

Making a First Impression...

is similar to preparing the soil.

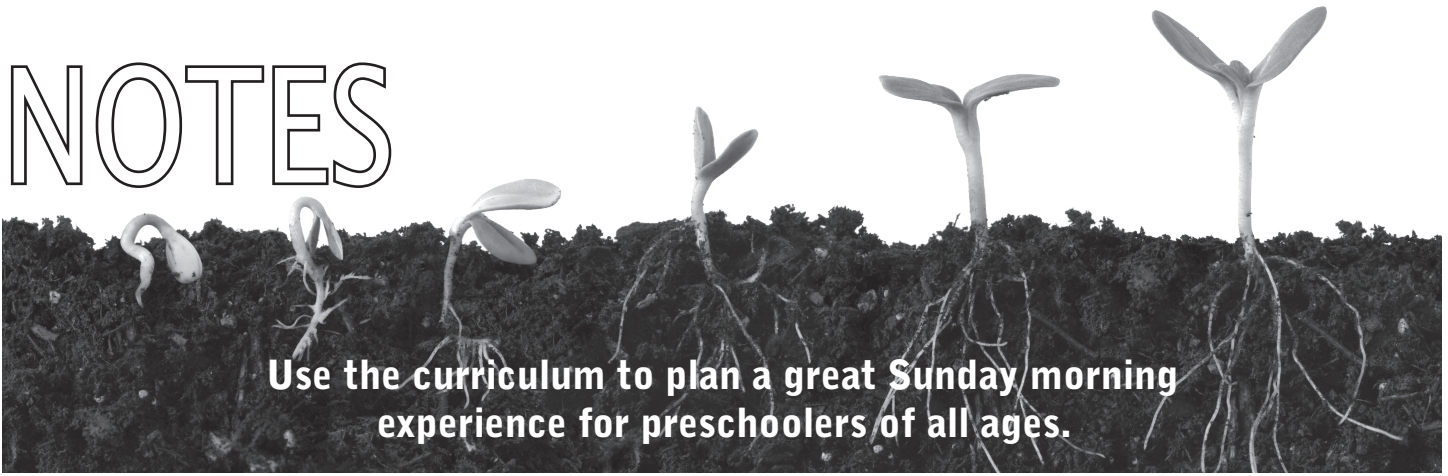


- Greet parents with a smile.
- Speak to a child on his eye level.
- Create a welcoming atmosphere for visitors and members.
- Prepare signage throughout the preschool area that guides parents to the correct classroom.
- Encourage teachers to arrive early and be ready when the first child arrives.
- Use a security system that is easy for both the parent and the teacher.
- Prepare nametags for teachers to wear to identify them to the parent.
- Prepare nametags for each child (make multiple nametags for Babies – 1s that identify their belongings).
- Hang the appropriate poster for the month's unit on the wall near the door for all parents to see.

Handout 1: Making a First Impression

For use with Great Expectations: Planting Seeds for Sunday School Growth – Preschool Teaching Plan

NOTES



Identify ways the curriculum helps you gather the correct resources for Sunday School.

Classify ways the curriculum helps you teach preschoolers.

Discover ways the curriculum helps you minister to the child during the week.

Handout 2: Notes
For use with Great Expectations: Planting Seeds for
Sunday School Growth – Preschool Teaching Plan

What Happens In A Planning Meeting?

*A wise man will listen and increase his learning,
and a discerning man will obtain guidance.
Proverbs 1:5 [HCSB]*



Inspiration/Motivation

Use this time to encourage teachers on the things they are doing well. If this is their first year to teach, give examples of the good things you see them do. Always find ways to help teachers feel good about the commitment they have made to God, parents and children, and the church.

Prayer

Continue to remember the children and their families in prayer. Ask for requests that teachers might have. Covet to pray for each other. Celebrate the answers to prayer.

Reflection/Evaluation

Take a look at the sessions prior to your meeting and evaluate what you notice about the children. What changes need to be made in the activities you choose? How can you make each activity successful and satisfying for the child?

Training

Encourage teachers by doing snippets of training in each planning meeting. For example, take time to sing songs from the Music & More CDs so that everyone is familiar with songs for coming sessions, prepare an activity for the session that might need to be experienced before the children do on Sunday, or play a game that will be part of the group time experience.

Planning/Preparation

Determine who will be responsible for various activities, resources, or set-up. Become familiar with the biblical content for the session such as the Bible story, Bible verse, Bible conversation, life application statements, and songs. Gather resources for the coming session.

Outreach

Support teachers as they make contact with their class members and prospects. Divide the class members among the teachers for easy contact and ministry. Keep a record of the visits made to prospects. Distribute birthday cards, get-well cards, and miss-you cards to use in ministry contacts.

Handout 3: What Happens in a Planning Meeting?

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Great Expectations
Planting Seeds for Sunday School Growth

Lifespan Spiritual Development



**HEAR
KNOW
DO**

linear/prescriptive

Learning occurs through ten prescriptive **levels of biblical learning** concepts that are taught in a very linear approach, providing the foundation for salvation and spiritual transformation.

www.lifeway.com/kidspromise

Preteen Transition

**KNOW
OWN
KNOWN**

linear/discovery

Spiritual development occurs as students know God through **Lordship and disciplines**, own their faith through **character and discernment**, and make their faith known through **relationships and influence**. The process is linear allowing for discovery through experience.

www.lifeway.com/studentstrategy

Young Adult Transition

**CONNECT
GROW
SERVE
GO**

discovery/balanced/integrated

Spiritual growth occurs incrementally and concurrently as adults interact with **the 15 biblical concepts** that impact their personal experiences and practical life situations. Learning should integrate connecting, growing, serving, and going in balanced spiritual development.

www.lifeway.com/adultstrategy



Handout 4: LifeSpan Spiritual Development
For use with Great Expectations: Planting Seeds for Sunday School Growth – Preschool Teaching Plan

Great Expectations
Planting Seeds for Sunday School Growth

LifeWay Kids Ministry Strategy



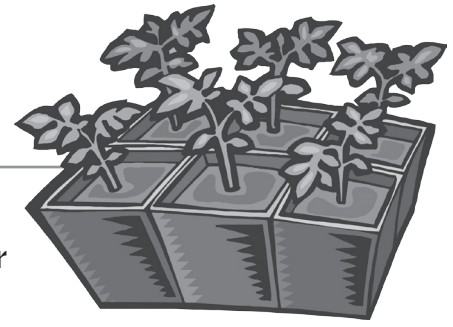
BIRTH THROUGH 6TH GRADE

| | HEAR | KNOW | DO | LifeWay Kids |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| SPECIAL EVENT ENVIRONMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foundational Bible stories & truths ABCs of Becoming a Christian Worship Missions awareness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scripture memory Bible skills Levels of Biblical Learning concepts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missions activities Bible skills Live out biblical truths through life application activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CentralKid & Crosspoint Camps Vacation Bible School Missions events Retreats |
| OTHER DISCIPLESHIP ENVIRONMENTS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foundational Bible stories & truths ABCs of Becoming a Christian Worship Missions awareness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scripture memory Bible skills Levels of Biblical Learning concepts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missions activities Bible skills Live out biblical truths through life application activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TeamKID <i>I'm a Christian Now</i> <i>Bible Skills, Drills & Thrills</i> <i>Leading a Friend to Christ</i> |
| SUNDAY AM ENVIRONMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foundational Bible stories & truths ABCs of Becoming a Christian Worship Missions awareness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scripture memory Bible skills Levels of Biblical Learning concepts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missions activities Bible skills Live out biblical truths through life application activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Bible Teaching for Kids</i> <i>Worship KidStyle</i> <i>Bible Foundations</i> <i>G-force</i> <i>Everything You Need to Know</i> |
| HOME ENVIRONMENT | Equip parents to model & lead kids to HEAR • KNOW • DO at home. | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parent Adventure <i>ParentLife/BabyLife</i> magazine <i>More, Adventure & Bible Express</i> devotional magazines <i>Leading a Child to Christ</i> |

The LifeWay Kids **HEAR • KNOW • DO** strategy for Childhood Ministry helps churches and parents lay strong biblical foundations in the lives of kids which can lead to a relationship with God through Christ by the work of the Holy Spirit. In order to adopt this approach, a church needs to partner with parents and create environments that allow kids to **hear** God's Word (Rom. 10:14-17), **know** God's Word as they understand and comprehend biblical concepts (2 Tim. 3:14-15, see Levels of Biblical Learning), and **do** God's Word by applying it to their everyday lives (Jas. 1:22-25).

Strong Spiritual Foundation for Salvation & Spiritual Transformation

Enlisting Leaders



Pray without ceasing. Pray for discernment to identify the right person for the position.

Determine the specific needs for the position/organization. What is the position to be filled? Does the organization need to be expanded? If so, how many positions are needed? Allow for requirements related to safety and liability with preschoolers.

Make leadership needs known. Engage leadership to help communicate the needs through their spheres of influence. Use announcement opportunities or thematic enlistment campaigns to offer potential leaders opportunities to submit their names.

Match potential leaders with needs. Use committees to help match up prospective leaders to teaching positions. Give each potential leader a chance to pray about their decision and then check back with them in few days.

Enrolling Prospects

As we prayerfully seek to reach new people, we much make it as easy as possible by enrolling people anywhere anytime with nothing required except a simple “yes” when asked. Such an enrollment approach becomes a strong expression of interest and concern, saying to people that we want them to be a part of us. A personal invitation and intentional enrollment are the two keys of success in reaching and enrolling people.

Be Purposeful

Be People-Focused

Be a Personal Example

Be Persistent

Be Prayerful



Handout 6: Enlisting Leaders & Enrolling Prospects
For use with Great Expectations: Planting Seeds for
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Great Expectations
Planting Seeds for Sunday School Growth

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