)	When Actions will be Completed (communication, training session, etc.)	What were the results?	What might you do differently next time?

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