LEADERSHIP LESSON 10: CORE VALUES OF SUNDAY SCHOOL
OUTLINE BY TOPPER REID

Introduction

‘A core value may be defined as the “essential and enduring tenets of an organization” that lead to the guiding principles that impact how everyone in the organization thinks and acts.’ These values define what an organization stands for. Core values seldom change. Even though an organization may experience new leaders, fads, change its name, employ new strategies, restructure, or undergo technological change, the core values are the glue that hold the organization true to its purpose over time.

The Great Commission is the foundation from which the core values of Sunday School are drawn and hold us true to the purpose of Sunday School in the past, the present and the future. Even the name Sunday School may change, but the core values of Sunday School will always remain. Matthew 28:19-20 (KJV) give us the basis to define our core values: “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the son, and of the Holy Ghost: . . . teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.” It is upon this scripture that our core values for Sunday School are laid. The definition for Southern Baptist Sunday Schools is stated as: Sunday School is the foundational strategy in a local church for leading people to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and for building on-mission Christians through open Bible study groups that engage people in evangelism, discipleship, ministry, fellowship, and worship. Our core values may simply be stated under the following five areas: Evangelism, Discipleship, Fellowship, Ministry and Worship. Let’s look at each one of these separately and define each one.

The Five Core Values of Sunday School

Evangelism: we will seek to reach people for Christ.
• Build relationships with people outside the class in order to reach them.
• Share our personal stories about how Christ makes a difference in our lives.
• Intentionally grow our class to the point we must start new classes.
• Develop and maintain a file of information about potential class members.
• Follow a weekly plan to enlist new class members.
• Implement an on-going “open group” strategy.
• Be committed to a strategy to implement the Great Commission

Discipleship: we will teach the Bible to transform human lives.
• Learners will be engaged in thirty minutes of weekly interactive Bible study.
• Class members will be challenged to develop weekly personal study times.
• The Bible is used as the textbook for study.
• A well-balanced, doctrinally sound curriculum is used as a guide for study.

Fellowship: we will provide opportunities to develop relationships.
• We will be receptive to guests that join us in our class.

1The CEO Refresher; Back to the Beginning-Core Values by Rick Sidorowicz

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• A **warm caring** environment is the goal for each class session.
• A social event will be planned every **4-6 weeks** throughout the year.
• Each social event will include **relationship-building** activities.
• All members, in-service members, and **guests** will be invited to socials.

Ministry: we will **minister** to the **needs** of each class member.
• Each member will be placed in a **Care Group** and contacted systematically.
• A concerted effort will be made to know each person’s **life needs**.
• Our class will have a **plan** for crises that occur in the lives of members.
• Class members will be encouraged to find their place of **ministry**.
• The class will be organized by **giftedness** so that the class functions properly.
• The class will plan regular **ministry projects** to meet needs in their community.

Worship: we will encourage each person to be **involved** in worship.
• Each member will be challenged to have a **daily** quiet time.
• All members will be encouraged to **attend** corporate worship.
• Each member will be challenged to observe weekly **family** devotions.
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Introduction

A _______ __________ may be defined as the "essential and enduring tenets of an organization" that lead to the guiding principles that impact how everyone in the organization thinks and acts.

_______ values seldom change.

Core values are the _______ that hold the organization true to its purpose over time.

The _______ ______________ is the foundation from which the core values of Sunday School are drawn.

The name ________ _________ may change, but the core values of Sunday School will always remain.

The core values for Sunday School may be broken down into five broad areas of ministry:
1)_________________ 2)__________________ 3)___________________
4)____________________ 5)__________________________ .

Implementing the Five Core Values of Sunday School

Evangelism: we will seek to ________ people for Christ.
• __________ _________ with people outside the class in order to reach them.
• Share our________ _________ about how Christ makes a difference in our lives.
• Intentionally grow our class to the point we must________ _______ _________.
• Develop and maintain a _____ of information about potential class members.
• Follow a weekly plan to _______ new class members.
• Implement an ongoing “_______ _________” strategy.
• Be committed to a __________ to implement the Great Commission.

Discipleship: we will teach the Bible to ________ human lives.
• Learners will be ________ in thirty minutes of weekly _________ Bible study.
• Class members will be challenged to develop weekly personal _______ times.
• The Bible is used as the ___________ for study.
• A well-balanced, doctrinally sound ________ is used as a guide for study.

Fellowship: we will provide opportunities to develop___________.
• We will __________ to guests that join us in our class.
• A ___________ environment is the goal for each class session.
• A social event will be planned every ______ _______ throughout the year.
• Each social event will include __________ _______ activities.
• All members, in-service members, and _________ will be invited to socials.

Ministry: we will ________ to the _______ of each class member.

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• Each member will be placed in a _____ _________ and contacted systematically.
• A concerted effort will be made to know each person’s _____ ________.
• Our class will have a _____ for crises that occur in the lives of members.
• Class members will be encouraged to find their place of ________.
• The class will be organized by ____________ so that the class functions properly.
• The class will plan regular __________ ________ to meet needs in their community.

Worship: we will encourage each person to be _________ in worship.
• Each member will be challenged to have a ______ quiet time.
• All members will be encouraged to _____ corporate worship.
• Each member will be challenged to observe weekly _____ devotions.