



tips for youth workers

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Give Your Class A Great Start

One of the main task of Sunday school teachers and ministry leaders is to create a warm, caring environment where everyone – both regular attenders and visitors – feel special and experience God's grace. Creating an inviting classroom or meeting space that makes a great first impression is one strategy to help fulfill this goal. Check out these suggestions:

Make Your Meeting Space Inviting

- Keep your room neat
- Set up the lesson before students arrive
- Use a variety of learning materials and activities
- Put the chairs in a circle, around a table or in an inviting pattern so no one is left out
- Display the Bible openly so everyone will know that it is important to your class

Greet Your Students at the Door

- Arrive at least 15 minutes before your meeting/class begins
- Greet each student by name as they arrive
- Have Christian music playing in the background
- Involve students in learning as soon as they arrive

Develop Relationships with Students

- Discover your students' interest, abilities and needs
- Pray for each student at least once a week
- Call or visit at least one student each week
- Make home visitation a priority for inactive students and visitors
- Keep an ongoing prayer list on the bulletin board, and check off answers to prayer

Be Aware of Group Dynamics

- Take note of talkative students as well as those who need encouragement to participate
- Distinguish between those behaviours that can be modified, and those that are outside of your or the student's control
- Contact students who seem sad or withdrawn. A phone call or card will help them feel God's love

Take Care of Yourself

- Tend to your spiritual needs with a quiet time each day
- Attend congregational worship, and participate in Bible studies and fellowship opportunities
- Take advantage of teacher education events in your local church or community