

GROWING CHURCHES THROUGH SABBATH SCHOOL CLASSES: A RELATIONAL APPROACH

J. Alfred Johnson, II

Director of Adult Ministries

North American Division

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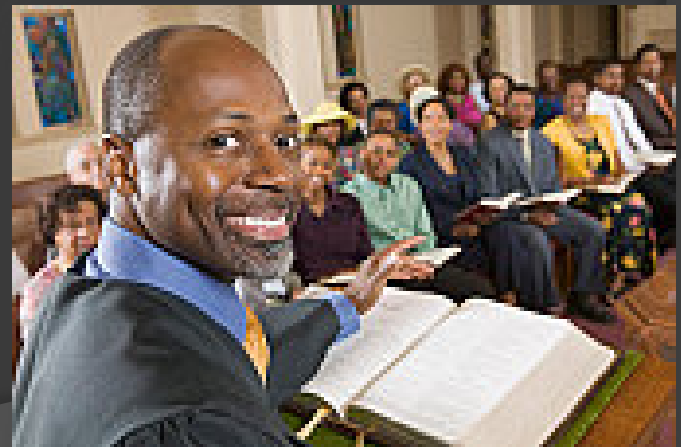
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PART 1

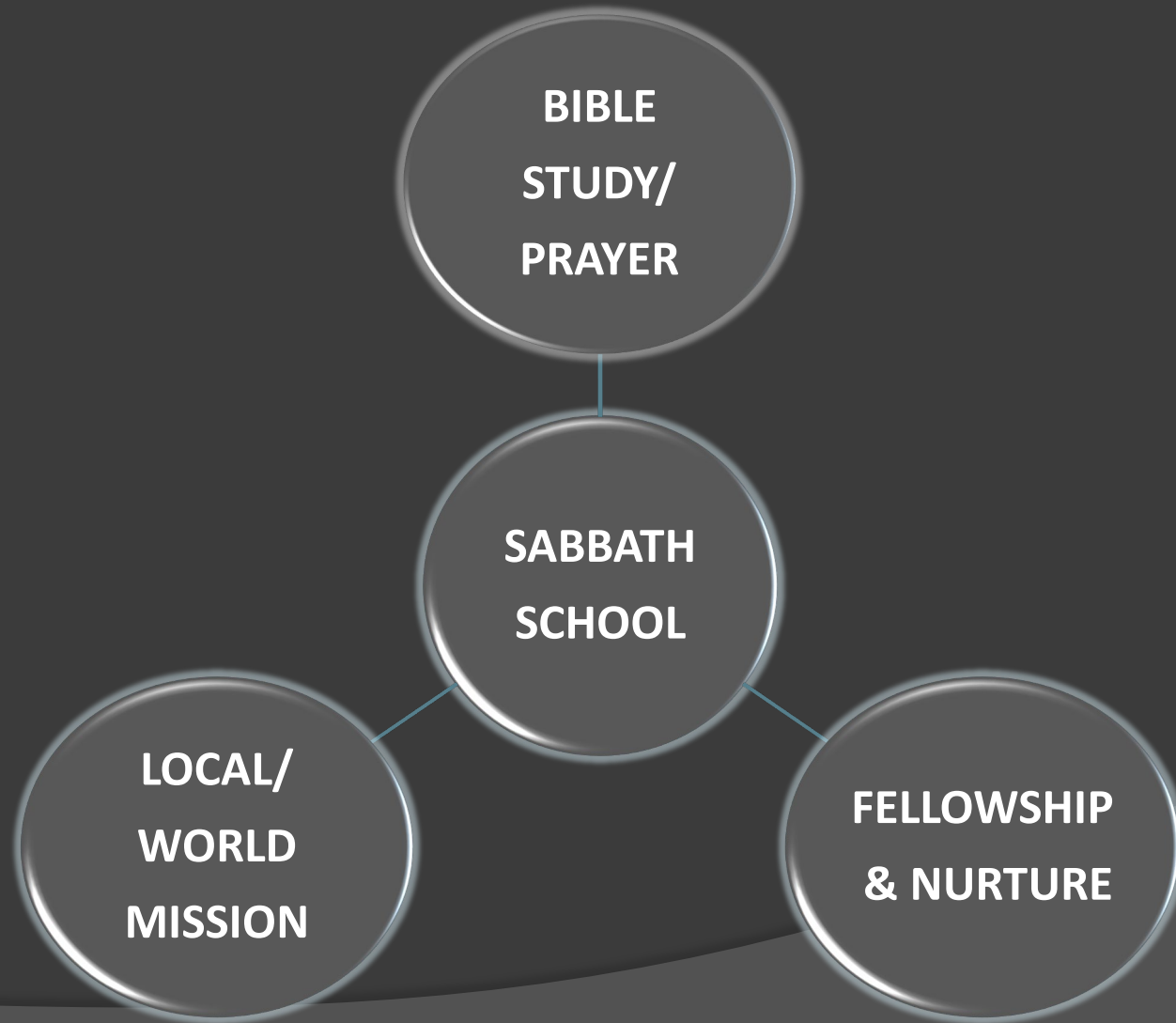
GETTING STARTED: *What It's All About?*

SABBATH SCHOOL IS...

“Relational, Small Group-Driven,
Seventh-day Adventist Local Church
Educational Fellowship that Builds
Faith and Practice in the context of
*the Three Goals of
Sabbath School.*”



3 GOALS OF SABBATH SCHOOL



BALANCED SABBATH SCHOOL

- Bible Study and Prayer
- Mission: Local and World
- Fellowship and Nurture



FAITH AND PRACTICE

- ◎ ***Faith:*** Knowledge of the Bible + Personal Relationship *WITH* Jesus = “Know-Be”
- ◎ ***Practice:*** Application of “Faith” in the context of Living and Witnessing *WITH* Jesus = “Do”



RELATIONAL APPROACH?



***“Focus On Being
Responsive To People
And Their Needs”***

RELATIONAL IMPACT

People will tend to be enthusiastically *and* beneficially involved in Sabbath School to the degree that their *needs* are being met.

WHAT IF?

- ① We structured Sabbath School to address the *Baseline Evangelism and Nurture Agenda* of the congregation – Focusing On *Needs* of People?
- ① We formatted Time Usage in Sabbath School to accomplish this?
- ① We made Sabbath School so Meaningful -- That people would *Rush* to the *Experience*?
- ① The *Spirit* Of Positive, Joyful, Sabbath School Lasted *All Week*?

WOULD YOU BE WILLING?:

To Prayerfully Advocate
For Adjustments

If

The Adjustments Will Be
Beneficial?

We are Dedicated to Facilitating Sabbath School Classes as Relational:

**STUDY – NURTURE – FELLOWSHIP
PRAYER – RECLAMATION
– OUTREACH (MISSION FOCUSED)**



“SMALL GROUP FAMILIES”

PART 2

RELATIONAL SABBATH SCHOOL: Working The Process!



“SMALL GROUP FAMILIES”



◎ *Nurture*

- Welcome and Greet *Everyone* by Name
- First Question, “What kind of week did you have?”
- Time for Testimonies and Prayer Requests
- Organize for *ALL Family Members* to be Contacted *EACH WEEK* (By Tuesday)

“SMALL GROUP FAMILIES”

Prayer Emphasis



Family Takes Time For Prayer Ministry

“The *greatest victories* gained for the cause of God are *not* the result of *labored argument, ample facilities, wide influence, or abundance of means*; They are gained in the audience chamber with God, when with earnest agonizing faith men lay hold upon The Mighty Arm Of Power.”

Gospel Workers, 259

(Italics and Other Emphasis Supplied)

“SMALL GROUP FAMILIES”



◎ ***Reclamation Emphasis***

- How Many Churches Have No Need Here?
- SS Secretary gets List from Church Clerk
- List is Divided Equally Between *Families*
- ***No Contact Is Made! Only Prayer!***
- ***Then Watch Our Lord Bring Them Back!***

“SMALL GROUP FAMILIES”

◎ *Fellowship Emphasis*

- Most SS Setups Not “Interaction Friendly”
- Difficult To “Read” and “Feel” People By Looking At The Backs Of Their Heads!
- Balance The “Setup” With *Monthly Family Fellowship* Opportunities!
- Plan During Small Group Family Time!

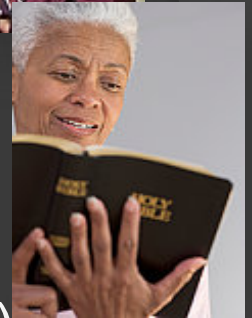


“SMALL GROUP FAMILIES”



◎ *Bible Study Emphasis*

- Begin with, “What Portion of Your Study *‘Spoke To You’*, and Strengthened Your Witnessing Capacity?” (“So What?” Factor)
- *Then* Move to Other Points in The Lesson
- Emphasize That We Study for Knowledge That Leads to **Relationship and Action!** (“Know-Be-Do”)



“SMALL GROUP FAMILIES”

● *Community Outreach (Local Mission)*

- Emphasize We Are Here To “Know-Be-Do”!
- Determine the *Family* “Corporate Spiritual Gift Cluster” (Common Ministry Areas For *Most Family Members*)
- Offer that Ministry to Church Leadership Through the Sabbath School!



“SMALL GROUP FAMILIES”

● *World Mission Focus*

- Support World Mission With Offerings!
- Go “The Second Mile” – Sponsor a World Mission Project as a *Family!*



TO ACCOMPLISH THIS FORMAT:



*Consider Minimizing
Program Time AND
Maximizing “Small
Group Family” (Class)
Interaction Time!*

YOUR CHURCH WILL GROW EVEN MORE WHEN SABBATH SCHOOL ATTENDEES:

- ⦿ *Are Loved, Valued, Appreciated and Respected!*
- ⦿ *Are Encouraged To Share and Serve!*
- ⦿ *Experience Their Needs Being Met!*
- ⦿ *Have Fun and Fellowship!*
- ⦿ *Sense They Are In A Secure Environment!*
- ⦿ *Experience The **Goals** of Sabbath School Packaged
In A **Relational** Way!*



RESOURCES

- *NAD Adult Ministries Website*

www.nadadultministries.org

- AdventSource provides

- **Quick Start Guides and Catalogues** for Sabbath School, Personal, Prison Ministries
- 16 Course Sabbath School and Personal Ministry Development Curriculum for a nominal cost www.adventsource.org or FREE download on our website www.nadadultministries.org

RESOURCES CONTINUED

- ◎ Sabbath School Toolbox – www.pacificpress.com
- ◎ Sabbath School Lesson App – Sabbath School 4 in The App Store for your mobile devices.
- ◎ NOW! – Adult Bible Study Guide on Amazon Alexa platforms! *and* www.nadadultministries.org
- ◎ Facebook and Instagram - **@AdultMinNAD**

***Be Assured Of Our Prayers
As You Continue To
Submit Your Gifts
For The Strengthening
and Growth of
The Body Of Christ!***