

Springfield CGI Sabbath School Lessons

A Successful Award Program

It is very important to get the students excited about learning the Word of God. One of the ways to do that is to have an award - reward program.

If the students are rewarded for their efforts in learning and memorizing, then they will most likely do more and become more excited about the learning. Children of all ages thrive on praise. They need to know that we notice and appreciate it when they put forth the extra effort.

It is important to praise and encourage them. It is also important not force the student to participate. Some students have a difficult time with memorization and they may become embarrassed. If those students are forced to do something that embarrasses them, they may quit participating in the Sabbath School program all together. You need to get to know your students well, and know which one's may have trouble with memorization. You may want to give those students some extra help and encouragement. It also helps to get the parents involved in helping their children.

You don't need to wait until you have several students to begin an award program. Even if you only have one student, that is enough to get started. It may encourage others to participate in Sabbath School or keep new families with children coming.

The main thing is to get the students involved and for them to enjoy learning.

Keep it positive, keep it on a level the students feel comfortable with and NEVER criticize a student for not learning something.

Have fun learning along with your students.

Points For A Successful Awards Program

- 1. Create a program that is fun for the students.*
- 2. Let all ages in the Sabbath School participate.*
- 3. Make each part age appropriate.*
- 4. Make it voluntary. Don't force a student to participate. If you make it fun they will want to join in.*
- 5. Make sure your expectations are realistic. Even children the same age may not be on the same learning level.*
- 6. Give out awards in front of the congregation, so that all can see their progress and be involved.*
- 7. Don't wait too long to give out an award. Try to have an awards day once a month or every other month depending on your students Even if you only give out one award, it will encourage all of the students.*
- 8. Give the students a lot of praise, no matter how small the task.*
- 9. Stay positive no matter what.*