

Forms

The 3D Sunday School

A Three Dimensional Strategy To Help Members
and Leaders Fulfill the Great Commission

David Francis



© 2006 LifeWay Press®

Permission is granted to photocopy The 3D Sunday School. A downloadable version of this book is available online at www.lifeway.com/sskickoff. Additional material not included in the printed version also is available for download from this site.

This book is a resource in the Ministry category of the Christian Growth Study Plan.
Course CG-1192

ISBN 1415826048

Printed in the United States of America

Leadership and Adult Publishing
LifeWay Church Resources
One LifeWay Plaza
Nashville, Tennessee 37234-0175



David Francis

Serves as director of Sunday School for LifeWay. Before coming to LifeWay in 1997, he served as minister of education at First Baptist Church, Garland, Texas. David and his wife Vickie have three sons. David and Vickie teach Preschool Sunday School and Adult Discipleship groups at Long Hollow Baptist Church, Hendersonville, Tennessee.



Additional Help for Organizing a 3D Sunday School

The following are available for free download at www.lifeway.com/sundayschool, as well as the entire text of The 3D Sunday School. You have permission to reproduce for use in your class or church.

Bonus Chapter: Mobilizing for a 3D Sunday School

A 3D Sunday School must be intentional, and must be organized. Ideally, a 3D class needs at least three leaders, each who assumes primary responsibility for one of the dimensions. An additional chapter is available online, addressing organizational and leadership issues for mobilizing for a 3D Sunday School.

Sunday School Kickoff Event Resources

Many churches conduct an annual training event to kick off the new Sunday School year. Training resources for each leadership team (preschool, children, students, adults, and general leaders) are available for free download. Each training module includes a teaching plan, handout masters, and a PowerPoint presentation that support and supplement the concepts presented in The 3D Sunday School. These materials will be available in March 2006.

The Five-Step Formula for Sunday School Growth

This book and training materials for the 2005 Sunday School Kickoff event remain available for download as well. Go to www.lifeway.com/sundayschool. Information about LifeWay curriculum resources as well as lots of free articles and links to other information are also available there. Add it to your list of Web favorites and visit often.

eSource Electronic Newsletter for Sunday School Leaders

A monthly e-newsletter is available for anyone interested in growing a Sunday School Bible study ministry. Because LifeWay has a strict privacy policy, you must "opt in" to receive LifeWay electronic newsletters. To subscribe, visit www.lifeway.com/newsletters.

Associations and State Conventions

Your local Baptist association and state convention have people and resources to help you grow your Sunday School ministry. Check their website for contact information.

Life Webcast for Leaders and Members

You are INVITED to a free, a real-time training event hosted by national Sunday School leaders. DISCOVER how to build a 3-D Sunday School. Learn how to CONNECT Sunday School members and leaders in Great Commission work through Sunday School and small group Bible studies. Webcasts are scheduled for April 4 and 6, 2006. For more information, go to www.lifeway.com/learning.



My FRAN Prayer List

The power of prayer should not be underestimated. Think of individuals in the four FRAN groups and list their names below. Then covenant with God to pray for these individuals daily. Pray for the opportunity to invite these persons to church or Sunday School.

Name

Invited

Friends

Relatives

Associates

Neighbors



Care Group Member

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

Birthday _____ Anniversary _____

Vocation _____ email _____

Christian? Yes No

Family Members _____

Hobbies/Special Interests/Spiritual Gifts _____

Other Important Dates

Event	Date
-------	------

_____	_____
-------	-------

_____	_____
-------	-------

_____	_____
-------	-------

Prayer Needs _____



Still More Surprising Insights from the Unchurched

“Over the past decade or so a worship revolution has begun to take place in many churches across America.”

“Almost forgotten in these new emphases in worship was the two-hundred-year-old program called the Sunday school.”

“But our research has shown the resurgence of Sunday school in the more effective churches in America. Furthermore, we learned through this study that the formerly unchurched are positive about and attracted to Sunday school!”

“We were amazed to find that nearly seven out of ten formerly unchurched were active in Sunday school at the point of our interview. Approximately six out of ten transfer churched were involved in Sunday school. Those in both groups were much more likely to be in Sunday school than any other small group.”

“Interestingly, we did notice a slight transition from the nomenclature ‘Sunday school.’ Almost 20 percent of the churches in our study called their Sunday morning small group ‘Bible study.’ This shift was made because of the churches’ perception of how the name ‘Sunday school’ is received. *No formerly unchurched expressed concerns about the name.*” (Italics mine.)

Thom S. Rainer
Surprising Insights from the Unchurched
Grand Rapids, MI. Zondervan. (pp. 46-47)

Note: Rainer’s research also indicated that 80 percent of the formerly unchurched said that the church name had little or no influence on their joining a particular church. Nearly two-thirds indicated that a denominational name had a positive influence on their decision. Only 4 out of 100 indicated that a denominational name had a negative influence. (pp. 38-40)