

Riverview Baptist Church
Sunday School Lesson Guide
October 5, 2014
"5 Keys For Sunday School"

Memory verse:

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10, NIV

Sunday School

Today we will be discussing 5 key actions/characteristics of a healthy, growing Sunday School class and program. Before you begin, after prayer, ask the class if they can identify any of the 5 keys. If you've already given out the learner guides, this should be easy. When someone answers, ask them to identify a way that we as a Sunday School class/program show that characteristic. For example, if someone answers "Evangelism," ask them "How do we evangelize as a class?" etc. You'll be asking similar questions after each section. Make sure the class knows that the purpose of these questions is not to make us feel bad if we're slipping in some of these areas. The purpose is to generate desire and new ideas for making our Sunday School more vibrant, caring, kingdom-oriented to the service of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

1. Evangelism - an evangelizing Sunday School has to **care**.
Members have to care enough to invite lost friends and neighbors to church and Sunday School. We have to care enough to pray for the lost and share our faith with them. We have to care enough to welcome them into our classes to learn and fellowship. Teachers have to care enough to lead their classes to greater knowledge of Jesus' free gift of salvation, and how the Bible all points to the key relationship that can be regained between man and God. Although few, if any, would admit it, we all fall short of this level of caring. Some are too distracted, too jaded or too scared to care for those around us by sharing the Gospel; however, if we pray and ask God to restore our joy and gratitude towards Him for saving us, we can regain that burden for winning lost souls!

"How do we currently do evangelism?" and "What can we do to start/improve evangelism?"

2. Discipleship - a discipling Sunday School has to **teach and lead**.
Members have to read and study the Word of God, believing in its authority and infallibility, seeking God's will. The teacher must teach faithfully and consistently with scripture. Members must support each other in our Christian walk of faith and at times hold each other accountable. Members must be responsible for living out the teaching we have received, being not only hearers, but doers of the Word ([James 1:22](#), [Romans 2:13](#)). We must believe and participate in God's plan to conform us into the image of Christ, sanctifying us for His purposes according to His Word, which is the Ultimate Truth ([John 17:17](#)).

"How do we currently do discipleship?" and "What can we do to start/improve discipleship?"

3. Fellowship - a fellowshipping Sunday School has to **get together**.
Members cannot survive or thrive individually. We need the love, encouragement and support of our Christian family. It is in Sunday School that we can really be accessible to the family of God. Members should share our needs for prayer and care enough to pray for each other. In

times of trouble, death or sickness, members must give each other assistance and comfort as we can. We should enjoy recreation together and celebrate the relationships and life that God has given us.

“How do we currently do fellowship?” and “What can we do to start/improve fellowship?”

4. Ministry - a ministering Sunday School has to **support**.
First, a Sunday School must minister to its own members, the Church, God’s family. Next, a Sunday School must support its church ministries. Teachers need to promote church ministry efforts and remind their classes of opportunities for service, whether it’s a construction project, a food drive or the Christmas shoebox drive. Members should be willing to participate and give of their time, money and efforts to keep these ministries going. Finally, Sunday School should support missions, foreign and domestic. Whether it’s giving money, donating resources or just sending encouraging letters and prayers, we should be aware of and support the missionaries that our church supports.

“How do we currently do ministry?” and “What can we do to start/improve ministry?”

5. Worship - a worshiping Sunday School has to **honor God**.
As Sunday School members, we should have a reverence for God and His Word. We should be faithful in attendance and place importance on gathering together for worship. We should show how much we value God by our willingness to participate and lead in the good work that God has arranged for us to do ([Ephesians 2:10](#)). Worshiping God “in spirit and in truth” ([John 4:23](#)) comes from believing God’s promises, God’s Word, to the point where we let it change us inside and out, in our identity and in our deeds. Sunday School is one of our best opportunities to let that worship show!

“How do we currently do worship?” and “What can we do to start/improve worship?”

Take Home:

Class: Make a list of all the improvement, ministry, missions, evangelism, and fellowship ideas that your class has generated today. Pray over them for God to show us how to proceed as a class.

Individual: Pray this week every day for God to show you a way you can be more active in your Sunday School class to promote community and service.