

# The Aim of Sunday School

## I. WHY DO WE NEED SUNDAY SCHOOL?

### What is Sunday School?

1. Sunday School is:
  - a. Evangelism
  - b. Teaching
2. Sunday School fulfills the Great Commission of Jesus Christ



#### **Mark 16:15**

*“He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.’”*



#### **Matt. 28:18-20**

*“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’”*

3. This mission was given to the Church by Jesus
4. We are laying the foundations for tomorrow’s church.

### B. What is our aim?

1. We need to question our own motives
2. Our aim is twofold:
  - a. Evangelize To tell every child the Good News about Jesus so he can be saved.
  - b. Teach To teach the children the Truths of the Word of God so that he would be able to grow in faith.

## II. WHY SHOULD WE PREACH THE GOSPEL, EVEN TO THE CHILDREN



#### **Rom. 3:10-12**

*“As it is written: ‘There is no one righteous, not even one; <sup>11</sup> there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. <sup>12</sup> All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.’”*



#### **Rom. 3:23**

*“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”*

**A. Children need to hear the way of salvation.**

1. All are sinners, even the children.
  - Rom. 5:18
2. The wages of sin is death. It doesn't matter if we feel the sin is small or big.
  - Rom. 6:23
3. Every person needs to be redeemed by Jesus Christ from God's punishment for sin.
  - Acts 4:12
  - Rom. 10:13

**B. What is the way to salvation?**

1. Hearing the Gospel (Rom. 10:17)
2. Having Faith (Rom. 10:17)
3. Calling out to the Lord for faith (Rom. 10:13)
4. Repenting of Sin (Acts 2:38, Acts 17:30)

**C. The Letter of the Law vs Spirit of Grace**

1. Fulfilling the Law does not save us.
2. The purpose of the Law is to make us conscious of sin.
3. God's gift is eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.
4. We need to find ways to reach children with the GOSPEL.
5. The difference between the law and gospel

LAW	GOSPEL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demands</li> <li>• Follower must behave perfectly</li> <li>• Follower must earn right into heaven</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declares</li> <li>• You only need to believe in Jesus, He has done everything for you</li> <li>• Follower follows Jesus Christ</li> </ul>



**Mark 4:3-20**

<sup>3</sup> "Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. <sup>4</sup> As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. <sup>5</sup> Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. <sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. <sup>8</sup> Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times." Then Jesus said, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."  
<sup>10</sup> When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables. <sup>11</sup> He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables <sup>12</sup> so that, "they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!"  
<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? <sup>14</sup> The farmer sows the word. <sup>15</sup> Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. <sup>16</sup> Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. <sup>17</sup> But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. <sup>18</sup> Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; <sup>19</sup> but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. <sup>20</sup> Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."

### III. EVANGELIZING IS SOWING THE SEED

#### A. Parable of the Sower

1. The Seed, the Word of God
2. The Sower, YOU the teacher
3. The Soil, the hearts of the children



#### B. Comparison of a child's heart (soil) and an adult's heart (soil).

1. A child's heart
  - a. Untilled field- Nothing is growing yet.
  - b. Soft for planting-Child is innocent and naïve.
  - c. Fertile soil- Whatever is planted will grow.
  - d. Easy to work on- Children believe easily and quickly.
  - e. Low cost- In comparison to adult rehabilitation.
  - f. Good & plentiful harvest- Child has lifetime ahead to serve God.
2. An adult's heart
  - a. Weeds & thorns- Left from life's cares.
  - b. Hardened, rocky soil- Hardened from life's hurts.
  - c. Barren soil- How many other seeds had been sown in the heart?
  - d. Demands lots of work- Needs to be rehabilitated & reformed.
  - e. High Cost- Example: Drug/alcohol abuse recovery.
  - f. Little or poor harvest- Life is partially over.

#### C. The Laws of Sowing

1. If we do not sow, we will not reap harvest.
2. If Christians don't sow good seed, the Word of God, Satan will sow bad seeds and spoils the field.
3. The earlier we sow, the greater probability of reaping harvest early.
4. The more generous we sow; more generous we reap.
5. We must work hard and sow faithfully.
6. We must sow in faith.
7. We plant the seeds, God causes the increase.

**D. Sunday School is firstly to sow and evangelize.**

1. The Sunday School Teacher is often the sower; the preacher is the reaper.
2. The purpose of the sower is to bring in a bountiful harvest for the Lord.
  - a) We want to lead as many children as possible to Jesus.
  - b) We must care for the spiritual growth of the children.

**IV. WHAT IS THE BENEFIT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL?****A. A born again child is great victory****Prov. 22:6**

*“Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

**2 Tim. 3:15**

*“From infancy, you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

**B. The church experiences success when children are born again.**

1. Many times, God calls, selects, and uses children in His work.
  - Samuel (1 Sam. 3-3-11)
  - Timothy (1 Tim. 4:12)
  - David ( 1 Sam. 16:1-14)
  - Jeremiah (Jer. 1-4-10)
2. New members will take on responsibilities in the church.
  - Singers and musicians
  - Sunday School Teachers
  - Youth Leaders
  - Evangelists and preachers
  - Elders and deacons
  - Missionaries
  - And many other roles

**Train up a  
child in the  
way he should  
go, but be sure  
you go that  
way yourself.**

**-Charles  
Spurgeon**

**Now you are  
in deep, in  
what seems  
to me a  
peculiarly,  
selfless service.  
The spiritual  
training of  
children must  
be that.  
You work for  
the years you  
will not see.  
You work for  
the Invisible  
all the time,  
but you work  
for the Eternal.  
And that is  
worthwhile.**

**-Amy  
Carmichael**