

# SOS for Teachers

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

Matthew 28:20



## A Balanced Ministry

When God created the world, He balanced nature. For a marriage to work harmoniously, there has to be a biblical balance. Not everything or everyone does the same thing or has the same function. Many things work in opposites or contrasts. The Lord's work also has to be balanced. Not everyone has the same job.

An army of only “Generals” or only “Privates” could not function. Neither can a church with all “leaders” or all “followers”. Each one in the body has his position and integrated purpose.

A successful leader understands the roles of each member of his group. There can only be one leader who leads the other leaders who have responsibilities with smaller groups, either in classes, music or other positions of service.

A church or class needs a leader, leaders, secretaries, treasurers, evangelizers, trainers, musicians, nurturers, cooks, builders, technicians, etc. They serve according to calling,

“And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.”

Ephesians 4:11-16





talent and disposition. It should not be expected that everyone does the same or all things, but that each executes well and faithfully his responsibility. All do not and should not be expected to fit the same mold, nor feel guilty because they are not good at certain jobs. Each should excel in the service for which God has equipped him.

In an army there are many positions from Generals on down to inductees. If each soldier does not do his job to the best of his ability, obeying orders, maintaining his position and dedication, the mission will not be successful. God's army needs the same.

Is your ministry balanced or does it tip to one side? Do you have a just balance?

Make a list of the positions and jobs in your church or class. Add the names of the people fulfilling these areas of service. Evaluate to see if each is faithfully fulfilling his responsibility and if he is suited to his job. If not, seek to balance the ministry by making the needed adjustments and adding personnel so they may also serve and help fulfill the mission God has left us to do.

## The Greatest of these is Love....

**What is it that really brings people to Christ?**

God's love – John 12:32

Love for God – John 14:15

Love for the brethren – John 13:35

Love for others – I John 4:8

## Witness

What you have seen or experienced.

**Tell:**

What Jesus did for you and how you responded.

**Teach:**

The Way of Salvation from God's Word.

**Tender:**

Present them with the opportunity to believe, accept and receive Christ's salvation.





## Make it Special!

### *Keep them Guessing!*

“I can’t wait until next Sunday!” is what we want to hear from our students each week. An interesting class, a loving atmosphere, acceptance, and lots to do are some of the things that will keep your students returning to class. How can we achieve this?

Making each class “special”, keeping them guessing what is going to happen and making them feel accepted and loved requires planning, principle and work. Think of ways to make each class “special”.

Use a theme that coordinates with the lesson or series of lessons and decorate the classroom accordingly. For example: If you are studying the creation make a beautiful life-size garden with drawings, real plants and animals. For the life of the patriarchs, make the room a huge tent with accessories, cardboard camels, etc. For each series redecorate the classroom accordingly.

Get them involved. Assign them things to do, both in the classroom and out. Participation not only increases learning, but also enthusiasm, unless it is grievous. It shouldn’t be too hard, too easy or boring. Everything can be made exciting if it is presented in the right way. Ask them to bring a certain article or items to use during the study. Ask them to conduct an interview and report the results. Assign teams for different jobs in the classroom, etc.

Make each person feel special. Love and attention are magnets that are always successful. Remember you can’t fool children. They are good readers of human genuineness. Let God’s love flow through you to them.

Let each class be so different that they always have something special and a surprise. Use interest centers, object lessons, drama, guest speakers or interviews, puppets, furniture modification, videos, music, etc. These can be short in nature and coordinated with the learning objective for the day.

If the students are expecting something “special”, their curiosity and love for the teacher and the class will keep them coming back each Sunday.

Don’t forget to keep the parents interested and involved. Communicating with them through correspondence, visits and encouraging them to help, assures the faithfulness of the child.

Try these ideas with the young people and adults also. It works just as well with them as with the children. Ask God for guidance and don’t be afraid to be different, enthusiastic and loving.

### **Ecclesiastes 9:10**

**“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do,  
do it with thy might.”**

# Teaching Children Missions

## Is it important?

From a very young age children are like sponges, soaking up everything around them. What they learn this way becomes a pattern throughout their entire life. (Proverbs 22:6) Practice reinforces what they learn in this process. They should be taught God's commands regarding missions and obedience to His Word. Memorization and practice go hand in hand in order to accomplish this.



Creating a love for missions and missionaries fortifies this mission. Invite missionaries and/or their wives to participate in the class frequently. Encourage them to converse with the missionaries. Promote missions and/or missionaries in every class.

Other ideas: Have a special emphasis on missions one Sunday a month, prepare and maintain a missions bulletin board, ask the students to prepare reports on certain missionaries or mission fields, prepare gifts to be sent to missionaries, read prayer



letters, have a continued missionary story in each class, have them look in their homes for things made in other countries to bring and display, prepare missions posters for a contest, etc.

Prepare missions dramas, music and special programs to be presented before the church during mission conferences. Each class or each department could promote a certain country.



Make each detail memorable and we will see them surrendering their lives to serve as missionaries, prayer warriors and faith promise givers. We must teach them to pray, give and go, that the whole world may know!

**Go ye into all the world,  
and preach the gospel to every creature."  
Mark 16:15**



# 7 High Costs of Good Leadership

**Personal agenda** – Good leaders give up their personal desires for the good of others, the team or the organization.

**Control** – What you control you limit. Good leaders give freedom and flexibility to others in how they accomplish the predetermined goals and objectives.

**Popularity** – Leading well is no guarantee a leader will be popular. In fact, there will be times where the opposite is more true. Leaders take people through change. Change is almost never initially popular.

**Comfort** – If you are leading well you don't often get to lead "comfortably". You get to wrestle with messiness and awkwardness and push through conflict and difficulty. It's for a noble purpose, but it isn't easy.

**Fear** – Good leadership goes into the unknown. That's often scary. Even the best leaders are anxious at times about what is next.

**“And let us not be weary  
in well doing:  
for in due season we shall reap,  
if we faint not.”  
Galatians 6:9**



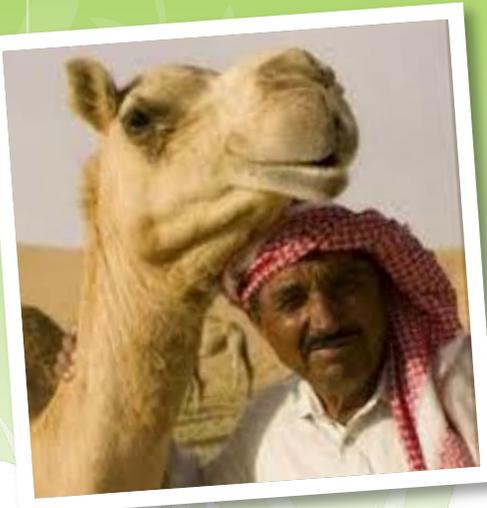
**Loneliness** – I believe every leader should surround themselves with other leaders. We should be vulnerable enough to let others speak into our life. But, there will be days when a leader has to stand alone. Others won't immediately understand. On those days the quality of strength in a leader is revealed. This one should never be intentional, but when you are leading change...when it involves risk and unknowns...this will often be for a season a significant cost.

**Outcome** – We follow worthy visions. We create measurable goals and objectives. We discipline for the tasks ahead. We don't, however, get to script the way people respond, how times change, or the future unfolds. As leaders, we should consider whether we are willing to pay the price for good leadership. It's not cheap!

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<http://www.ronedmondson.com/2013/11/7-high-costs-good-leadership.html>

# Balance in Missions

Are we reaching souls in "all nations"? (Matthew 28:19)  
In order to do so there must be a church to send and a person to go. To have a "balanced" ministry it has to be "world-wide". Is our ministry focused on only one continent or do we seek to send missionaries "around the world"? Where are the most non-evangelized people?

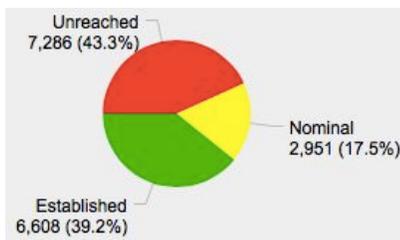


## Unreached People

According to josuaproject.net, of 16,845 people groups, 7,286 are unreached. That is 40.7% of the world population. Jesus said: Matthew 24:14 *"This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come."* Paul wrote: *"Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation: But as it is written, To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand."* Acts 15:20



**"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."  
Mark 16:15**



The church needs the vision, but there have to be qualified, spiritual Christians who will answer the call, volunteers who are willing to live in a strange world, learn to speak a difficult language, confront danger and make major adjustments to their way of life, which is what Christ did when he came to this world to prepare us a way to live in His world. "For God so loved the world..." Are we willing, ready and moving in His direction? "Go ye..."

Where are these unreached groups? Most are in the Middle East, and Asia. And we need to be reaching them with the gospel. But this does not exclude the rest of the world. Each generation brings its non-evangelized. Other considerations are different social classes, education levels, ethnicity, the incapacitated, mentality, religion and age. God has a place of service for every Christian. If we love Him as we should, we will seek to obey his command and calling, and look for our specific area of service. God loves ALL the world and wants "every creature" to hear his "good news". Is our missions outreach balanced?



**"And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations."  
Luke 24:47**