

THE ENCOURAGER

Help for Sunday School Teachers— Dedicated to those who take the Word of Life to Children Everywhere

RAW STATISTICS

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TIP from a TIPSTER

This idea may prove to be something you can use. I recently was sent this suggestion and pass it on for your consideration. Perhaps you could even come up with a variation that suited your needs even better.

This last year, we have had some of our SS Children move away from our district. We have discovered where they were moving to (address and phone number) and then made contact with either the SS Superintendent or a SS Teacher in the closest assembly.

After that we wrapped up a gift from the original SS Teacher to the Child. This gift was sent to the Children's Worker in the New Sunday School. They subsequently delivered the gift personally to the door of the child and a new tangible link was created that communicates both the love of the former Sunday School and the interest of the new one so the work could be continued.

B ased on approximate World Population, Bible Help has indicated that these estimated averages are reasonably accurate. If so, they are also staggering in their implications to you and me.



Number of People in the World (as of January 2004) **6.339 Billion**Number of Believers **410 Million** *

Number of Non-Believers 5.989 Billion

% of World's Population that will die this year .883%

Number of Non-Believers who will die this year 52.9 Million

Number of Seconds in the year 31,536,000

Number of Non-Believers who will die each second 1.68

* It is difficult to determine the exact number of True Believers in the world. There are many that are labeled 'Christian' because of the country they live in. Others view themselves as 'Christian' because their parents were— or because they themselves attend church. The number of true believers is estimated at around 340 million, but could be as low as 230 Million. Yet to provide for a margin of error, we will say there are

----- 410 million True Believers. -----

Now—do the math—If we were to try and reach the 5.989 Billion Non-Believers, how many people would each of the 410 Million need to communicate the Gospel to?

Our Lord's mission statement:

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." (KJV)

And His Words sound quite similar in other versions:

(BBE) And he said to them, Go into all the world, and give the good news to everyone.

(CEV) Then he told them: Go and preach the good news to everyone in the world.

(Darby) And he said to them, Go into all the world, and preach the glad tidings to all the creation.

(ESV) And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation."

(NLT) And then He told them, Go into all the world and preach the good news to everyone, everywhere.

Mark 16:20 Tells the response of those who first heard His command, "And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the Word with signs following."

Can we do less?



A father was approached by his small son, who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?" The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said his father. "So, Son, what does the Bible mean?"

"That's easy, Daddy. It stands for 'Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth."

B - BASIC I - INSTRUCTIONS B - BEFORE L - LEAVING E - EARTH