

LEADERSHIP LESSON #50: GETTING PEOPLE PLUGGED IN THROUGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

OUTLINE BY MICHAEL L. DAVIS

Sunday School is not only the “outreach arm of the church,” it is also the “assimilation center” for the church. Nearly every person involved in any ministry position or program of the church is a part of Sunday School. Sunday School provides the greatest opportunity for **prospects** and **members** to get involved in the other areas of the church.

How do I get new members and prospects, as well as inactive members “plugged in” through Sunday School?

- Establish effective, active, definite **care groups**.
 - One of the problems with most care group systems is that there is no definite, Sunday School-wide plan.
 - To be effective, care groups must function **weekly**.
- Allow care groups to meet each week at the beginning of the class session.
 - Allow time for **prayer**, **fellowship** and discussion of ministry needs.
 - Ensure that all **guests** are included in the care group time.
 - Rolls should be provided for each care group and leader should be responsible for “taking” the roll.
- Hold care leaders **accountable** for follow-up of new prospects assigned.
 - Each week, as new prospects are discovered and assigned to a class for outreach and follow-up, **send** the **contact information** to a specific care leader.
 - Call for reports of care ministry **weekly** and monthly.
- Encourage care groups to plan regular fellowships.
 - An extension of class care group time.
 - Easier to coordinate schedule of smaller group.
 - Provides better opportunities to build relationships.

Other ways to “plug in” new people are:

- Plan class **ministry** or **mission** projects. This is a great way to get new, excited members and prospects involved. You can discover their interests and gifts as well.
- Use any announcement time to promote ministries and programs that class members are involved in. Let members **share** their experiences with these ministries and encourage others to join.
- If you regularly have new members and new prospects, invite **church staff** members to share about their ministries during class opening time. Allow for Q&A.

Reaching, teaching and ministering: the functions of Sunday School. One way to minister to our people is to assimilate them, to make them fully functioning disciples of Christ.

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- Hold care leaders _____ for follow-up of new prospects assigned.
 - Each week, as new prospects are discovered and assigned to a class for outreach and follow-up, _____ the _____ to a specific care leader.
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