



Who, What, When, Where, Why, & How: Our Sunday School in 2019

Good morning—and welcome to Our Sunday School.

Introduction

1. First, some definitions

- Purpose: why we exist
- Vision: what we want to be
- Mission: how we get there

2. Second, putting those definitions into practice at Stuart Heights:

Stuart Heights Baptist Church purpose statement: to experience, know, and enjoy God so we can make Him known with our words and with our works.

Sunday school purpose statement: to experience, know, and enjoy God so we can make Him known with our words and with our works. (Note: this is the same purpose statement . . . because if there is deviation in purpose there is misalignment—which always results in disunity.)

Sunday school vision statement: a group who experience, know, and enjoy God and make Him known with our words and with our works. (Note: this is just a smaller group attempting to be the result of the purpose statement.)

Aside: if I think about what ‘experience, know, and enjoy God’ means, I think of improving or building my relationship with God. If I think about what ‘and make Him known with our words and with our works’ means, I think of improving or building my relationship with man. This is likely a bit of an oversimplification, but I think it’s also clearer.

Sunday school mission statement: we build relationships with God and relationships with man by providing (1) substantive interaction with truth (engaging the head/doctrine—orthodoxy), (2) meaningful connection with believers (engaging the heart/passion—orthopathy), and (3) ministry training with opportunities (engaging the hands/behavior—orthopraxy).

3. And now for the summary/simplified mission statement:

Sunday school builds relationships with God and relationships with man using our heads, our hearts, and our hands.

Why do we do Sunday school? (our purpose)

To experience, know, and enjoy God so we can make Him known with our words and with our works

How will we get there? (our mission)

Sunday school builds relationships with God and relationships with man using our heads, our hearts, and our hands.

- Study the Bible (substantive interaction with truth) → engaging the head/doctrine (orthodoxy)
- Pray for others (meaningful connection with believers) → engaging the heart/passion (orthopathy)
- Serve others (ministry training with opportunities) → engaging the hands/behavior (orthopraxy)

Who is “we?” Anyone who wants to attend (all ages are welcome—but we don’t skip material in the text—no matter how mature it is)

How do we prepare each week? (our pre-class work)

1. Head (orthodoxy)

Be ready to **study**

- Rested
- Read the text

2. Heart (orthopathy)

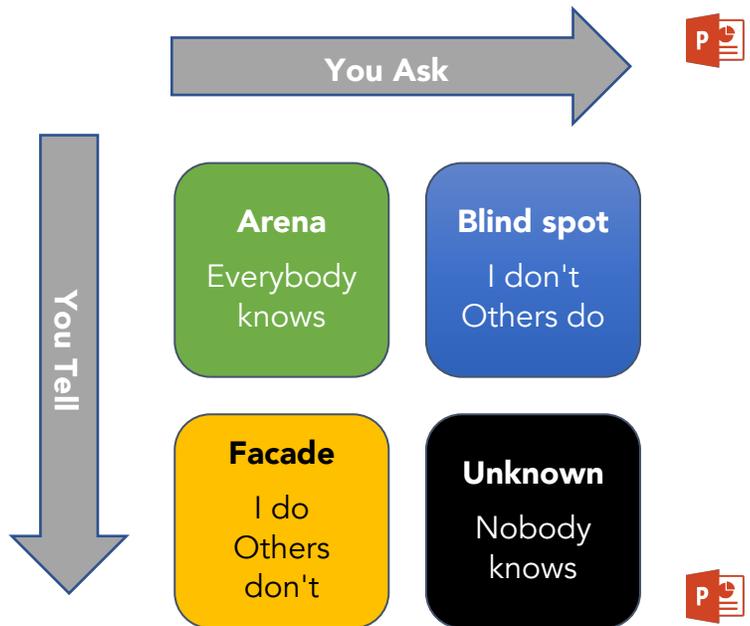
Be ready to **pray**

- Passionate participation
- Prayer

3. Hands (orthopraxy)

Be ready to **serve**

- On time
- Open eyes
- Open mouths



What do we believe in Sunday school? (our theology)

- The authority, clarity, necessity, and sufficiency of Scripture (BF&M 2000)
- **I Corinthians 14:40: Let all things be done decently and in order.**
- **I Corinthians 16:14: Let all that you do be done with love.**

What do we expect? (our minimum requirements)

The student’s perspective: (1) weekly opportunities to study, pray, and serve, (2) daily prayer, and (3) ad hoc help

The teacher’s perspective: (1) prepare, (2) attend, (3) pray, and (4) serve

When and where do we do Sunday school? (our logistics)

Sunday mornings at 9:07 (except April 21, December 22, and December 29) in the Multi-Purpose Room at 1505 Cloverdale Drive, Hixson, TN 37343

Who does what in Sunday school? (our assignments)

Set up

- Julie Fleming and Justin & Karrie Harness – sets up the tables and chairs
- Dave Barber – sets up the sound, recording, and video equipment (backup?)
- Everyone – welcomes visitors and sets up more tables/chairs as needed

Breakfast

- Jessica Miller – leads this group: Week 1: Shannon Miller; week 2: Trisha McGarvey; week 3: Jessica Miller; week 4: Heather O'Brien; week 5: Mila Archer

Teaching

- Jim Fleming – leads the class and is the primary teacher (~75%)
- Many others will teach in 2019 (~25%)

Praying

- Darla Skinner – leads by collecting and distributing prayer requests for the weekly update and for our private Facebook group at bit.ly/FlemingSS



Partying

- Thesa Morgan – leads lunches and parties (dates TBD soon)

What are we studying this year? (our text)

Mark (ESV) (give out more copies as needed of the journal)

What are our resources for this year? (our helps)

1. Holy Spirit
2. *ESV Scripture Journal: Mark* (Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 2016).
3. For members only: bit.ly/FlemingSS (prayer requests, family stuff, ad hoc needs)
4. For all: fb.com/OurSundaySchool (study dialogue/questions, inviting)
5. For all: OurSundaySchool.com (teacher notes, student handouts, PowerPoints, audio recordings, and option to subscribe to all resources) – these are evangelistic resources
6. For all: bit.ly/OSSYT (YouTube channel with video recordings of lessons)



How do we prepare each week? (our post-class work)

1. **Pray** for help in understanding **Mark**
2. **Hear Mark** multiple times
3. **Think** about **Mark** often (day and night)
4. **Talk** with someone (dead or alive) about **Mark**
5. **Share** your insights about **Mark** (one option: fb.com/OurSundaySchool)
6. **Invite** a member and a non-member



Let's move into our table prayer time.