

# SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAINING FALL 2015

## Items that need your Attention:

1. There will be a church-wide lunch after the service in 2 weeks – August 23<sup>rd</sup>. We want to highlight our Sunday School ministry. Please prepare to share (or find someone from your class who will share) a 1-2 minute testimony about your class.
2. We will be moving to a 2 Service/2 Sunday School model on Sunday, September 14. This will result in a service and Sunday school running at 9:45-10:45AM and another service and Sunday school running from 11:00-12:00PM. Please check with your class to see if you might move your meeting time to the 11AM hour.

## How to be an Awesome Sunday School Teacher

1. Know your lesson

1 Timothy 4:13 (HCSB) Until I come, give your attention to public reading, exhortation, and teaching.

- a. Start by reading through the lesson as early as Sunday Afternoon/ Monday Evening.
- b. Seek out supplemental resources
  - i. A Study Bible (ESV or McArthur)
  - ii. Check out the free commentaries available on Biblegateway.com (<https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/commentaries/>)
  - iii. If you are teaching through the Gospel Project - check out their supplemental videos and teaching tips available for free online at <http://www.gospelproject.com/adults/additionalresources/>
  - iv. If you teach through “Explore the Bible” or “Bible Studies for Life” you can access seminary-level supplemental notes for free from: <http://founders.org/ss/>

- c. Strive to personalize the illustrations. If you know the illustrations will not connect well with your class, write out a better one.

## 2. Know your People

1 Thessalonians 2:8 (HCSB) We cared so much for you that we were pleased to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.

- a. Pay close attention during the prayer request time in your class to hear what is going on in the lives of your class members. Make notes and follow up with people when the requests are of a serious nature.
- b. Try to host a class-wide fellowship at-least once every three months in an effort to better know the members of your class.
- c. Make attempts to grab a meal with the people in your class that you do not know very well.
- d. Look for ways to involve various members of your class in the ministries, fellowships, and services of the church.

## 3. Know Jesus

Revelation 2:2-5 (HCSB) I know your works, your labor, and your endurance, and that you cannot tolerate evil. You have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and you have found them to be liars. You also possess endurance and have tolerated [many things] because of My name and have not grown weary. But I have this against you: You have abandoned the love [you had] at first. Remember then how far you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. Otherwise, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.

- a. Spend daily time in prayer and in the Word of God.
- b. Schedule some time in the week where you can get into the presence of God. (Literally place Jesus on your schedule)

- c. Seek to teach your class out of the overflow of those moments with God.

Acts 4:13 (HCSB) When they observed the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed and recognized that they had been with Jesus.

Other Resources mentioned in the class:

1. Sermon Resources that can assist in the research of teaching a Sunday School lesson.
  1. Truth For Life Ministries - Allistair Begg. Allistair is a clear bible teacher with a Scottish accent and a great sense of humor. All of his sermons have been made available for free. Download his app in any app store (Search for "Truth for Life") or learn more at [www.truthforlife.org/](http://www.truthforlife.org/)
  2. Redeemer Presbyterian Church - Dr. Tim Keller. ([www.redeemer.com](http://www.redeemer.com)) Look for the free Redeemer app in the app store of your mobile device.
  3. Grace to You ministries - Dr. John McArthur ([www.gty.org](http://www.gty.org)) Look for the free Grace to You app in the app store of your mobile device.
  4. Ligonier Ministries - Dr. R.C. Sproul ([www.ligonier.org](http://www.ligonier.org)) Look for the free Ligonier app in the app store of your mobile device.
  5. Sermons of Dr. Hershael York - Buck Run Baptist Church. Dr. York was my professor of preaching at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. <http://www.buckrun.org/sermons/speaker/dr-hershael-york/>
2. Wordsearch Bible Software - Download the free software and more than a hundred free books by checking out [www.wordsearchbible.com](http://www.wordsearchbible.com)
3. Josh Hunt's 20 Questions resource. Josh has written a ton of books that are useful for Sunday School. Learn more by checking out <http://www.amazon.com/Josh-Hunt/e/B001IOH8CK>
4. The New Reformation Study Bible. Dr. R.C. Sproul's newest study bible. See a sample at <http://www.ligonier.org/store/the-reformation-study-bible-esv-hardcover/>

5. Olive Tree Bible Software - Useful for iPad and android tablets as well as most phones. You can get the ESV Study Bible, McArthur Study Bible, and the Reformation Study Bible available from this company. Learn more at <https://www.olivetree.com>
6. Matthew Henry's Commentary. A free, public domain commentary that is incredible. Of the two options, the full version is more preferred:
  1. Access the full version online for free by going to <http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/matthew-henry-complete/>
  2. The abridged version is available at <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/matthew-henry/toc/>
7. The Teacher's Commentary. Wrongly attributed in the class to Herschel Hobbs, it is actually the one written by Lawrence O. Richards that I prefer and use. <http://www.amazon.com/The-Teachers-Commentary-Lawrence-O-Richards/dp/0896938107> Hershels' is available at <http://www.amazon.com/Teachers-Bible-Commentary-Herschel-Hobbs-ebook/dp/B004T0AAMK>
8. Sword Searcher Software. Learn more at <http://www.swordsearcher.com>
9. E-sword software. Learn more at <http://www.e-sword.net>
10. Commentaries of John Calvin. Available for free online at <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/calvin/commentaries.i.html>
11. Commentaries of John Gill. Available for free online at <http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/gills-exposition-of-the-bible/>

Other helpful resources that I would add:

1. Talk Thru the Bible - This is one of the greatest Bible handbooks that I have used for many years. A dependable and concise work that you will use again and again. <http://www.christianbook.com/talk-thru-the-bible/bruce-wilkinson/9780840752864/pd/52865>
2. Sermons of Charles Spurgeon. Study a text, work on your lesson, and if you have any more time available, lookup and read Charles Spurgeon's sermon on

the passage. All are available for free at <http://www.spurgeon.org/spsrmns.htm>