

T. E. A. C. H.

February, March, April 1994

Provided by the General Christian Education Dept.

Volume 1, Number 4

Making A Big Difference With Little Things

Most people want to make a difference with their lives but they have been deceived by believing that only the big and extravagant contributions are of any value. I love what Martin Luther King, Jr. said in the following quote. "Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace and a soul moved by love."

It may be that today you will have many opportunities to serve in a life changing way but you must stop looking only for the colossal and flamboyant or you will overlook them. I recently read a little story that slammed this truth into my spirit. I pray it will do the same for you as I share it with you.

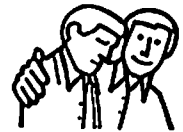
Mark was walking home from school one day when he noticed the boy ahead of him had tripped and dropped everything he was carrying. Mark knelt down and helped the boy pick up all the scattered articles. Since they were going the same direction, he helped to carry some of the items. As they walked Mark found out the boy's name was Bill. He discovered he loved video games, baseball, and history, that he was struggling with his other subjects and had just broken up with his girlfriend.

They came to Bill's home first and Mark was invited in for a Coke. They talked, watched TV and laughed together until finally Mark had to go home. They continued seeing each other around school and occasionally had lunch together. They both graduated from junior high and ended up in the same high school where they continued the casual friendship. Finally just a couple of weeks before graduation Bill asked Mark if they could talk.

Bill reminded him of the day years ago when they had first met. "Did you ever wonder why I was carrying so many things home that day?" asked Bill. "You see, I cleaned out my locker because I didn't want to leave a mess for anyone else. I had stored away some of my mother's sleeping pills and I was going home to commit suicide. But after we spent some time together talking and laughing, I realized that if I had killed myself, I would have missed that time and so many others that might follow. You see, Mark, when you picked up my books that day you also picked me up. You saved my life."

How many times have we missed golden opportu-

nities to touch and encourage someone because we were looking for something gigantic instead of something commonplace? Every one of us needs to develop a servant heart and a sensitive spirit that will help us detect the open doors for service and ministry in our day to day lives. People desperately need to know that you care about them and what happens in their life. You can make an eternal difference in a million little ways. Work on developing eyes that see opportunities and a heart that responds to them and you will be a blessing to the Kingdom of God.



Dan Harrison - C. E. Dept. Chairman

TABLE OF CONTENTS

What Church Grow Can do for you	pg. 2
Church Grow Conference	pg. 2
S.S. Growth in Montrose, MI.	pg. 2
David Ring Rally	pg. 3
Family Study Hour	pg. 3
Looking Ahead for Sunday School	pg. 4
Memory Madness!	pg. 4
Tape Sale	pg. 4
Stewardship Resources	pg. 5
Library Notes	pg. 5
Sr. Adult Ministry	pg. 6
New Classes in Mansfield Lin. Heights	pg. 6

What "Church Growth" Can Do For You!

In March, 1993 I had the opportunity of attending the Church Growth Conference in Anderson, Indiana. In fact, thirteen people from our church attended. When our pastor, Dan Harrison, would go to Church Growth, he would always come back with new zeal, new ideas and a real desire to take more people with him the next year. It is a special experience to share with board members, staff and other people who are active in the ministry of the local church.

The two days of workshops proved to be invaluable to the ministry of our church. The workshop leaders were Spirit-filled and the sessions were anointed of God. We could sense the presence of the Holy Spirit in every gathering.

The workshops covered a wide variety of topics for large and small churches alike. There were sessions on the family, children and youth ministries, prayer, spiritual warfare, small group ministries, women's ministry, counseling, outreach and evangelism. We not only gleaned a wealth of information from anointed speakers, but more importantly came home with a sense of revival and renewal.

Don't ever think that conferences like Church Grow are just for your pastor. You can be certain that everyone will benefit; those who attend and those who are waiting at home to be influenced by what was experienced there.

shared by: Marilyn Roades, Lay Ministry Director, Winchester, OH. CCCU



More about Church Growth

I can't say enough good things about the Church Growth Conference in Anderson, IN. In our everyday world we tend to focus on our difference of doctrine and neglect our common ground. Our one and only mission is to evangelize the world for Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior. Church Growth focuses on training and equipping the believers. The very best teachers and lay people in the church today are present with life changing seminars.

Wisdom, revelation and unity abounds in Anderson during this week. Men and women go home equipped for greater obedience. They bring back the things they have learned and share them with the entire congregation. Church Growth is something you can't afford to miss! See you there!!

Tim Naylor, S.S.Supt., Winchester, OH. CCCU.

CHURCH GROWTH CONFERENCE

April 15 and 16, 1994

Anderson, Indiana

The annual Church Growth Conference in Anderson, Indiana is a powerful tool available to us. This conference motivates and challenges the church in many, many ways. The atmosphere of energy and enthusiasm generated in the conference in past years has been fantastic.

As a pastor, board member, Sunday School Supt., teacher or leader in the church, you will be blest and prepared to go home and serve the Lord in new and powerful ways.

Keynote speakers will be Dr. John Maxwell, H. B. London, Jack Graham with Doug Olgham as worship leader. There is an early-bird registration deadline of March 15 which includes group rates for 1-5 & 6-10 people. For more information about this year's conference please call INJOY Ministries at 1-800-333-6506.

Bring a group from your church to this conference where lives change and churches grow!



Church Support Equals A Growing Sunday School

The Montrose, Michigan church has come upon a plan for their Sunday School that is bringing about dramatic results. They felt that a change was needed to be able to meet the needs of their community. They experimented with a variety of ideas until they came upon the current plan: A combined two hour Sunday School/Children's Church program.

The Sunday School/Children's Church is now averaging 65 in Jr. Church, 19 in Children's Church and 12+ in the Nursery. They have added a bus ministry for handicapped folks as well as streamlined classes for Career Age people and Teens. A recent addition is a Marriage Enrichment Class.

Pastor Bob Leming says, "On the coldest Sundays in January, we still had 145 in classes. People *wanted* to come to Sunday School. They didn't feel like they *had to!*"

We congratulate the Montrose church and know that the work they are doing will be a blessing to everyone it reaches. Thank you to Pastor Bob Leming for sharing with us, and encouraging us to look for ways that we can better our ministry areas.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION RALLY

March 18, 1994

7:30 P.M.

"YOU CAN DO IT!"

The C.E. Dept. is sponsoring a very special rally for March 18, 1994 at 7:30 PM. The location will be the Heritage Temple Church on South High in Columbus.

"YOU CAN DO IT!" is the message of nationally known evangelist David Ring of Orlando, Florida. You may have seen David Ring as a guest on Jerry Falwell's Old Time Gospel Hour, or on the 700 Club.

David Ring was born with cerebral palsy and presents a powerful testimony of how the love of Jesus Christ transformed him from "a cerebral palsy victim into a cerebral palsy victor." Empowered by Jesus Christ, David has overcome extreme physical and emotional obstacles to become a messenger of the gospel.

The C.E. Dept. is praying this evening will be a time of inspiration and rededication to evangelism for the people of our churches.

Don't miss out, sit down and mark March 18 - 7:30 PM on your calendar today. You will be blessed by attending this rally.



The Family Study Hour. . . An Alternate for Sunday Morning Sunday School

How can we generate more interest in Sunday School for the "Baby Boomer?" How can we change Sunday School from an informational and educational time to a life changing experience? These were some of the questions that we as a church wrestled with that led us to change our Sunday school time from Sunday morning to Sunday night.

It all started with the "Fifty-day Spiritual Adventure" by the Chapel of the Air Ministries. In the Sunday morning service, messages were centered around the

Dysfunctional Family. The Sunday night service was a follow up time in which there were small groups for adults, lessons for both the children and teens. Each had their own studies that went along with the Sunday morning's message. This was a positive experience for the church. (We continued with the Sunday morning Sunday school hour during this time.) After the 50-Day program was over, the church agreed to experiment for a three month period in changing the entire Sunday school to Sunday night. At the end of this experiment time, the church voted to continue this new format. We renamed the Sunday school to the Family Study Hour, and started it at 6:00 PM on Sunday nights. The church has enthusiastically adopted the change and plan on keeping this format for the future.

We have been in the new program for over 6 months, and here are some observations:

1. It has brought renewed interest and enthusiasm to the Sunday School hour. The attendance has picked up 20-25%.

2. We went into the Family Study Hour not only changing the name, but also with a new approach. Two of the three adult classes follow a small group format. We added 3 new classes for a total of 10 classes.

3. The work load on Sunday has lessened because we were trying to have a good nursery and music program in both Sunday morning and Sunday night services. Now more emphasis is placed in both of these ministries on Sunday morning. On Sunday night, the adults and children have a separate opening which consists of announcements, several choruses, and short prayer. (10 minute max. for opening)

4. Greater emphasis is placed upon the Sunday morning worship time now. It gives more time to plan, prepare and to arrive ready to worship with only one focus on Sunday morning.

5. The Sunday evening time after classes allows a natural time for class activities and fellowship time.

We believe that this format will help us to fulfill our mission statement here at Xenia Grace Chapel. We are still working through some of the details and monitoring the whole system closely. We realize that this will not work for many churches, but so far it has gone extremely well for us.

Rev. Dan Jordan, Xenia Grace Chapel, Xenia, OH

Are you trying something new and exciting in your church? Are you working on a different plan of action for a ministry? Give us a call and fill us in on what is happening! We'd love

to share your idea with others because hearing of someone else's accomplishments is often all that it takes to give us the courage to try. Our number is (513) 695-0025, office hours are 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Ask for Cindy.





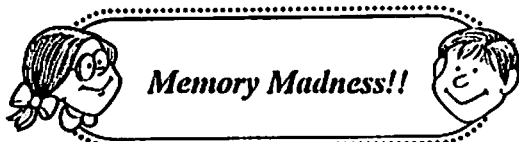
Looking Ahead at What's in the Making for Your Sunday School!

Have you ever said I've run out of ideas! I need more help for my children's ministry! Where can I find some fresh ideas?

A resource notebook that is full of ideas and helps for your children's ministry is "in the making" right now. Our General Christian Education Dept. has a committed group of nine ladies working on a notebook just for you. It will have helps, ideas, and resources for teachers and children's workers. Some of the categories included in the notebook are: Children's Church, Missions, Bible memorization, Children's programs, Tips on Discipline, Music, and more. Members of the committee coordinating this notebook are: Cheryl Benner, Naomi Dean, Stephanie Schellin, Cheryl Harrison, Karen Hughes, Kathy Cook, Monena McCarty, Jeanette Post and Ele Thompson.

Our goal is to give to you in the local church as many helps as we can to make your ministry effective. Please pray for our committee as we work on the notebook this year. And keep your eyes open for the day when it arrives in print.

Ele Thompson - Committee Chairperson



Kathy Cook/Circleville Jefferson CCCU

Let's play a game! What do these words do for you? If you're a four to twelve year old, it probably clues you in that FUN is ahead. "We will now have our memory verse for today." These words may produce a feeling of a dry, dull, boring class time ahead.

Have you ever picked up your lesson plan, read the memory verse, and thought, "If we have extra time, we will say this verse over and over and hopefully it will stick?" The greatest asset we have to help our children memorize scripture is prayer. God is faithful, and if we ask for His wisdom and help, He will guide us to the verses our children need.

To encourage your children to memorize God's

word, let's also use creative, fun methods in our classrooms. None of us want to be guilty of associating boredom with the House of God. Do you want the children you teach to only endure the hour, or do you want them to truly enjoy memorizing God's word? You have the wonderful blessing of giving them the ONLY thing that will NEVER fade away! (1 Peter 1:24,25)

According to George B. Leonard, "It's as cruel to bore a child as it is to beat him." Let's have fun with our children so they can look back over their children's church years with exciting memories of verses they can recall in time of need. (Psalm 119:11)

The games following are just a small sample of the many memory verse ideas listed in our upcoming Christian Education Manual. Try them this Sunday and see if a 'game' might excite and encourage your little ones! To God be the glory!!

AFTER WORDS: Each word of the verse is written on a separate index card or shape. With two players competing, the teacher shows them any word of the verse. The first player to tell what word of the verse comes after the word shown, becomes the winner. As a way of keeping score, you can play along with the game, Church Search.

CHURCH SEARCH: Have different point values written on the back of little church shapes. When a team answers a question correctly, they come to the board and pick a church, which reveals that number of points for their team. Highest score wins.

WORD WAR: The beginning letter of each word in the verse is written on a separate index card. With two players competing for their team, the teacher holds up a letter, the first one to say which word of the verse begins with the letter shown, becomes the winner.

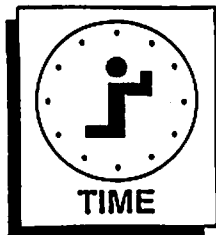
WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? On a separate index card, write individual numbers, up to the number of words in the verse. Pick two people to race against each other. If the teacher holds up a number '7', the first person to tell what the seventh word of the verse is, becomes the winner.



Extra Tapes for Sale!!

Does the 1993 C.E. Convention seem that it was a long time ago? Have you forgotten some of the key points and ideas you heard there? The C.E. Office has available for you to borrow or buy tapes from the convention. Total cost for the set of 19 tapes including shipping is \$33.00. Give us a call at (513) 695-0025 whether you would like to purchase 1 tape or a set of tapes, or perhaps to borrow them from the Lending Library. Ask for Cindy.

STEWARDSHIP IS . . .



This issue we are focusing on several of our resources in the Lending Library on the topic of STEWARDSHIP. Call Cindy at (513) 695-0025 to check out one of the following items and see what will happen in your church!

What'cha Gonna Do With What'cha Got? (Injoy)

This four part audio cassette series focuses on the fact that God is the source and we are the channel of his blessings.

Sermons on Stewardship (Injoy)

God's principles and laws concerning stewardship can be a blessing or an objection. Five audio cassette tapes with titles including: God's Timing and My Time, What is a Faithful Christian? and Characteristics of a Contributor.

Stewards Together (Injoy)

This audio cassette program shows you how to preach a stewardship series that will increase your giving and involve more members in lay ministry while casting vision for the direction and growth of your church. Series includes five cassettes and a notebook outline.

Stewardship: The Missing Piece to Successful Living (Injoy)

This series addresses the importance and relevance of stewardship to daily living. Titles include: The Benefits of Lifestyle Stewardship; Poverty or Prosperity- Which is Biblically Correct?; If God Owns It All, What Am I Doing With It?; One Plus One = ?. Four cassettes with outlines.

Stewardship is Lordship (Injoy)

This four part audio cassette series helps put stewardship into its proper perspective. Who or what is Lord of your life will determine your view towards stewardship. The four message titles are: What is Lordship?; Why is Lordship Necessary? I; Why is Lordship Necessary? II; Four Signs of a Sensible Steward.

Let It Begin With Me (Injoy)

Four audio cassettes that focus on the management not ownership, of God's resources. You will learn about "My Problem", "My Privilege", "My Potential", and "My Part" of becoming a good steward

Stewardship Is A Choice(Injoy)

This kit includes samples of resource materials that were given to the congregation during this four-week series. The series defines a lawful giver and a liberal giver. Kit comes with four audio cassettes and outline.

The ABC's Of Stewardship (Injoy)

Stewardship is not what we have, but what we do with what we have. Four audio cassettes teach us about Attitude, Blessings, Consecration, and Donation. Outline is included for each tape.

Jesus Teaches Stewardship (Injoy)

These sermons address the four key areas of stewardship: Priorities, Responsibilities, Giving and Investments. Four audio cassettes make up this series.

God's Doing It Again And . . . (Injoy)

These messages were preached as part of Skyline Wesleyan Church's actual relocation fundraising campaign. Five audio cassettes and notebook outline included.



Notes of encouragement come to our office from time to time from folks who have used the lending library. Read what Colene Moore from Bainbridge, OH has to say:

"I liked the book you sent to me so much! How did you know that it was the one I needed. It has helped me focus in on things. I decided to order it at the book store because I wanted to look at it and study it more.

My class is really going good. I testified to what God is doing for us Sunday. I come out of that class happier than when I go in. I hope to improve more each time."

We are so happy here at the office when we hear of someone really being blessed by what we have to offer. Thanks to Colene for writing and sharing her thoughts. Remember, this is YOUR library, full of books, tapes and videos. Please call us and let us know how we can help you in your ministry in your local church. Our number is (513) 695-0025.

