

## **LEADERSHIP LESSON 17: SUNDAY SCHOOL ALIVE: INVOLVE EVERY PERSON\***

### **OUTLINE BY DANIEL EDMONDS**

In I Corinthians, the Bible reveals that the church is the body of Christ and that each one has a place in the body. It has been said that 20% of the people do 80% of the work. There is evidence that many adults with a great diversity of talents and abilities are not discovering the opportunity to serve in the church. Many of those will leave the church within a short period of time because they do not sense they truly belong. Let's look at seven ideas to involve every person in meaningful ministry.

#### Extend an invitation

Some people are waiting to be asked and/or allowed to serve. The first service many perform comes when a Sunday School leader invites them to lend assistance in accomplishing a task. Leaders should learn to always take someone along in ministry.

#### Expand classroom opportunities

Many classes operate on a small leadership base of a teacher and a clerk. Expand the service opportunities by adding greeters, hospitality leaders, outreach leaders, care group leaders, prayer leaders, fellowship leaders, teachers in training, missions leaders, mission project teams, and others.

#### Expose class members to church service opportunities

Remember to point class members to the church-wide service opportunities. Some churches create numerous service teams that always need additional workers.

#### Explore passion and gifts of members

Many people are more willing to serve when the activity involves something they are passionate about doing. Show members how they can do what they love for the Lord.

#### Encourage short duration projects and ministries

The idea of service can have greater appeal to some if it does not involve long term commitment or can be done in a short amount of time. A first step in service may be to commit to doing something for one hour, once a quarter.

#### Enlist prospects in appropriate projects

Through serving an organization many people realize they to want belong. There are some things that prospects can do even before they belong. For example, they could be involved in a repair project, disaster relief, or giving guidance to the development of an event. In the process, they will be surrounded by believers who can share Christ with them.

#### Expect people to serve

High expectation churches are growing at a rapid rate. They are letting people know what they can expect from the church and what the church expects of them before they join. People need to know that service is expected and desired.

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