

SOS for Teachers

“...teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.”

Matthew 28:20

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“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.”
Ecclesiastes 9:10



Hot or Cold?

Which do you prefer? We have our likes and God does, also. He says in Revelation 3:15,16, “I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.”

In the way we live and conduct ourselves, we should not be extremists according to Paul in Philippians 4:5, “Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.” And I Timothy 6:20, “O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called.” But in our service for God, He wants us to be “hot” and not “mediocre”.

Successful teachers give their all in order to see changes in the lives of their students. They pass time studying, preparing lessons and activities, spending time with their students, and praying for every aspect of the class and for each student individually.

What is our service to God like? Is it “hot, cold or just warm”? Let’s give our best to our Lord who gave His all for us!

On Time!

Is it possible to get your students
to arrive on time?

Here are some ideas
to help you to begin on time.

The Teacher

If the teacher doesn't arrive on time faithfully, one cannot expect the students to do it. The instructor should arrive **at least 15 minutes** before the time for the class to begin in order to:

- (1) Prepare the classroom for the lesson – everything ready on time.
- (2) Greet each student cordially as he arrives.
- (3) Provide pre-class activities.

Ideas to help obtain this goal

- A. Reward them for getting there on time even if it is just a sticker.
- B. Provide pre-class activities: color a mural, do a craft, Bible games, etc. all related to the theme of the class.
- C. In the preschool classes have organized play.
- D. Promote the pre-class activities with the parents.
- E. For the adults, you could provide refreshments and create an atmosphere of fellowship.
- F. An exposition or video presentation before the class, etc.

A Good Atmosphere

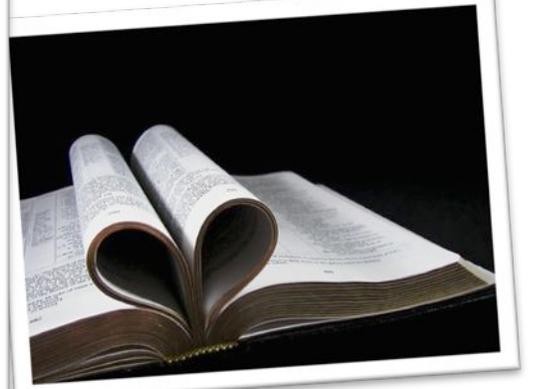
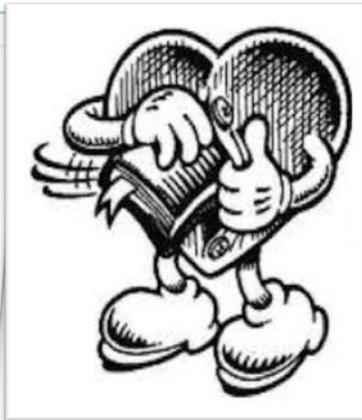
Creating an atmosphere of love and acceptance will cause people to want to come back and to arrive on time. If from the moment they enter the door they feel these two things, they will not want to miss. People whose job it is to greet people and who have the talent to do so and some orientation as to how to do it are a great asset in this area. It is also great when the pastor and his wife are there to greet. Another valuable tool is to introduce new people to people of similar interests so they can form friendships.

Summary

The Bible teaches us that we should use our time wisely. One way to do it is to use well the time we spend in God's house. Beginning on time, creating an atmosphere of love, and providing opportunities for learning and service, help realize this goal.

It requires an investment of time, service and finances, but what is more important than communicating God's love, forgiveness and security? It will give you a feeling of accomplishment. It will result in people saved, mature Christians and rewards in heaven.





Psalm 119:11

“Thy word have I hid in mine heart,
that I might not sin against thee.”

While talking with the teacher of the Personal Evangelism class, we learned that there is a decline in the memorization of Scripture in the churches. He commented to us that each year the new students know less and less verses by memory.

The book of Psalms teaches the importance of learning and memorizing Scripture. All of the verses in Psalm 119 but four make a mention of the Word of God, the law, etc.

Children learn and remember more easily than adults. The age of the greatest ability is the primary ages of 9 to 11 years old. It is important to lead them to memorize Bible verses. But let's not limit it to them. Adults need to keep reviewing and memorizing also. It strengthens their spiritual as well as mental life.

It is of greatest importance that young people know verses by memory, so they will choose God's ways.



In the toddlers classes we teach them short phrases like “God is love.” As they grow, we give them more to memorize. When they are learning to read, we give them longer verses and passages, then the names of the books of the Bible, etc.

Knowing the importance of the memorization of God's Word and recognizing their capability to memorize, let's challenge them with systematic memorization plans that include larger passages.

MEMORIZATION PLANS

The Books of the Bible

Genesis 1

Hebrews 11

The Beatitudes

Isaiah 53

Psalm 1, 19, 23, etc.

John 1

I Corinthians 13

John 3

Verses for the Plan of Salvation

Seek to be a Blessing.

¿How can we do it?

1. Be conscious of others conditions.
2. Listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit
3. Obey the Word of God.

I am a Pastor

What is a pastor?

Three words in the New Testament speak of the function and office of the pastor. I Timothy 3:1 talks of the pastor as a bishop. This speaks of his position of being over the church as illustrated in Revelation 2 and 3; he is the messenger of God to his church. Also we have the word elder which speaks of his spiritual maturity and wisdom. The word pastor is also used and refers to the work and responsibility that he has with the church over which God has placed him as bishop.



Priorities

The writer remembers two very influential pastors in his life. Each demonstrated in his ministry the priority of taking care of the flock first. Each, in the mornings, ordered their time by visiting the members that were sick in the hospital or home. Then they dedicated time to visitation and evangelism. Both had large churches that experienced constant growth, and a spirit of love permeated their congregations.



The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Psalm 23

Psalm 23 teaches us of the work of the pastor. 1. Verses 1 and 2 tell us that the pastor is to provide for the church in such a way that there is no want; he is to provide the church rest and relief as well as the spiritual food that is needed. 2. Verse 3 speaks of the pastor providing to his flock consolation under all circumstances and diversity of problems in their lives. 3. Also the pastor has the responsibility of providing to his flock's spiritual correction, which should always be administered in the spirit of meekness and love. 4. Verse 5 speaks of the fact that he also should anoint his church with oil. That is to say he should take care of his sheep when they are sick and needy. 5. James 1:26 and 27 tells us that the pastor should always demonstrate pure religion without any stain by visiting the sick, afflicted and orphans.



Accountability

One of these pastors told these words to the writer which he has never forgotten. "If we're not careful we will overlook the most important things in order to tend to things that are important." Remember, the pastor, according to Hebrews will give account to God for each of the members. The church is the most important work of the pastor. Love your church, take care of the flock, and pastor your church in such a manner that you will be able to give an excellent rendering of each person before God.



Love your Neighbor

"For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Galatians 5:13-14

The Scriptures teach that God has compromised Himself with the principal objective in the life of His people, that of conforming them to the image of His Son. What is the "image of His Son? It is found in the words of Jesus himself: "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45) .

Thus, it makes sense to say that God desires the same for us. Upon bringing us into His family through faith in His Son, the Lord sets His sight on producing in us the same qualities that made Jesus distinct...the heart of a servant and a generous spirit. It is easy to lose sight of our first calling as Christians, including those of us in leadership who should be directing with a true humility and an authentic will to help others.

The more familiar symbols of Christianity are the cross, the ichthus (fish in Greek), the symbol of the fish and dove as symbols of the Holy Spirit. However, the less known symbol of Christianity probably is that of the towel and pan of water. The same towel that Jesus used when, with humility and service he washed and dried the dirty feet of his disciples. Jesus instructed His disciples after washing their feet to do the same one to another.

J. Dudley Woodbury tells the true emotional story that occurred in the fields of the saddened refugees of Peshawar, Pakistan. The skirmishes between the Majahideens in post Soviet Afghanistan when the resurgence of the Taliban resulted in thousands of the refugees flooding the camps near the border. The majority of the children ran throughout the camps without shoes both in the heat of summer as well as in the intense cold of winter.

One Christian organization brought hundreds of sandals for the children, but decided not only to distribute them to the children, but also to attend to the sad state of their feet. They used as many volunteers as possible, who

washed the unclean feet of the children and applied medicine to their sores, praying for them in silence as they gave them a pair of shoes.

According to the story, some months later, a teacher in a Muslim school asked her students to tell her who were the best Muslims. One little girl raised her hand and responded, "The Kafirs" (the unbelievers). After which, the teacher recuperating from her "heart attack", asked the little girl, "Why do you say they are better Muslims?" The little girl responded, "The Malahideens murdered my Daddy, but the Kafirs washed my feet!"

The flames of enlightenment will be ignited in the hearts of those who do not know the Lord and will be innumerable, if we will only truly follow the Lord..

TODAY'S ACTIVITY: Today, I will search for a way to serve others with genuine humility as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

PRAYER: Lord, help me to love as you loved, help me to serve and give myself to others as you did in your example.

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"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

John 13:35

...Unto the uttermost...

“But ye shall receive power,
after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:
and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem,
and in all Judaea, and in Samaria,
and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”
Acts 1:8

México

Population

Total - 112,336,538
Women - 57,481,307
Men - 54,855,231
(2010 Census)



Mexico's population has grown at a tremendous rate. Today's (July 2004) population is about 105 million. 20 years ago it was 67 million. That is a 64% increase in only 20 years. (<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/mexico/religion.htm>)

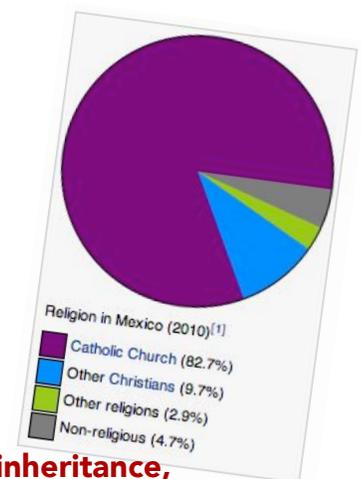
Roman Catholicism is the main religion in Mexico; 88 percent of the population five years of age and older identified themselves as Roman Catholic in the 2000 census. Protestants and Evangelicals were the second largest religious group, accounting for approximately 5 percent of the population. The rapid growth in Protestant and Evangelical membership slowed during the 1990s, averaging a 3.7 percent annual rise from 1990 to 2000 (versus 10 percent during the 1970s and 5 percent during the 1980s). (<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/mexico/religion.htm>)

According to the [National Commission for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples](#) (CDI) there are 14,850,000 indigenous people reported in Mexico in 2010, which constitute 13% of the population in the country.

The absolute indigenous population is growing, but at a slower rate than the rest of the population so that the percentage of indigenous peoples is nonetheless falling. The majority of the indigenous population is concentrated in the central and southern states, that are generally the least developed, and the majority of the indigenous population live in rural areas.

We have been unable to find any stats on the inroads of fundamental Christianity in Mexico, only by individual groups, which does not give us a combined view as to the progress of the gospel. But from the above stats, we can deduct that although there has been success in this area, the need is far greater. There are many cities with from 1 to 3 million that have a gospel witness, but due to the enormity of the population there is still an great need for more mission work. Smaller towns abound, many with very little true witness.

The Baptist Bible Fellowship of Mexico has churches in almost all of the states of the country and are working with at least 5 of the 56 recognized indigenous groups. There is still much work to be done in order to spread the gospel in Mexico. More missionaries, pastors and full-time workers are necessary in order to compete this task and rescue this needy and dangerous land for the Lord Jesus Christ.



**“Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance,
and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession..”**

Salmo 2:8