



# Foursquare Department of Christian Education DIRECTIONS

Newsletter for Christian Educators

Fall 1993

## Everybody's Got A Seed To Sow

"One thing I know everybody's got a seed to sow. Let your heart of hearts take you down the road everybody's got a seed to sow." *Seed to Sow, Michael W. Smith, Go West Young Man, 1990 Reunion Records*

### What a fact — what an act!

Growing up on a farm, seed time and harvest was a way of life. One memory was the annual disagreement between my mother and father about where to plant the family garden. Plenty of good farmland was available but dear ol' mom chose the most fertile soil — the cattle corral. Dad would make comments about the inconvenience to him and the livestock, but it didn't matter, the garden was always planted in that spot. The abundance of plump, juicy tomatoes and delicious green beans was the proof—that soil was the best.



The parable of the the sower in Luke 8:11-15 teaches us "to be a good farmer." Christian Education (discipleship) is like good farming. The process begins by choosing the best seed and soil. Following a season of planting, watering, weeding, and fertilizing, God works HIS way to produce HIS harvest.

Our emphasis this Fall is **DISCIPLESHIP** and we already have the **BEST SEED** available...**GOD'S PENETRATING AND POWERFUL WORD**. The question is where to plant and who will care for the seed?

### THERE IS GOOD GROUND TO PLANT THE SEED!

The greatest awareness of God in a person's life is between the ages of five and seven. However, everyone wants and needs God's truth demonstrated to them. If they don't see it in us they will be shaped by the false truths of this world. **THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS, THEY ARE READY!** Reports pour into the office about the response by children and their families experiencing hope, healing, safety and peace with Jesus Christ.

Note these facts:

- 1% Accept Christ between ages 1 to 4.
- 83% Accept Christ between ages 5 to 14.
- 12% Accept Christ between ages 15 to 21.
- 4% Accept Christ between ages 22 and up.

The "fertile ground" may be children from a housing tract attending the Good News Bears in Omaha, Nebraska; or taking a sidewalk Sunday School to the inner city in San Diego; or having Children's Church at the homeless outreach in Providence, Rhode Island.

Within the walls of your church there are fertile opportunities: re-establishing the training hour for adults, or revitalizing Sunday School with fresh anointing and ideas for inreach and outreach.

### SOW THE SEED WITH PASSION AND COMMITMENT!

Passion tends to be an emotion which starts out strong but doesn't sustain a long term process of sowing and harvesting. However, passion with commitment runs deep and is determined to see the process through. Jesus challenges us to pray for and send out those kinds of laborers (Luke 10:2).

### TEND THE SEED WITH CONFIDENCE AND EXPECTATION.

Tending the seed into life and anticipating a harvest is a principal of nature. Galatians 6:7-9 teaches us the following things:

- God provides a harvest from our seeds.
- Be patient, God's timing for the harvest is always right.
- You will reap the type of harvest you have sown, good seed or bad seed!

God can use what you give. Don't underestimate HIS willingness or power to do so...

Sowing with you,

*Rick Wulfestieg*

# THE VALUE OF ENTHUSIASM

**I**t was once said: "What we want is men with red hot hearts to tell us of the love of Christ." Are you "red hot?" Enthusiasm would fail if it were not built on faith. We must believe in our cause if we are to maintain an enthusiastic devotion.

If it were not for the enthusiasm of many inventors we would be lacking many things today. It was the enthusiasm of our forefathers that carried the Word of God to us today. Are you passing it on?

Columbus believed that there was a continent to be discovered, and his enthusiasm persisted until he found it. Do you want others to find God? Do you want our churches to grow as never before? Then you must persist in your enthusiasm. It is very valuable; it is priceless, and you must never lose it.

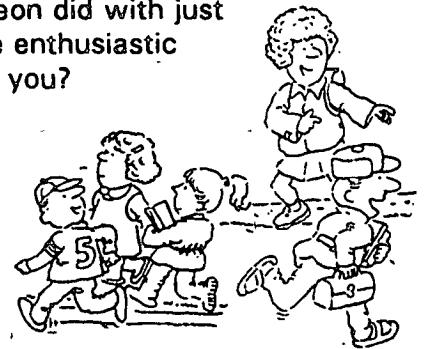
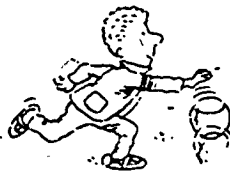
**Enthusiasm must be fed** - just as an oil lamp must have the oil replenished or it will go out. It is impossible for enthusiasm to live unless it is fed. Enthusiasm lives on truth. We have the truth

*Original article from Elm Evangel. Adapted from an article in the C.E. Digest, Sept., Oct., Nov., 1980*

and must hold it fast in an untruthful world. It is when the mind dwells upon the truths of God that there is an enthusiastic interest in the things of God.

**Enthusiasm must be watched**, for unwatched it can become out-of-hand. It needs to be level, sound and regulated. This is possible by a study of the Bible, and a coming together as often as we can. Never neglect the fellowship that is found in your church. Uphold it and give to its upkeep with your time.

**Enthusiasm is contagious.** An enthusiastic person passes it on to others. We must keep our enthusiasm so that others are aroused by it. Do not allow yourself to become a drain on your church, but rather a source of enthusiasm. Strive to be a blessing to others. Let us remember what Gideon did with just 300 men; they were enthusiastic for God. How about you?



## Effective Christian Education

These are factors that create an effective Christian education program, according to a study conducted by Search Institute.

- ♦ Teachers who have mature faith and who know educational theories and methods.
- ♦ A pastor who is committed to education, devotes time to Christian education and knows educational theory and practice.
- ♦ An educational process that applies faith to current issues, examines life experiences, creates community, recognizes individuality and encourages independent thinking and questioning.
- ♦ Educational content that "blends biblical knowledge and insight with significant engagement in the major life issues each age group faces." Effective adult education emphasizes biblical knowledge, multicultural and global awareness, and moral decision-making, drugs and alcohol, service and friendship.
- ♦ A high percentage of adults active in a congregation.
- ♦ An educational program with a clear mission statement and clear learning objectives.

From Peter Benson and Carolyn H. Eklin, Effective Christian Education: A National Study of Protestant Congregations—A Summary Report on Faith, Loyalty, and Congregational Life (1990). Minneapolis, MN: Search Institute.

APPENDIX 1

APPLICATION FOR CHILDREN'S / YOUTH WORK

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CONFIDENTIAL

First Church

This application is to be completed by all applicants for any position (volunteer or compensated) involving the supervision or custody of minors. It is being used to help the church provide a safe and secure environment for those children and youth who participate in our programs and use our facilities.

PERSONAL

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last FirstMiddle

*Identity must be confirmed with a state drivers license or other photographic identification.*

Present address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Street CityStateZip

Home Phone: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

What type of children/youth work do you prefer? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

On what date would you be available? \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum length of commitment: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been convicted of child abuse or a crime involving actual or attempted sexual molestation of a minor? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_. If yes, please explain (attach a separate page, if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Were you a victim of abuse or molestation while a minor? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_. If you prefer, you may discuss your answer to this question with the senior minister rather than answering it on the form. Answering yes, or leaving the question unanswered, will not automatically disqualify an applicant for children or youth work.

Do you have a current driver's license? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_. If yes, please list your driver's license number: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been convicted of a traffic offense? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_. If yes, please describe all convictions for the past 5 years: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CHURCH ACTIVITY**

Name of church of which you are a member: \_\_\_\_\_

List (name and address) other churches you have attended regularly during the past five years: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List all previous church work involving youth (identify church and type of work): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List any gifts, callings, training, education, or other factors that have prepared you for children/youth work: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL REFERENCES**

(not former employers or relatives)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICANT'S STATEMENT**

The information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize any references or churches listed in this application to give you any information (including opinions) that they may have regarding my character and fitness for children/youth work. I release all such references from any liability for furnishing such evaluations to you, provided they do so in good faith and without malice. I waive any right that I may have to inspect references provided on my behalf.

Should my application be accepted, I agree to be bound by the Bylaws and policies of First Church, and to refrain from unscriptural conduct in the performance of my services on behalf of the church.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Studying The Environment

In many churches the Sunday School seems to be declining. Why is this?

While some churches are experiencing Sunday School decline, this is not a universal situation. In fact, many churches have dynamic Sunday Schools that are growing annually. However, several factors may foster a decrease in Sunday School attendance:

1. The general decrease in church attendance both in number of attenders and increasing absenteeism among members.
2. A change in the purpose of the Sunday School. A number of years ago evangelism and education were the two main reasons for having a Sunday School. Many schools today have education and fellowship as their main purposes. While fellowship is essential, a de-emphasis of outreach will show a corresponding de-emphasis in attendance.
3. A maturing population. The primary attendees of Sunday Schools have traditionally been children, and now our fastest growing populations are the older adults and young adults. Churches that do not have a population of children and middle adults will have difficulty building attendance.
4. A de-emphasis on busing to reach neighborhood children. The gas crunch in the mid 70s and the questioning of the long-term effectiveness of busing has led many churches to discontinue this outreach.
5. The development of full service churches. Many churches have provided additional programs for young people and a diversity of programs for adults. Many adults would prefer to attend a two hour Thursday evening home Bible study than the fifty-minute Sunday School. The home Bible study is usually in a more relaxed atmosphere and offers an opportunity for questions and personal interaction. Sunday School may be larger, more threatening and more structured. It is not that one program is better than the other, it's the simple fact that where students

have several programs from which to choose, all of the programs do not maintain the same height of interest.

## How can we build a healthy Sunday School?

Why is it that many fans support a professional team one year, yet do not attend the next season? Why are the facilities of some teams packed out, while others stadiums are empty? There is a direct correlation between what is happening on the field and the number of fans in the bleachers. People enjoy a winning team and avoid a losing team. A healthy team wins. It accomplishes its purpose.

A healthy Sunday School is one that is accomplishing its designed purposes. Most Sunday Schools have a primary focus on teaching the Scriptures, and a healthy Sunday School is one in which the teaching-learning process is being consistently accomplished. If fellowship is part of the Sunday School's purpose, then a healthy Sunday School is one which provides for fellowship. If outreach is part of the function of a church's Bible school, then it is healthy if it is seeing additions through its outreach efforts.

A healthy Sunday School needs a balance in curriculum, an adequate staff that enjoys its teaching ministry, and a learning atmosphere that facilitates spiritual growth.

To build health into a Sunday School, both attitudes and behaviors have to be monitored. Leaders and teachers need to have positive attitudes and a joyful understanding of their teaching privilege. This inner attitude will help generate better teaching. Equally important, leaders and teachers need to focus on teaching behaviors that encourage learning. As a teacher practices good teaching methods, his or her attitude will also improve. As the staff develops healthy attitudes and healthy teaching behaviors, those who attend the Sunday School will pick up on this positive influence, and the Sunday School as a whole will grow in quality.

*Taken from: "The Trouble-Shooting Guide to Christian Education," John R. Cionca, Accent Books, 1986, pp. 69-71*

# **Sunday School Superintending for Success**

by Millie H. Griswold

Superintendents are special people called by God and their church to direct the most important educational arm of the church. They are part administrator, counselor, promoter and sometimes miracle worker. What does it mean to be a superintendent?

## **Superintending the Sunday school is a leadership job.**

Leading means knowing what's to be done, by whom, and at what time. It means taking personal responsibility for staffing each class and beginning and ending Sunday morning Bible study on time. Leading means letting workers and students know the purpose and goals of Sunday school and working together to achieve the goals.

## **Superintending means thinking and planning ahead.**

Answer the questions no one is asking. With the Sunday school staff, evaluate the program of the school. Be ready to respond to needs as they surface. Ask God for a vision of possibilities for your school two and five years from now. Tell people what you plan to do; what you're doing; and what you've done.

Ask yourself questions: Does my school welcome visitors and enroll them as members? Do I have a plan for training new and seasoned teachers? Do I have a strategy for building morale, cooperation and unity in the school?

## **Superintending means preparing for next Sunday now.**

Encourage teachers to begin early in the week preparing for next Sunday. Keep Sunday morning Bible study before the congregation through notices, cartoons and announcements in the church newsletter and bulletin. Pray. Prepare a checklist of things you're to do before next Sunday. Know the satisfaction of checking off each item as it's completed.

## **Superintending means revitalizing the organization.**

Take the initiative and turn the Sunday school into a new challenge. Discover opportunities to try new things. Start a new class regularly. New classes bring new life and new people. Inspire teachers to try new teaching methods and laud them when they do. Have an all-school picnic to cement relationships. Recognize classes that excel in outreach. (The bad press Sunday school attendance banners of the past received is not all justified.) Let your staff know you're praying for them.

## **Superintending means investing time with people.**

Follow-up on visitors. Contact at home or by phone visitors to your school (both children and adults). Urge teachers to contact absentees. Persistence in follow-up pays off. Manage by walking around the school before and after class. Give words of praise to staff as you walk the hallway. Give words of welcome to students.

## **Superintendents really are Super people.**

People want to love their leaders. When you give opportunity to love you their response to Sunday morning Bible study is multiplied.

Thanks, superintendent, for serving Christ and His church through leading Sunday morning Bible study.

*Millie H. Griswold is Assistant in Resource Development for the Advent Christian denomination. She has just completed five year's service as superintendent in her local church in Charlotte, NC.*

Taken from: "Insight" Summer 1993

In this issue of Directions, we are emphasizing the principle of sowing the seed of God's Word to others. We have included two excellent explanations regarding the principle of sowing seed. We suggest you supply seeds or plant seeds for growing as a visual aid. We encourage you to share them with your Pastor, Sunday school personnel, Sunday school classes, Children's Church or Good News Bears groups.

## A Seed to Sow

### The Lettuce Seed by Cecilia Texiera

A lettuce seed is very little. It is flat and very misshapen and does not go through a planter very well. Before the farmer gets it, the lettuce seed goes through a machine to be coated with clay so that it comes out nice and round and goes through a planter very easily so that it can be spaced properly.

Before we invite Christ into our lives, to take over our lives, we are pretty flat and misshapen too. We are covered over with the righteousness of Christ. When the Father looks down at us He doesn't see us flat and misshapen, He sees us nice and round and white and it does not matter what shape we have been.

After the seed is planted in the ground a lot of work goes on underneath the surface of the soil before we see anything with the naked eye. The roots go down into the soil and send out little sprouts to anchor it well so when the winds, rain, and battering elements come against it, there is strength going down into the ground and the plant won't fall over. The seed also begins to sprout up toward the warmth and sunlight. As it is going up, this minuscule seed can send up a sprout that can move a dirt clod. Now to us a dirt clod isn't much but to a lettuce seed, it's incredible. It would be like us moving a mountain. It's a miracle on a day to day basis. God can make that little seed sprout to move a boulder of dirt, and God sent His Son to shine in our lives so that our faith could grow and move mountains.

We need to be patient with our loved ones, especially our children, and with the people around us. A lot of the time, even though we know that people have accepted Jesus Christ, we don't see any growth at all. It is hard on us because we want instantaneous growth and instantaneous spirituality. There is growth going on underneath the surface; anchoring us in God's Word, anchoring us in faith. Then pretty soon it begins to show to others that we can stand against the elements of the world.

Cecilia Texiera is the wife of Al Texiera, a successful Santa Maria Valley farmer. They are members of the Santa Maria Foursquare Church.

## God Established the Principle of the Seed and the Law of Seedtime and Harvest

Genesis 8:22

### SEED FAITH

Noah's first acts after the Flood were to build an altar and sacrifice to the Lord. God was pleased and made promises to the human family through the faith of Noah. He also instituted the Law of Seedtime and Harvest: "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest... shall not cease" (v.22).

When God created the first living thing, He gave it the ability to grow and multiply. How? Through the *Seed*. Your life began by the seed principle. Every act of your life since your birth has operated by the seed principle — springing from good seeds or bad seeds you have sown — whether or not you were consciously aware of your seed-planting. The principle continues today. To overcome life's problems, reach your potential in life, see your life become fruitful, multiplied, replenished (that is, in health, finance, spiritual renewal, family, or your entire being), determine to follow God's law of seedtime and harvest. Sow the seed of His promise in the soil of your need.

Taken from *Kingdom Dynamics*, p. 17, *Spirit-Filled Life Bible*, Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991



# Here's Some Beary Good News...

from Amherst, Ohio

In January we had a missions overnigher entitled "Flight 777." We created a replica of an instrument panel for an airplane and painted clouds behind it. We also decorated rooms (areas) to represent various countries. The idea was to have the children visit several different countries and learn about them. The children earned their airline tickets and passports by memorizing Matthew 28:18-20.

They arrived 7:00 p.m. Friday night, checked their baggage, and received boarding passes for their assigned seats on the "flight." We had teenage flight attendants, pilot, and "Check Point Charlie" who stamped the passports before they entered the country.

During the flights we sang songs. We made stops at various countries. We had had teams that visited Honduras and Romania and taken pictures. They shared their experiences with the children.

To represent Mexico/Honduras, we saw slides of children who lived out of garbage dumps. We then snacked on pineapples, and then had a pinata. In Romania they saw more slides. We served the children brown bread, potatoes and sausage.

In China, the children listened to a presentation of a typical Chinese school day, then sat on pillows placed around tables and enjoyed rice with chopsticks, scripture cookies and tea. We overheard one child say, "I can't believe I drank all that tea in China." For Alaska, the room was white all over. We had a kayak, sled and a real Alaskan Dog. We served smoked salmon.

We finished the itinerary about 11:00 p.m. We then escorted the children to the sanctuary where we used a speaker phone to call our missionary representatives in Alaska. Afterwards, we had worship and a candlelighting service. Each child lit a candle on a candelabra. We talked about being a light in a dark world. We had 45 children in attendance. 12 received a call to missionary ministry; 2 received Jesus as their Savior and 8 were baptized with the Holy Spirit.

After midnight we ate pizza then bedded down for the night. We "flew home" the next day for breakfast at the Family Fellowship Airport Cafe.



## The Good Seed, the Bad Seed, and the Difference

"...studies show that parents are still the single most important influence on their children. Adolescents most likely to follow their consciences rather than give in to peer pressure are those who grew up in 'authoritative' homes, where rules are firm but clearly explained and justified.

Many psychologists think that in children, the seeds of moral values are emotional, not intellectual. Such traits as empathy and guilt—observable in the very young—represent the beginning of what will later be a conscience. Even newborns respond to signs of distress in others. In a hospital nursery, for example, a bout of crying by one infant will trigger wailing all around. Research on children's attachment to their mothers shows that babies who are most secure (and those whose mothers are most responsive to their needs) later turn out to be leaders in school: self-directed and eager to learn. They are also most likely to absorb parental values."

Excerpted from *The Good, The Bad and the Difference*, Barbara Kantrowitz. Newsweek Magazine Special Issue, Summer 1991 p.48

### MAKE A NOTE...

## Christian Ministries Training Association

Formerly known as G.L.A.S.S.

For forty-one years, G.L.A.S.S. has provided an annual convention to help provide the training and equipping of Christian education personnel. This year is no exception we want you to mark your calendars for:

**C.M.T.A. CONVENTION**

**October 28, 29, and 30, 1993 (Thurs. - Sat.)**

**Pasadena Convention Center**

**Pasadena, California**

This year's theme is: "Equipping the Church for a Changing World." Speakers will include Jack Hayford, C. Peter Wagner, Luci Swindoll, and John Perkins. For more information and registration forms contact:

**C.M.T.A.**

**P. O. Box 296**

**Rosemead, CA 91770-0296**

**or call: (818) 288-8720**

Our own Mary Lou Canata is serving as Chairperson this year.

#### DIRECTIONS FOR FOURSQUARE CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS

is a resource published quarterly by the National Department of Christian Education in Los Angeles, California.

You may receive bundle (5 or more) copies of the newsletter to distribute in your church for a small charge to cover shipping costs.

If you would like to make a contribution to this newsletter we would appreciate hearing from you

**NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

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# **“Everybody Has A Seed To Sow”**

## **Fall 1993 Christian Education Emphasis**

Michael W. Smith has written a song entitled, “Everybody’s Got A Seed To Sow.” This song made such an impression on me because it is the synopsis of God’s plan for evangelism and discipleship. So who is “everybody,” what is the seed we have to sow, and where are we supposed to plant?

“Everybody” is everybody. The world is sowing seeds of confusion, unrighteousness and death. But God has provided the seed of His Holy Word which includes His promise of salvation, peace, and eternal life. He also has His redeemed children who have been instructed to grow, and then go and plant seeds of salvation and discipleship in others. The soil to sow that seed is the hearts of people who do not know God or who want a deeper walk in Him.

The importance of planting seed for replenishing the earth is mentioned many times throughout the Bible. We usually associate planting the seed with the New Testament parable. However, right after the flood, God promised Noah in Genesis 8:21,22 that “He would never again destroy every living thing on earth and that while the earth remained, seedtime and harvest shall not cease” (see article in Directions). In Genesis 47:23, Joseph distributed seed to the Egyptians for replanting after the drought ended. Hosea 10:12 commands us to “SOW for yourselves righteousness, reap in mercy.” We all have seeds to sow, let us prayerfully and practically evaluate our ministry and purpose to sow seeds that will take root and ground people in God’s love and help them grow and sow to the next generation.

In this BOX we have included valuable resources to help you sow seeds of righteousness.

- ☐ Fall DIRECTIONS “Everyone Has A Seed To Sow.”
- ☐ Christian Education Emphasis poster for display.
- ☐ “Blessing the Children” cassette tape. A sermon by Pastor Jack Hayford on the value of children.
- ☐ The new 1993-1994 Foursquare Publication Resource Catalog.
- ☐ Fall curriculum order guides with the scope and sequence of each publisher.
- ☐ A brochure, “Safety Tips On A Sensitive Subject: Child Sexual Abuse.”



## Three strategies for PLANTING "A SEED TO SOW"

**PRAYER** - areas to consider as you pray with C.E. staff and committees.

A Fresh VISION and energy in the local Church mission through Christian Education John 4:35  
Knowledge of God's purpose (DISCIPLESHIP) and God's people (RECRUITING). What is God up to in our city? How will He use our church? What are innovative ways to equip others for Kingdom ministry. Luke 10:12 (every member a minister) and Matthew 14:14

A breaking down of resistance to God's truth being known. John 8:32  
Interceding for a strong redemptive work in dysfunctional and abusive families in your area. Malachi 4:5-6

God's protection for your young people's minds, hearts, and bodies from the works of darkness. Ephesians 6:10-18

A REJOICING OF GOD'S PEOPLE, for His mighty works and deeds. Phil. 4:4

## PLANNING

Write down where you are; where you want to be; and how you will get there. Evaluate your present and potential staffing needs and ways to equip them. Provide a training program or teacher orientation. Share your vision with them so that you are all moving in the same direction.

**THE APPLICATION/INTERVIEW PROCESS:** It is critical that this is completed by EVERYONE who works with children and youth. This is done as a protection and covering to volunteers as well as the children (enclosed is a purple brochure entitled "Safety Tips On A Sensitive Subject: Child Sexual Abuse." A sample application form is provided inside this issue of Directions. The layout can be changed, but legally the wording cannot.

Provide training resources. Review the enclosed Foursquare catalog for detailed information on resources that will build every member in your congregation to minister, from the new convert through the Senior Pastor. Some suggested resources are: "YOU CAN DO IT" training video for workers of children. The training video series "Seven Laws of the Teacher" for anyone leading and teaching others.

Facilities...take a look around. Possibly a fresh coat of paint or removing clutter that does not lend itself to a learning environment. A good rule of thumb in classroom arrangements: if you are not going to use it within three months remove it from the classroom.

Use Curriculum that has been reviewed and recommended for the local Foursquare church. Review the scope and sequence for Radiant Life, Bible-In-Life, and Living Word. Order early and allow time to familiarize your teachers with the curriculum they will be using.

## **PRACTICE**

Complete, review and file recruiting applications. Provide brief job descriptions for each volunteer and staff worker.

Affirm all your workers with a note, small gift, or a desert reception. Let them feel they have a special privilege and honor in ministering God's Word. Discuss with your Pastor about providing a time during the morning worship service to recognize and prayerfully commission your workers for the ministry of discipleship.

You may also want to illustrate a message by using the story "A Seed to Sow" by Ce Teasera with seed and head of iceberg lettuce. Another way to convey the message is to obtain accompaniment music for "Everybody's Got A Seed To Sow," from the album "GO WEST YOUNG MAN" by Michael W. Smith. You will also find a thought on the "Kingdom Dynamics" of the seed from the Spirit Filled Bible, Thomas Nelson Publishers (article is in this Directions issue)

**Budget:** Christian education is an investment into lives who can change the community and Country through a knowledge and love of Jesus Christ and His Word. The eternal stakes are high!

Build enthusiasm in your workers as you discuss the potential of what God can do in other lives through the seed you will sow.

Refuse to become discouraged and keep your faith alive because God has promised an abundant harvest.

A special thanks to Living Way Ministries  
and Pastor Jack Hayford for providing the  
cassettes on "The Blessings of Children"

