

# THE ENCOURAGER

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

Mailing Address:  
RR 1 - Site 4 - Box 408  
Port McNicoll, ON L0K 1R0  
Canada

Phone: 705-534-4465  
Fax: 705-534-9958  
Email:  
the.encourager@gospelhall.org.uk

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is available at  
[www.gospelhall.org](http://www.gospelhall.org)

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for Sunday School  
Display Ideas

## A TREAT OF AN IDEA

We're planning our annual Sunday School Treat. However, the teachers (and students) were not very enthusiastic about following the usual program format this year. In past years, the program was very monotonous. The kids were passive, uninvolved and naturally scared about standing in front of a large audience.

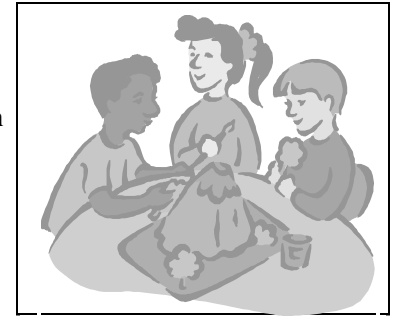
The proposed program this year is something we call "Sunday School Displays". The kids (with the Teacher's direction) design a project featuring a Bible story, character or truth, that will be on display in the hall basement. The displays would look like school science projects and might include all of the following - cardboard panels, models, posters, maps, etc.

The schedule for the event will be as follows -

In main auditorium...

- 1) **Welcome & Singing**
- 2) **Featured Gospel speaker**
- 3) **Introduction of the projects** - review the printed program with the audience. The program describes what each student made, what memory verses they should know.
- 4) **Display time.** Adults walk from station to station asking the kids what they made. Sometimes the project is a quiz or game that the adults play. During this time, food and drinks are served. One of the older kids will be assigned to create a gospel display featuring something like the two roads chart.

*These Ideas provided by Shad Sluiter from the Marion IA Sunday School and the following page features Sunday School Display Ideas.*



**Involved & Interested Students  
Create Supportive Parents**

## WHAT HAPPENED ... ?

He was telling his son the Bible Story about Lot. He said, "God was going to destroy the city of Sodom, so He warned Lot to take his wife and *flee*. But when Lot's wife looked back she turned into a pillar of salt." The boy was rather puzzled and asked, "What happened to the *flea*?" This may be a rather humorous misunderstanding of the story but it points out a deeper problem. Children do not always grasp the true meaning and we need to make sure we explain the ambiguous words we use.





**1. Tell a story with a sequence of pictures.**

- 10 plagues
- Wilderness journey map
- Paul's missionary journeys
- 7 churches of Asia
- Abraham's adventures
- Joseph's trials
- Jesus Miracles over nature, time, distance, death etc.
- Jesus parables about himself (Samaritan, landowner's son etc.)
- Jesus parables about the future, about salvation etc.

**2. Explain a concept with a series of pictures**

- What are the 10 commandments? Show an example of how we can obey each commandment.
- Evidence of Wisdom, God's inventions
  - o airplane compared to bird
  - o camera compared to eye
  - o suction cup compared to a fly's feet
  - o jackhammer compared to woodpecker
  - o squirt gun compared to a trigger fish
- Show God's attributes: kind, everywhere, wise, powerful, miracle maker, good etc.
- Show 5 ways we can know God
- Show 5 ways that Joseph is like Christ
- Future events in future newspaper headlines
- What happened at the cross? History of the nails, flog, cross, trials etc.
- 3D two roads chart

**3. Projects other than a series of pictures...**

1. **Quiz board** – multiple choice with answers hidden under flaps.
2. **Board Game** that takes a player through future events
3. **Acrostic** – M.I.R.A.C.L.E with Bible references
4. **Advice Letters** – “Dear \_\_\_\_\_” asking for advice on problems related to a Bible passage. Variation: challenge students to pretend they are a Bible author.
5. **Awards** – reward the heroes of faith with certificates of “Best Courage” “Best Faith” “Best \_\_\_\_\_” etc. Quote the verse and cite the reason for choosing this person.
6. **WWJD variation** – create paper headbands or bracelets with a Bible quote. PWOC (Pray Without Ceasing 1 Thess. 5)
7. **Broken Memory Verse** – 1. Type the verse(s) correctly on a computer. 2. Change all letters to upper case 3. Delete all spaces 4. Put new spaces in randomly 5. print. For example F ORG ODSOL OVED THEW ORL DTHA THEG AVEH ISON LYBEG OTT ENS ON.
8. **Button or Bumper Stickers** – Create a slogan based on a Bible verse. “Salvation – Don't leave earth without it” “Faith is seeing the invisible”
9. **“T” Comparison Chart** – Two column diagram that shows the differences between truth and error, differences between old life vs. new life, different reactions to two thieves on the cross.
10. **Circled Letter Puzzle** – Missing letter game found in newspapers. Noah found [ ] R A [ ] E in the eyes of the Lord. God saw that the earth was [ ] I C [ ] E D. All the missing letters form the answer to a riddle.
11. **Bible Diary** – write the daily diary of a famous Bible character. The reader is supposed to guess who the character is. “Dear Diary, The people of Israel are mad at me again. Pharaoh kicked me out of his palace today. Now I don't think anyone believes I'm sent from God...”
12. **Epic Poem** – poems that tell a story e.g. “Casey at the Bat”. For Bible stories, “The day it rained fire” (plagues), “When God heard my cry” (Jonah), “Three men in a jail” (Joseph)
13. **Your own Bible paraphrase** – Have the student write a Bible passage in his/her own words. *Simple Paraphrase* Romans 5:1-5 use words that a non-religious person would understand. *Paraphrase by Circumstance* Matthew 6:19-23 as you would live it at the mall. *Personalized Paraphrase* Write about yourself fighting a series of temptations based on Matthew 4:1-11.
14. **Hats** – Design several different hats that demonstrate roles a person may play.
15. **Idea Chain** – Challenge students to create a series of ideas that link together on labeled chain links. e.g. “Ways to resist temptation” “Actions that show love” “Characteristics of a hero of faith” Challenge the students to begin one link with the last letter of the previous link “Witness with words... Show faith with my action... Need people”
16. **Recipe/ Prescriptions** – Direct students to write a prescription for a problem based on a Bible verse. e.g. Write a prescription for salvation according to Ephesians 2. Include the expected results and the side effects.
17. **Newspaper Want Ads** – Wanted “Man to speak for God” (based on Moses, Daniel, Noah etc) Wanted “Salvation by Grace” (based on Ephesians 2 or Romans 3)