



CATCH-UP SUNDAY

ONE-DAY OFFERING EMPHASIS

Catch-Up Sunday Preparation Plan

Catch-Up Sunday is a one-day special offering. The emphasis is designed to focus on catching up on budget needs and/or a special church need and to encourage members to give sacrificially to meet the need. Advance preparation is crucial to the success of this one-day offering. It is suggested that **Catch-Up Sunday** be scheduled on the first Sunday of a month. This emphasis is not designed to replace the need for an on-going Stewardship plan, but only supplement the plan in meeting the specific needs as identified by you and other church leaders.

4 – 6 weeks before **Catch-Up Sunday**

1. Establish Goals

- Financial Goal(s): Set 3 financial goals based on the need and seek church approval in order to establish awareness, interest and support for the emphasis.
- Attendance: Seek to establish a Sunday School high attendance goal for **Catch-Up Sunday**.
- Leadership Goal: Seek to challenge every elected leader to make a commitment to give sacrificially to the **Catch-Up Sunday** offering.
- Preparation Goals: Seek to build a Preparation Group to make certain that every part of the emphasis is carried out with expediency and quality.

2. Enlist a Preparation Group

- The **Preparation Group** should include the Pastor, a Spiritual Emphasis Leader, an office leader, and if your church has one, the Minister of Education. Additional people can be included to the preparation group to provide leadership for the emphasis.

- **Pastor's Responsibility** (share responsibilities with Minister of Education)
 - Provide pulpit support.
 - Encourage the preparation group; help fine-tune the direction and goals.
 - Preach on the emphasis needs for two successive Sundays and write an article for the newsletter and bulletin.

- **Spiritual Emphasis Leader:**
 - Send a letter to every elected church leader and their spouse to encourage their participation and support of the emphasis.
 - Enlist Sunday School leadership to host a finger food fellowship for every elected church leader and their spouse to show appreciation to them for their leadership role and ask for their support of the emphasis.
 - Enlist two laypersons to share a testimony on the importance of the ***Catch-Up Sunday*** emphasis during a particular Sunday service.
 - Develop a special Sunday School high attendance emphasis to coincide with the ***Catch-Up Sunday***. Promote for three Sundays.
 - Have a time for special prayer concerning the special emphasis in each three week promotion. Call for every member to set aside a time each day to pray about their giving on ***Catch-Up Sunday***.
 - Serve as leader for ***Catch-Up Sunday*** promotion with poster contest using ketchup labels, advertisements, etc.

- **Office Leader**
 - Prepare the special newsletter.
 - Order special offering envelopes from State Stewardship office.

Three weeks before ***Catch-Up Sunday***

3. Development of Resources

- Newsletter will be mailed – the purpose of the newsletter is to present the need and appeal for participation in the ***Catch-Up Sunday*** emphasis (sample newsletter enclosed). Additional topics could be included, such as a ***52 Reasons to Give*** contest.
- Order or secure individual ketchup packets to be used next week.
- Use the drama entitled "Catching Up" in the morning service to introduce the theme.

- Offering envelope – A special ***Catch-Up Sunday*** offering envelope will be used in this emphasis. (Order these envelopes from the State Convention, Stewardship office)
- Use the ***Catch-Up Sunday*** theme for a children's poster contest.

Two weeks before *Catch-Up Sunday*

- Pastor's letter will be mailed to all church members and Sunday School members. Enclose the special offering envelope.
 - Give away individual ketchup packets as a reminder of ***Catch-Up Sunday***.
 - Organize Sunday School classes to call all members about high attendance on ***Catch-Up Sunday***.
4. **Testimonies:** Have two laypersons share their testimonies on the importance of ***Catch-Up Sunday***. The opportunity of sharing their testimony will encourage others to give sacrificially.
 5. **Fellowship:** Host a finger food fellowship for all elected church leaders and their spouse to show them appreciation for their service, to encourage their participation and seek their sacrificial support to ***Catch-Up Sunday***.

One week before *Catch-Up Sunday*

6. ***Catch-Up Sunday*** emphasis should include:
 - Posters from contest should be displayed and awards given.
 - Pastor preaches a special sermon on the emphasis.
 - Layperson shares his/her testimony in the morning service.
 - Call all Sunday School members to encourage their attendance next week.

Catch-Up Sunday

7. **Events** should include:

- Testimony by layperson in the morning worship service
- Message by Pastor on "sacrificial giving".
- Receive ***Catch-Up Sunday*** offering envelopes following Pastor's message
- Announce results at the meal.
- Celebrate with a hamburger/hot dog meal with an abundance of ketchup bottles.

Week after emphasis: (Optional)

- Follow-up letter mailed from the Pastor and Spiritual Emphasis Leader reporting funds and commitments made by the congregation to those not making commitment to date. An additional special offering envelope will be enclosed with the letter to encourage them to join in the emphasis of giving.