Ministry Through The Sunday School

Sunday School/Open Group Ministries
Pole Creek Baptist Church

Previous Assignments:

1. Compare current enrollment to the enrollment in your church one year and five years ago.
2. Conduct an enrollment audit/survey during a worship service.
3. Develop enrollment guidelines for your Sunday School. Communicate these to your leaders.
4. Read Chapter 3 of *Key Strategies.*

What Would You Do:

- If God personally placed a _____ into your hand?
- I Corinthians 12:18

How Would You Feel If:

- You _____ church for several weeks in a row and no one _____?
- Your spouse was in the hospital and you received no _____ or visits from the pastor or staff?
- You had no _____ to the church beyond Sunday Mornings?
- You taught a children's class but experienced little _____ with adults?

REMEMBER:

- Those enrolled are a group of people that God has placed in the care of the Sunday School leader to _____ to and to _____.
- Contacts are the avenue through which ministry needs are discovered and responded to

What Are Contacts?

- A contact is an _____ communication on behalf of the Sunday School class through phone calls, e-mails, visits, post cards, or wayside _____.
- Contacts are a planned _____ to let class members, absentees, and prospects know they are _____ for.

NOTES

Unlocking the Purpose of Contacts:

- When Sunday School leaders and members understand that enrollment is a _____ list, the attitude towards contacts should change from duty to _____ and from chore to _____.
- Who needs ministry?
    - _____ attendees, sporadic attendees, _____ absentees, prospects and in-service members.

Finding The Right Combination:

- Contacts cannot be _____ unless they are reported each week.
- Having classes report contacts serves as a tool for _____, motivation, and measurement.
- Having classes report contacts enables the leadership to have a better understanding of the degree to which _____ and _____ is or is not taking place.
- Making contacts each week should be a _____ because ministry is a priority.
- A healthy Sunday School will strive to report contacts equal to or higher than the total _____ each week.

Good Questions For Evaluation:

- How many _____ are reported each week?
- _____ is being contacted?
- How many people have been _____ this year?
- How many chronic absentees have been _____this year?
- Did in-service members know about the last _____ opportunity?

Breaking Through

- Exodus _____
- Acts 6
- Both of these are examples of the way leaders were encouraged to organize for more _____ and _____ ministry.

Be Sure Your Class Understands:

- The _____of Sunday School.
- The _____ functions of the Sunday School.
- The proper _____ and purpose of enrollment.
- The purpose and _____ of consistent ministry contacts.

NOTES

Contact Methods:

- _____
  - **Strengths**: Personal interaction, less formal than home visit, variety of opportunities.
  - **Weaknesses**: Time constraints based on setting, does not lend itself to assigned contacts.
- _____
  - **Strengths**: Perception of body language, personal touch, avenue to discover needs.
  - **Weaknesses**: May impose, high cost of time and energy.
- _____
  - **Strengths**: Many calls can be made in a short time, can leave a verbal message if not at home, low cost of time and energy.
  - **Weaknesses**: Cannot pick up on interests observed in person, cannot pick up on non-verbal communication.
- _____
  - **Strengths**: Can write in short time from any place, care communicated in time expended, can think through wording.
  - **Weaknesses**: No personal interaction, amount of communication minimized, cost of postage.
- _____
  - **Strengths**: Less formality expected, quick delivery, inexpensive, one note to several people, appeal to technological generation.
  - **Weaknesses:** Impersonal if sent to more than one person, limited interaction.

Equip Your Class:

- Class members may not _____ to make contacts if they do not understand the purpose or understand the potential _____.
- Invest _____ in training class members to participate at their level of comfort.
- Take time in class each week to _____ and _____ contacts.
- Establish Care Group Ministry in each Youth and Adult Class.

NOTES

Steps For Establishing Care Groups:

1. _____ and _____ a Care Group Coordinator for your class. [See Keys Book for Details]
2. The Care Group Coordinator will enlist _____ Leader for every _____ to _____ persons or couples enrolled in the class.
3. Schedule _____ training/update meetings for your care group leaders.
5. Assign or allow leaders to _____ _____ for their Care Group.
6. Begin making _____ contacts through Care Groups.

Care Group Leader Responsibilities

1. _____ each person assigned to your group within one week.
2. Get to know them _____. Write down biographical information including names of all family members, birth dates of all family members, mailing address, e-mail address, wedding anniversary, special interests, and any other _____ that would be helpful in providing ministry.
3. _____ each person that is assigned to your group in their home or have them in your home within _____ weeks of the assignment.
4. Call each member of your group each Monday or Tuesday night. Ask the following question: Do you have any prayer requests this week? Pray for any needs discovered and assist in meeting them when and if possible. Maintain _____ when appropriate.
5. _____ birthdays, anniversaries, special accomplishments, etc. of family members of the person assigned.
6. Develop a _____ with those assigned to the greatest degree possible in order to provide _____ and ministry.

Contact/Ministry Ideas:

1. Ask all adult and youth classes to _____ a Care Group Coordinator.
2. Expect all classes to _____ into Care Groups.
3. Have every class _____ total contacts made each week.
4. Report contacts in the same way that attendance is reported to _____ the importance.
5. Utilize _____ night callers.

NOTES

6. _____ contacts before leaving class on Sunday Morning.
7. Develop a _____ _____.
8. Deliver a gift (basket of goodies) to all first time guests.
9. Name Tag Contacts.
10. Meet regularly to update and train care group leaders.

Assignments:

1. Work with the Sunday School Director to develop a plan for equipping leaders to make, report, and measure contacts each week.
2. Plan an evening to equip Care Group Leaders for Adult Classes.
3. Read Chapter 4 of *Key Strategies*.
4. Bring as many leaders as possible to "age-graded training" session.

NOTES