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**GROWING AND GROOMING SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

**The Process of Grooming and Growing SS Teachers**

**Dr. Mike Wells**

1. As you embark upon growing and grooming a Sunday school teacher, you must first know what you want to groom them to become.
* What is your ultimate goal?
* What do you want them to achieve?
* What do they need to achieve in order to become a Sunday school teacher?
* In order to hit the mark you must first know what the Mark is?
1. After you have established your goals–what you're going to expect out of them–then you can begin to grow and groom Sunday school teachers.
2. Here is some ideas as to how to grow and groom your future Sunday school teachers:
3. Have programs already in place that promote growing and grooming future leaders and Sunday school teachers.
4. Handpick each Sunday school teacher.
5. Do not just ask for volunteers. If you put an untrained or unwilling person in the position to be a Sunday school teacher, you will frustrate them, yourself, and all the members of that class.
6. Spend time growing and grooming people, and your leaders will rise to the top.
7. In choosing a Sunday school teacher, we first watched them to see how they are already living.  We wait to see if they volunteer to do various things that a Sunday school teacher would do. We watched them go through the steps of growth before considering them to become a Sunday school teacher:
8. Do they stay around to help clean up after events and volunteer to serve in various areas?
9. Before they become a Sunday school teacher, they first show that they can serve; then they become a worker, an assistant teacher, and then a Sunday school teacher.
10. Watch them to see where they would fit in best.
11. Some individuals would do better teaching children, others teaching teenagers or adults.
12. Some individuals would do better teaching the drive-in crowd, while others would be better in teaching those who ride the buses.
13. When you are considering someone to be a teacher, invite them to attend your weekly or monthly teachers’ meeting. This way, you can begin to grow them and groom them for the upcoming position before they assume it.
14. In some cases, a person may need to go through adult discipleship training in order to get them corrected or strengthen their personal doctrine and practice.
15. Always remember that training leaders takes longer than training followers.
16. Just because they were a Sunday school teacher at another church doesn't mean you should always immediately put them in as a Sunday school teacher when they transfer membership to your church.

**Sunday School Teacher of the Year**

The Sunday School Teacher of the Year should be chosen by the Sunday school leadership, teachers, directors. etc. Do not let the classes choose this person, as most would choose their own teacher.

The following suggestions may be helpful in making your selection:

1. Present every Sunday morning.
2. Gives themselves totally to building their class for God.
3. Attends all church services regularly.
4. Attends church soul winning/visitation on a regular basis.
5. Actively involved in total program of the church.
6. Presents an image of Christ at all times, including separation, attitudes, and appearance.
7. Has an organized class.
8. Presents lesson material properly.   (Have some way of knowing whether this qualification exists.)
9. Constantly goes after new prospects.
10. Regularly proves themselves a follower of the pastor.

Using the above statements and to the best of your knowledge of the individual work of each teacher, please select the teacher you think should be the SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR (Attach a list of all teachers to be chosen from.)

Your choice of teacher \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Requirements for Sunday School Workers**

A teacher will teach more by his example than he will by his words. A teacher must be a spiritual Christian; therefore, the need for requirements:

1. The teacher must be sure of his own salvation. (Do not take this for granted,)
2. The teacher must be faithful in all church attendance.
3. The teacher must be a soul winner.
4. The teacher must be willing to pray and visit each student in the class, as well as others, to grow the class.
5. The teacher must abstain from worldly practices and live a separated life.
6. The teacher must support the church with a tithe of his income.
7. The teacher must not be negligent in duty.
8. The teacher must be willing to cooperate in a spirit of love with those who are in authority over him.
9. The teacher must refrain from gossiping, backbiting, envying, and stirring up strife among the workers.
10. The teacher must be loyal to the doctrinal statement and the pastor of the church. (See enclosed statement)
11. The teacher must be in his place of service on time. (Normally 15 minutes early)
12. If and when the worker fails to meet these requirements, he should resign his position at once rather than bring reproach upon the work of the Lord.