

Postmodernism says that religion is largely a matter of sentiment, intuition and endless innovation. Postmodernism believes everything is relative and nothing is relevant unless it fits one's personally shaped "reality."

Belonging before believing.

Remedy for modernism? - The everlasting gospel which answers 5 basic questions:

1. Who am I, and where did I come from?
2. What is the purpose and meaning of life?
3. What is the basic standard of right that governs all life and assures the ultimate correcting of all wrongs?
4. How can I deal with the perils and perplexities of life, while fulfilling the potential of my existence?
5. What is the final destiny of the human race?

Our church can reach out to postmoderns by experiencing belongingness, family, a warm and friendly atmosphere through our Sabbath School setting.

Approaches to Sabbath School lesson study

a.. Traditional way - Sunday to Friday review of lesson

b. M.E.P.A. (Adult Teacher SS Bible Study Guide)

Motivate- Why is this lesson important to me?

Explore - What do I need to know from God's Word?

Practice - How can I practice the information I learned?

Apply - What can I do with what I have learned from this lesson?

c.. C.L.A.I.M. -the SS Leadership magazine of Review and Herald Publishing with

Faith Crumbly as editor has introduced the CLAIM approach to Bible study.,

C- connect (relevant) Why is this lesson important to me?

L – learn, (credible) What are the Bible facts for this subject?

A – apply, (timely) How can I apply this lesson this week?

I – integrate, (doable) How can I use this information next week and share it with other people?

M – master (measureable) By answering these questions I master the skill of telling my story and giving an answer for the hope that is within me 1 Peter 3:15, as I claim responsibility for my own learning.

Study how each Sabbath School class can become the small group in your church.

"God gives opportunities; success depends upon the use made of them." PK 486

From Calvin Smith's Small Group Action Units book:

Portland, Oregon – 50 families returned to church

Owasso, Michigan - 60 brought back 31

Churches transformed – Iowa, Michigan, Saginaw, Michigan

Paradise Valley, AZ - 4 non SDA came to church

Grand Rapids, Michigan – one back to church after 30 years

Owasso, Michigan - 15% increase in daily lesson study in 2 months

Loma Linda Filipino Tagalog Company – SS class became small groups meeting on Wednesday and Friday evenings for prayer and outreach plans.

"When church members put forth earnest efforts to advance the message, they will live in the joy of the Lord and will meet with success. Triumph always follows decided effort."