



REACH OUT TO BRING THEM IN! **(Sabbath School Program)**

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Suggested Hymns from the Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal

No. 373 – “Seeking the Lost”

No. 359 – “Hark! The Voice”

No. 361 – “Hark! ‘Tis the Shepherd’s Voice I Hear

No. 367 – “Rescue the Perishing

Sabbath School Program: Reach Out to Bring Them In!

This Sabbath School program may be conducted in the church building or through a virtual platform such as Zoom, in case the situation does not allow the church to convene together.

Introductory Activity

After the opening song and prayer, begin with a multiple-choice quiz from Luke 15. Sabbath School members will choose from the following options:

- a. The parable of the lost sheep
- b. The parable of the lost coin
- c. The parable of the lost son

If the Sabbath School program is done in the church or worship hall, members may indicate their answers by raising hands or by standing.

If the quiz is done through a virtual platform, the host (preferably the Sabbath School program leader) may utilize the voting tool whereby members choose one of the above options. After all members submit their answers to each question, the Sabbath School program leader will reveal the correct answers and display the result of the votes. *[A slide sample has been attached which can be downloaded and used in the preparation of the quiz if desired.]*

The questions may include the following:

1. The key word is “search carefully.”
2. The parable emphasizes a welcoming attitude of the church to the returning members.
3. Reaching out to someone who knows he or she is missing but does not know the way home.
4. Reaching out to someone who is missing but does not know he or she is missing.
5. Reaching out with love and compassion.

Outreach Emphasis

The Sabbath School leader may briefly explain the aspects of personal outreach based on the parables in Luke 15, as follows:

- The parable of the lost sheep emphasizes an immediate action taken by members of the church to reach out to someone who is missing, through various ways. So, in a word, it is about the **GOING**.
- The parable of the lost coin emphasizes the searching process. Notice the phrase: “light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully” (v. 8). In a word, it is about the **SEARCHING**.
- The parable of the lost son emphasizes how the father and his servants welcomed the returning lost son. Notice the phrase: “His father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him” (v. 20). It is about **WELCOMING**.

Emphasize this concept: Outreach ministry includes going to reach out, searching to reach out, and welcoming those who are reaching out. We are to be prepared to do all these.

Now, based on this concept, ask the Sabbath School members in their respective classes to choose another biblical model of outreach ministry (this could be done through Zoom breakout rooms). They may consider the following:

Jonah

- The going: How does Jonah go? Does he go immediately? Is there hesitance?
- The searching: Is he enthusiastically reaching out?
- The welcoming: Does he really welcome the result of his outreach?

Of the going, the reaching out (searching), and the welcoming:

- Which is the one that you, your Sabbath School, and your church are focusing on?
- If there is one aspect to be strengthened, which one is it: going, searching, or welcoming?
- What can your Sabbath School do to strengthen each of these aspects?

Reporting time. If your church has many small groups or Sabbath School classes, then choose three to five groups to present their discussion reports, depending on your available time in the Sabbath School program.

Closing Activity: Personal Commitment

[If you are meeting physically, distribute paper and pens or pencils prior to this next activity.]

Ask each member to write on a piece of paper his or her personal commitment for personal outreach:

- One person (write the name) that I can reach out to (from family circle, neighbors, colleagues, classmates, etc.), i.e. William from next door.
- One thing that I can do to reach out to that person (write the name), i.e. help with yardwork.
- One day I can spend to contact that person through different ways (write the date).

Ask everyone to have a silent prayer for their commitments, and then ask the church pastor to pray.

Close with this statement:

We go out to reach out, and we reach out to bring people into Christ's church, and we bring people in to make them disciples of Christ, that they may also reach out to others.