NLEASHING HE GOSPEL

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ARTICLE Will You Teach in Sunday School?

Prayer Spotlight Sunday School Ministry



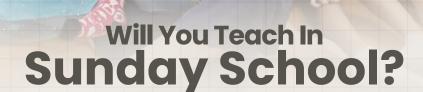






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- MAIN SERVICE | Physical & Youtube | Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am
- YOUTH SERVICE **ZOOM** Sundays 9:00am

SUNDAY SCHOOL For Ages 3 to 12 (Preschool to std 6) Physical Classes 8:45am / 11:15am



Finding people to teach children in our Sunday School (SS) is a TALL and BIG Order! Sundays after Sundays, we find the classes helmed by the same few faithful teachers/helpers. Sure, we do laud the efforts of this reliable group but there is also such a thing as burnout (as in the secular world). Even if there is no burnout, there are some teachers who have to sign off for other reasons. Here's the CRUNCH - a perennial need to recruit more teachers/helpers. Not that the SS didn't try but most of the

time the ministry comes up against a barrage of No, No replies.

Which makes us think - why is there so much reluctance among the worshippers to volunteer as SS teachers? Maybe, some people think they are not cut out to be teachers or they need to be Bible scholars first ... well, the list of doubts goes on. The best way to know what it's like to be a SS teacher and to address some of these doubts is to hear from the teachers. themselves.



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Rena Ngeau

My dad wished to see one of his three daughters be a teacher when they grew up. Never! That was my response. I've never wanted to be a teacher, what's more, I never thought that I would one day become a SS teacher!

It all began when the Second Service SS started a few years ago and teachers were needed. God has been good to me and I saw this as an opportunity to serve. Of course, there was the initial fear and hesitation. I felt I was not that well-versed in my Bible knowledge. What if the children ask questions that I can't answer? Children are very clever nowadays. What if the parents find me not good enough to teach their children? So many questions but the prompting of the Holy Spirit led me to take up the challenge.

I may not meet all the qualities to fulfill the role of a SS teacher but to me, having a liking for children is the first step to start with. The phrase "you learn as you teach" is very true. Over the years, each time I prepare for the

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The teaching content needs to be solidly based on Biblical truth. As SS teachers, it is our responsibility to dig into God's Word not just to teach our lesson, but to understand it fully and allow it to permeate every part of our life. So, I benefitted just as much from being a SS teacher.

Teaching is a challenge in concept and lots of fun in understanding and the application of it. Give it a try, you will be surprised! Never say never, especially to God because you do not know what God has in store for you!



Genevieve Chia

God led me to serve in the SS Ministry after I volunteered to help out in a Vacation Bible School classroom in 2013. It was like a sneak peek into what teaching in a classroom was like. I loved every joyful moment of it.

When I first started serving in SS, I helped out in craft. Slowly I transitioned to teaching and helping out in other areas. God is always good to provide me with the creativity and strength to serve in this ministry for so many years (especially during the pandemic lockdown when SS was on Zoom).

God has also provided me with good friends and teaching partners with whom we have bonded and grown close through our discussion time and "makan" sessions!

My advice to those thinking to join SS is to just Trust Him to lead your way and discover and know His plans for you are always good!





Chai Hweei Min

Childbirth itself is a miracle and seeing children grow to love Jesus is indeed encouraging and a blessing to me.

I started serving SS after leaving university, and it's been 15 years in total. Childbirth itself is a miracle and seeing children grow to love Jesus is indeed encouraging and a blessing to me.

I feel very energized being with them, especially when they can't wait to share their stories in class. Come and be blessed!!





Chan Yaw Phang

When my daughter Abby (3 years old then) was in the Toddlers class, there was no formal teaching team. We just had a few parents who saw the needs and took turns to lead the class until one of them wanted to make it more structured and invited me to join the Toddlers team.

Of course, the learning curve was steep, not so much on my understanding of the Bible, but more on teaching/relating to small kids as I was also a new parent



myself. I learned by observing other teachers. I was also guided by the teaching materials to lead the lesson relevant to that age group. One thing I missed was being away from attending the main worship service and the fellowship after that.

Teaching kids is actually a lot of fun and it is a joy to see them grow in the knowledge of our Lord. I can't believe I have now reached my 10th year in this ministry!

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My Bible Study Fellowship Children's supervisor always tells us that "Christianity is just a generation away from extinction". I can't agree more with him looking at the state of decline in Christianity in many developed countries. Even Proverbs 22:6 says "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

So it is important for more of us to get involved in this vital ministry to shape young minds and ground them firmly in the Word of God before the world lures them away. Don't be afraid to try it out. You don't have to commit to it if you find that it is not for you. Just come and experience it for yourself, and see how you can fit in. There are many areas you can serve in SS like worship, craft, bible story teaching, games, etc.

An additional note: Yaw Phang is one of the few male teachers in the "female-dominated" teaching team and the SS ministry hopes more men will come forward to join the ministry.



Sunday School is not just a way to occupy the children for a couple of hours. The SS mirrors the Main Worship Services in praise and worship, teaching God's Word and inculcating Christian disciplines.

At a SS training session, one particular statement stood out - Children are the most fruitful mission field - they are the most receptive to the Gospel. Just take one flight of steps up to FBC's first floor on a Sunday and survey the mission field on how you can be a part of it. For more inquiries, contact our Sunday School Principal, Vickki Ng at 019-310 5139.



Compiled by Vickki Ng (Sunday School Principal) & Sheila Teh (Sunday School Office -Admin/Editorial)



PrayerSpotlight

Sunday School Ministry

- 1. PRAY for more teachers and helpers for both the Sunday School (SS) sessions i.e. Gospel Kids and Kingdom Kids to fill up the vacant slots due to some teachers having to leave the ministry this year. The need for more Youths and Young Adults and especially for more men to come onboard to teach and mentor the pre-teen boys before they transit to the Youth Ministry.
- 2. PRAY for the present team of dedicated and faithful teachers. May the Lord grant them renewed strength, perseverance, good health and JOY to continue serving during this challenging time.
- 3. PRAY for all our SS children for their spiritual, mental, emotional and physical development during this pandemic. For their enthusiasm and willingness to continue attending SS punctually and regularly each

- week For them to hear the Gospel through the weekly bible lessons taught and for seeds to be sowed in their hearts so that they will grow and be transformed into Christ likeness as they build their lives on the strong foundation of Jesus Christ.
- 4. PRAY for those children who have stopped attending or have not been regularly attending since physical SS classes resumed on May 1 this year. For the Lord's protection upon them and to remove whatever hindrances that caused their absence so that they can join back our SS again.
- **5.** PRAY for parents to partner alongside with their child's class teachers for their child's spiritual development by going through the bible lesson/activities taught each week and spending time in prayer together as a family.