Enrollment: Properly Defined and Applied

Sunday School/Open Group Ministries
Pole Creek Baptist Church

Previous Assignments:

1. Determine what organizational adjustments need to be made in the coming year. Discuss these with your Sunday School Director and determine when to implement.
2. Read Chapter Two of *Key Strategies*.
3. Complete reading of one of four books.

Did You Know?

- In recent years it has taken (on average) _____ SBC churches to enroll _____ person in Sunday School?
- Over 300,000 of Georgia's resident members are not _____ in a class?
- On any given Sunday in Georgia, _____% of those enrolled are present?

Why Should You Focus On Enrollment?

- It is a _____ that can enable your church to reach, minister, assimilate, and teach God's Word to your members and to the _____.
- It is the core of a comprehensive _____. It is the building block for other practices common in healthy, growing Sunday Schools.
- It is a measure by which you can track _____ and see _____.

What Happens When a Person is Enrolled?

- **Intercession**: The person can be _____ for regularly whether they attend weekly or are struggling spiritually.
- **Invitation**: The person can be regularly invited to _____ in fellowship opportunities where meaningful relationships can be developed.
- **Involvement**: The person is _____ to engage in Bible Study that strengthens their relationship to God, to family, and to Kingdom service.
- **Inclination**: The person is _____ and more likely to engage in evangelism and outreach than a person not enrolled in a small group.

NOTES

Three Most Effective Assimilation Tools

from <u>High Expectations</u>

1. A _____ Sunday School
2. A New _____/New Christian's Class
3. An Emphasis on _____

The Demise of the Enrollment Strategy

"An effective effort was made to pair the roll down to those who actually _____ rather than using the roll as a pool from which to draw prospects or visitors. While this was intended to more accurately reflect church attendance, it indirectly contributed to an attendance decline. Attendance suffered because marginal members (those not on roll) were neglected. Enrolling new members was not emphasized because all energy was placed on attendance. The enrollment "window of entry" was lost to Sunday School. The church was left with one less way of _____ people."

-Elmer Towns

Ephesians 4:11-13

"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we <u>all</u> come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

A Sound Enrollment Strategy:

- Is _____
- Can encompass _____ _____
- Breaks down _____
- Serves as the _____ pool
- Provides observable _____

Three Enrollment Approaches

- No _____
- _____ Lists (Closed Enrollment)
- _____ Lists (Open Enrollment)

Best Enrollment Practices

- "_____" Enrollment: Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime as long as they agree.
- Enrollment is a list of people that the class _____ to minister to.

NOTES

- Enroll all _____ _____.
- _____ enroll all new members as they join.
- Conduct a worship _____ quarterly (or at least annually)

Enrollment Notes

- Enrollment is not the same as _____ _____.
- Enrollment serves as the attendance pool and functions like a _____
- Enrollment (rightly applied) serves as a ministry and accountability _____.
- Increasing enrollment alone will not grow _____, but you can't sustain growth without increasing _____.

Barriers To Enrollment

1. The _____ Membership Barrier
2. The Multiple Sunday _____ Barrier
3. The _____ Only Enrollment Barrier
4. The _____ The Rolls Barrier
5. The Lack of _____ Barrier
6. The Enrollment Is Not _____ Barrier

Survey Says:

Georgia's Fastest Growing Sunday Schools:

- _____% have a growing enrollment
- _____% automatically or strongly encourage enrollment upon joining
- _____% of resident members are enrolled compared to 70% state wide
- Average 46% present compared to 49% present statewide
- _____% have open enrollment

What About Percentages?

- 100% falsely _____ that there is no one else to reach. This is never the case.
- Percentages can be useful for _____.
- 40-60% is a healthy _____.
- Less than _____% usually indicates deficiency in ministry, contacts, and care.
- More than _____% usually indicates deficiency in evangelism, outreach, and enrollment practices.

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Where To Start If You Have No System

1. _____ what type of roll you will use.
2. _____ rolls for each class. Gather information on all who are attending.
3. Conduct two registration Sundays to _____ those that are not attending.
4. Conduct a _____ blitz of resident members.
5. Compile the information and _____ all rolls.
6. Begin _____ accurate records each week.

Look at I Corinthians 12:18

- God has placed the _____ in the body of the local church, and He has given you the responsibility to minister to them.
- It is not only the people who _____ that you are to care for, but for all of those that He has placed in the body.
- If you remove names because they do not attend, they ultimately become _____ to the ministry of the church.

Enrollment Policy Reflecting I Corinthians 12:18

- We believe God has placed _____ in our body as He has chosen.
- We will obey the Great Commission in seeking to _____ anyone, anywhere, anytime as long as the person agrees.
- We will not _____ members from the roll unless they die, move, join another church or request removal.
- We commit to minister to everyone enrolled without regard to their pattern of _____.

Evaluate By These Criteria:

- Do you have an increasing enrollment?
- How does your enrollment compare to your resident membership?
- Is your attendance to enrollment percentage between 40-60%?
- Are new members automatically enrolled?

Ten Enrollment Ideas

1. Practice _____ Enrollment
2. Provide opportunities during the _____ _____
3. _____ first time guests to enroll
4. Place new members on a Sunday School roll _____
5. Plan a special enrollment _____ each year
6. Enroll all _____ members

NOTES

7. Give enrollment cards to _____ _____
8. Enroll at _____ events
9. _____ Infants
10. Set enrollment _____

REMEMBER:

"If you're not enrolled in Sunday School, you ain't got no class!"
- Andy Anderson

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.*

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