



Junior Department

Our department adopted 2 Timothy 2:15 as our theme verse for the 2007.

The study of God's word is ever so important to how we live, work and play. Without God's Word, our children will walk in darkness. How will they cope with life's challenges: difficulties faced in school; relationships with teachers and friends; mounting pressures of being successful in their exams? How they will grow and turn out? For the more successful ones, how do they take success if they have been more successful in their studies, sports and other activities? Some have become proud and looked down on their siblings and friends who do not do so well. Are you as parents pleased with such behavior? Is God pleased with such behavior? Some have not enjoyed so much success at their studies or in their relations with classmates, and became angry at society, at parents and at themselves. A study of the Bible would show how many godly saints in the Bible also went through similar experiences and struggled, tasted failure, sorrow, jealousy and many other human emotions we all go through now.

The question is how different would your children take life's challenges if they knew God personally, were born-again and also have been familiar with God's word, i.e., God's instruction for every part of their lives?

The objectives were:

- Emphasizing the singular importance and responsibility of parents over the salvation and spiritual growth of the children.
- Forming partnerships between parents and teachers.
- Forming a platform to foster mutual support in the Lord within Life Church for parents with children in the Junior Department and fellowship groups amongst parents in church

On average, 25 parents attended the workshop weekly over the 3 sessions.

The first session emphasized on the parents' personal decision to commit their lives and their families' to God. The second saw a discussions cyberspace in the Christian family and the third was on techniques of engaging the child and the family in family devotions and Quiet Time. Each session comprised of a 20-min exhortation followed by 30-min group discussions.

Within the 3 discussion groups, parents could be seen opening up and discussing about their challenges faced at home. Sunday school teachers also communicated their difficulties faced during Sunday

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

2 Timothy 2:15.

Whilst Christian education and leading a child to Christ is chiefly the parents' duty, the Sunday school is the next complementary means to supplement your efforts to lead your child to Christ.

When the Junior department met together to discuss P3 to P6 syllabus and our wishes for the year 2007, we had planned for a verse that was not only going to be applicable to the Sunday school students only but to teachers as well. How so?

In order to teach the children well, the teachers needed to first watch, pray and study the Bible to show ourselves first and foremost to be approved by God in our daily conduct, in our preparations and to be able to rightly divide and understand God's word to teach the children well.

We have worked closely with parents last year in 2006 when the department organised a Parents Workshop over 3 Sundays from 24 September 06 till 8 October 06 over the Sunday School Hour. The workshop was facilitated by Sis Hui Tin and both Deacons David Tan and Lim Ching Wah.

school. Hearing from others with similar challenges, we managed to achieve our objective of demonstrating the importance of Christian brethren (parents) forming smaller networks and bonding between teachers and parents and amongst parents themselves now that they know one another.

The co-operation and tri-partite relationship between parents, Sunday school and church cannot be less than emphasized. We need one another to achieve our objectives for 2007.

In 2007, our objectives were planned simply: Every child is to know Christ personally and to be able to pray for himself / herself, family and friends.

We need your support in prayer as well as working closely together to help your children.

In Christ
Timothy Soh Eng Teck
Junior Department Superintendent

Announcements

1. TODAY is **Promotional Sunday for the Junior Department.**
2. There will be **NO** Sunday School on **8th & 29th April** due to Easter Sunday Combined Service & our Church's Annual Congregational Meeting respectively.

Let's meet the teachers and classes...

Here are some of the commitments our Sunday school teachers have committed themselves to try and achieve.

Evelyn Tan with 5 of her Primary 3 Girls (Left to Right: Rachel, Gloria, Clarissa, Sally-Anne & Janice)



Sunday school is often viewed as a place for imparting biblical knowledge. It may at times be operated as a "school", with homework, quizzes, tests and awards. Our challenge is how to create an environment that is conducive, where the students will have fun learning and practising what they learnt. Such "hands-on" is equivalent to having laboratory experiments, field work and projects. My prayer is that the time spent in Sunday school will be an experience where students and teachers have fond memories as they journey home.

Chua Teow Tzing and Primary 3 Boys in the FEBC Library

Mrs Helen Heah cuddling her Primary 4C class in the Second Parsonage Kitchen.



Mrs Cheong Choy Wai and her Primary 4A class in the Second Parsonage.



I am convinced that no methods or training alone would able me to prepare for the challenges I face with the different personalities in my Sunday School class. The commitment in nurturing them and the care for their souls helps me to be focus in guiding them in knowing the will of God in their lives through God's Word.

To encourage the children to pray for themselves and to pray for one another is to pray for them fervently. I do my utmost by sincerely and consistently concern for them. Nagging does not help, for children learn by example. If I am to teach them about God, obedience to Him and to have patience, I have to show it in my life. Helping them to build a relationship with God will lead them to talk to Him and have concern for others.

In teaching, I am being taught. In nurturing, I am being nurtured. Praise be to God.

Linda Chan (Mrs) – Primary 4B



Mr Joseph Tern (far right) with Primary 5 Boys

2 Tim 2:15 reminds me of the need to prepare my lessons carefully in order to teach the message of truth accurately to my Sunday School students. I need to understand their needs and to pray for them and to encourage them to do something for the Lord daily. My hope is that they will grow in faith knowing the Word of God and be a young steward for His use.

Yeap Khek Teong – Primary 6 Boys in Second Parsonage Library 1



With 2 Tim 2:15 as the theme for SS Juniors, I hope to remind the P5 and 6 girls to give due diligence in thoroughly knowing God's Word through daily reading so that they will not stray from the truth. Linking from each lesson, I will also highlight the importance of committing their friends and their needs to the Lord for He is a God who hears and answers anything we ask of Him according to His will.

June Lim (front centre) with Primary 5 & 6 Girls in the Second Parsonage Library 2