

## Ideas for Conducting an Expanded Sunday School Attendance Campaign

These ideas can be adapted to fit whatever date you choose for your High Attendance Campaign. Call our office if you need any help.

### 1. Emphasize a Special Age-Group each week

Use the five Sundays during the month to put a special emphasis on each age-group in the church. Starting with the Preschoolers the first Sunday, Children the second Sunday, Youth the third Sunday, and Adults the fourth Sunday. Then on Show-Me Sunday, emphasize all age groups. (On months with only 4 Sundays, combine Preschool and Children's emphasis on first Sunday.) Use the week proceeding each Sunday to contact all members and prospects for that age-group and encourage them to be present for Sunday School on Sunday. Plan a special fellowship time and/or a special training event for workers of that age-group on Friday evening or Saturday morning. Conduct a fun get-together for the members and prospects during the week before either at the church or at another location. Recognize the age-group during the Sunday morning worship service and share what was done that week to encourage attendance.

### 2. Set a Weekly Sunday School Attendance Goal

After setting your overall goal for High Attendance Day, subtract your average attendance from your High Attendance Goal and divide by the number of Sundays in the campaign. Add that amount to your average attendance figure to set your attendance goal for first Sunday. Add the same amount to the first Sunday's goal to set your attendance goal for second Sunday. Continue in the same way for each Sunday. Encourage individual classes to do the same. Then work hard to try and achieve the goals each week.

Example:

High Attendance Goal:	150
Average Sunday School Attendance:	- <u>100</u>
	50 divided by 5 Sundays = 10

Attendance Goal 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday:	100 + 10 = 110
Attendance Goal 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday:	110 + 10 = 120
Attendance Goal 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday:	120 + 10 = 130
Attendance Goal 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday:	130 + 10 = 140
Show-Me Sunday:	140 + 10 = 150

### 3. Set An Enrollment Goal for New Sunday School Members

Use this emphasis to have each class set an enrollment goal for Show-Me Sunday. Challenge each class and department to increase their enrollment by at least 5%. In a class with 20 on roll, that means they would only have to enroll 1 new member! Another idea would be to have the members of each class decide for themselves how many they would like to try to enroll instead of setting a goal for them. You may need to have the teachers or department directors review the importance of enrolling new members in a Sunday School class. This might be a good time to review your enrollment procedures. You might also have the pastor take time from the pulpit to share the importance of Sunday School and encourage church members not enrolled in Sunday School to use this High Attendance emphasis as a time to get started in Sunday School. On High Attendance Day, be sure and recognize those classes and departments that reach or exceed their enrollment goals.

#### **4. Plan Prospect Discovery events**

Here is a list of prospect Discovery events that you can use during the month –

- Welcome-to-the-community cards – mail a welcome card to new families
- Recognition for special groups – honor a special group in your community
- Dog show – Award ribbons for every dog. Have a local feedstore donate samples of dog food for the “winners”.
- Conversational English classes – minister to persons with English as a second language.
- Seminars – conduct seminars on topics of importance to adults in your area (financial planning, parenting, etc.)
- Let’s play ball! – visit prospects and invite them to come to a sports activity followed by refreshments or a meal.
- People Search – they still work! This can be a big project, canvassing an entire neighborhood, or just knocking on doors for one hour.
- Church members not enrolled in Sunday School – They will usually respond to a newly formed pastor’s class.
- People who show up at your church – get good, complete information so you can follow up more effectively.

This is just a sample of many ideas that you can come up with to plan ways of discovering prospects in your community. Call for more details, or check the Lifeway.com website.

#### **5. Conduct a Weekly “Show-Me” Visitation Night**

In survey after survey of the fastest growing churches in America, they all indicate that a weekly visitation ministry is one of the most important factors in their success. If your church does not have a regular weekly visitation ministry, this might be great opportunity to start one! Emphasize the importance of contacting all members as well as prospects discovered at your Prospect Discovery events. Be sure someone is in charge of organizing the visitation cards with complete information. And have maps available so that time is not wasted trying to find where people live. Review the proper way to make a visit and how to share an evangelistic presentation. Contact our office for more help, if needed.

#### **6. Conduct a High Attendance/Evangelism Day to conclude the emphasis**

Make sure that your High Attendance Day is an exciting day at your church. Have a breakfast for everyone prior to Sunday School. Make sure extra greeters are available to help guests find their way. Have name tags for everyone who attends. Plan the worship celebration to reflect the excitement of the day. Recognize classes, teachers, and individuals that made an exceptional effort to make the High Attendance campaign as success. Make sure the music, testimonies and sermon have an evangelistic theme. Pray, expecting God to bless by seeing lost people attend the day and receive Christ as Savior. Perhaps have a church-wide “pot-luck” dinner following the morning worship service. Or have a special afternoon service of music. Let God guide you as you plan this special, exciting day in the life of your church!