

E **Everyone needs Jesus Christ to be their Lord and Savior.**

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).

V **Vigilance is needed to respond to the Holy Spirit's opportunities for witnessing opportunities.**

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth (Acts 1:8).

A **Accept others for whom Christ has died.**

For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost (Luke 19:10).

N **No other way of salvation; Jesus is Plan A. There is no Plan B.**

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved (Acts 4:12).

G **God commands His people to share the Good News.**

Because I am compelled to preach—and woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! (1 Corinthians 9:16).

E **Eternity is at stake for those without Christ.**

Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.¹⁵ And anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:14-15).

L **Love God, others, and self.**

³⁷ Jesus said to him, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command. ³⁹ The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands” (Mt. 22:36-39).

I **I must share the Gospel.**

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek (Romans 1:16).

S **Start new classes and groups to reach new people.**

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. ³⁸ Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest” (Matthew 9:37-38).

M **Minister to others with sincere love and urgency.**

³⁵ Jesus continued going around to all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd (Matthew 9:35-36).

2 KINGS 7:9-11 (NKJV)

⁹ Then they said to one another, “We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news, and we remain silent. If we wait until morning light, some punishment will come upon us. Now therefore, come, let us go and tell the king’s household.” ¹⁰ So they went and called to the gatekeepers of the city, and told them, saying, “We went to the Syrian camp, and surprisingly no one was there, not a human sound—only horses and donkeys tied, and the tents intact.” ¹¹ And the gatekeepers called out, and they told it to the king’s household inside.

JEFF INGRAM
ADULT MINISTRY STRATEGIST
JEFF.INGRAM@LBC.ORG
318.448.3402



LOUISIANA BAPTIST CONVENTION
P.O. BOX 311, ALEXANDRIA, LA 71309

WHAT HAPPENED TO EVANGELISM & THE SUNDAY SCHOOL?



VOICES FROM THE PAST

THE PLACE OF SUNDAY SCHOOL IN EVANGELISM, J. N. Barnette, 1945. (pg. 91)

The Mission of a Church is to Seek and to Save that Which is Lost. The Bible order is seeking and saving. A Church in any phase of its work cannot help people until the workers bring them into the church houses or go to them wherever they are. Some people in every community will never attend Sunday school unless officers and teachers go and bring them. There are souls that may be eternally lost unless Sunday school officers and teachers go after them.

USING THE SUNDAY SCHOOL IN EVANGELISM, Leonard Sanderson, 1958.

Lost people are everywhere—in the cities, in the country places, in the suburbs, in old communities and new communities. Some of them are rich, some are poor, some are young, some are old, some are educated, some are illiterate, but they are everywhere. Paul reminds us that “there is no distinction; for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:22-23). (pg. 28)

OUTREACH FOR THE UNREACHED, A. V. Washburn, 1960.

MORE is the word! The answer to the needs, problems, and opportunities of our churches is in a word:

MANPOWER ORGANIZATION READINESS ENTHUSIASM

Yes, we need more! More of everything that is good! More teachers, more preachers, more classes, more departments, more churches, more Sunday Schools, more visitation, more Bible teaching, more Bible studying, more praying, more planning, more organization, more soul-winning, more dedication, more training, more all-out effort to do the will and work of Christ than ever before! (pg. 137)

REACHING ALL PROSPECTS FOR THE CHURCH, A. V. Washburn, Compiler, 1964.

A prospect for a church is any unsaved or unchurched person within the reach of that church. The major purpose of a church’s outreach is to bring each prospect under the influence of the Gospel. (pg. 17)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AT WORK, 1968-69 (Junior Workers’ Edition), A. V. Washburn, Compiler, 1968.

Everything a Sunday School does is for the purpose of getting the Word of God into the hearts and lives of people. (pg. 39)

FUEL THE FIRE: LESSONS FROM THE HISTORY OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST EVANGELISM, Charles S. Kelley Jr., 2018.

People should be enrolled in Sunday School whenever and wherever possible. Sunday School is a vehicle for reaching unsaved and unchurched people, not primarily a means to nurture believers.

What made Sunday School such an important part of the evangelism process? If lost and unchurched prospects could get connected to a Sunday School class, two important things would happen over time. First, they would hear more and more of the Bible explained. The gospel would become more familiar and be better understood. Second, the lost and unchurched would have natural opportunities to form relationships with Christians in the class and church. Such relationships often proved crucial in nurturing faith. “Bible-lationships” is my term for the power of combining teaching the Bible and building relationships. Both goals must be addressed in any Sunday School or small group strategy. (p. 94)

Perhaps the greatest challenge for the Convention is to keep the Sunday School focused on

evangelism rather than nurture as its primary focus, especially as churches move away from the name Sunday School. The use of terms such as small groups, care groups, or life groups, does put more emphasis on nurturing members than evangelizing the lost. (p. 98)

“New efforts should be made to refocus Sunday School on evangelism. Teachers need training to teach the lessons evangelistically.” (p. 99)

Total Reporting LBC Congregations/Zero Baptism Churches/%

