



GROWING THE CHURCH THROUGH THE EDUCATION MINISTRY

Shalom Baptist Association
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Jerry Akinsola
08033804982
jerryakinsola@yahoo.com



The Equipping Christian Ministry



**How do you know that a Church
is Growing?**





How can you know that a Church is sick?





**Why are some churches dying or
taking early “evangelistic
retirement”?**



Some Churches are infected by



Biblical Literacy **People Blindness**
Ethnikitis
Titleitis **Materialism**

Syncretism – Mix all
Relativism – ‘It depends’





**To heal sick churches leaders
have tried**





**The Education ministry is one
sure way to heal and grow a
church...**



The education ministry...

- is the engine room of any local church. It is the ordained means of transforming babes into men.
- Historically, Bible inspired education was one of the most potent tools of Christian missions and social change.
- Christians used education as the tool to influence individuals and to uproot ungodly systems. (e.g, Mary Slessor,)





**Five Factors that would
Determine the Fruit of your
Education Ministry**



The Teachers:



- Largely, what happens through the education ministry depends on the character, competence and personality of your teachers.

Recommendation: To enhance the competence of your teachers: pay attention to the recruitment process and organize series of training programmes.



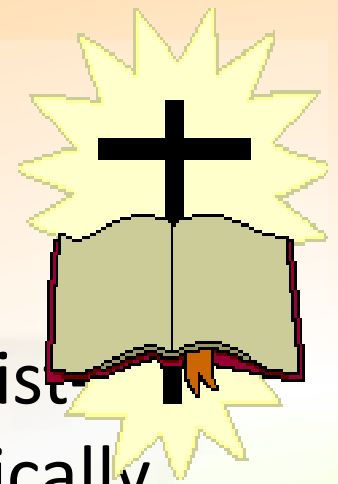
The Learners:



- In a sense, everybody in the church is a learner. The church must equip teachers and small group leaders on how to make learners out of people.
- All members must continuously be engaged in a form of Bible Study and an appropriate skill acquisition or capacity development ministry of the church.
- *Our Recommendation:* Ensure that you have clearly defined membership enlistment and retention programmes.



The Content:



- The kind of education that produces Christlikeness is creative, appropriate and biblically sound. What you intentionally teach would determine the kind of people you would produce.

Our Recommendation: study all the basic curriculum materials that used in your church

- ensure that the curriculum are appropriate for the intended age group



The Context:

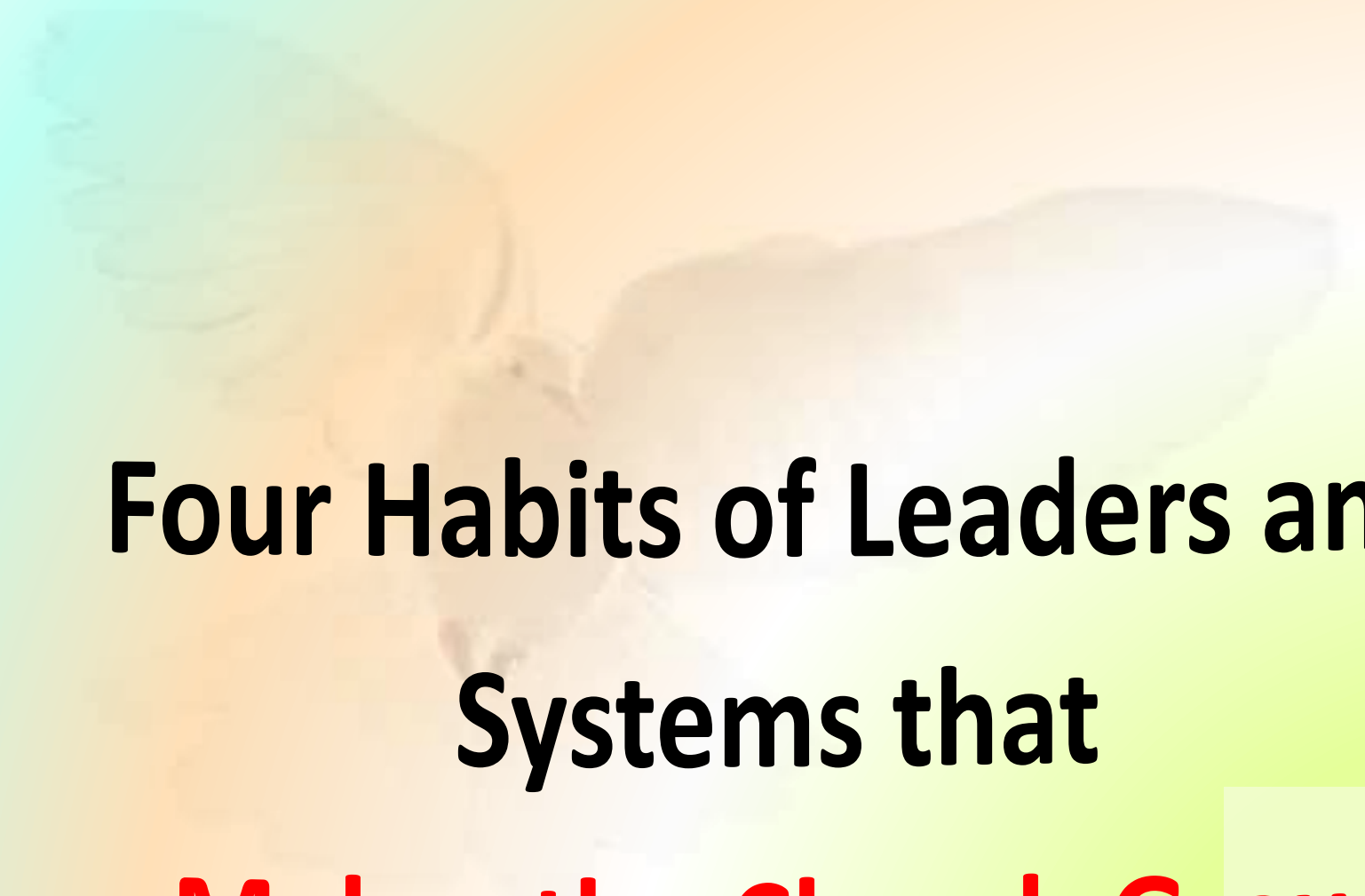
- How you organize the educational ministry of your church, where you provide for the teaching and learning activities would affect the results you would get.
- *Our Recommendation:* You need an effective organizational structure and an inspiring learning environment.



The Method:

- Often it is not what you say but how you say what you say that determines the result you get. The journey to transformation is usually initiated and nurtured by speaking in the preferred 'language' of the learner.
- *Our Recommendation:* Use methods that actively engage the learners in the learning process
 - Train your teachers to use interactive teaching techniques (You will find the book *Activate* helpful)
 - Invest in white boards, flannel graph and projectors.





Four Habits of Leaders and Systems that Makes the Church Grow





#1. Fish for People



How to Fish for People...

- Connect them through their **Point Of Needs (PON)**.
- Reach people through their **passion**. Every person has something that motivates him or her.
- Reach them through **relationships**. We can reach them through their friends or children
- Sit in different areas of the church each week to meet new people.
- Stay and converse with new faces in the high-traffic areas before and after service(s).





#2. Absorb People



Make the atmosphere right

The right atmosphere easily absorbs new people; it is artificial. it is REAL:

- Relational -keeps people from being lonely
- Energizing – brings the best out of people
- Achieving – has worthy cognitive and behavioral results
- Loving - cares for members welfare





#3. Equip and Engage



Equip and engage learners by....

- **Modeling:** showing learners how to live and act, and then giving them an opportunity to do like wise.
- **Training them.** Training is a long-term investment. John Maxwell, says, “it is better to train ten people to work than to do the work of ten people, but it is harder.”
- **Giving assignment:** give them specific task, assignments that are challenging, yet attainable. Begin where they are and call them to a greater level of commitment and involvement.



Equip and engage learners by....

- **Evaluating:** evaluate their experiences, summarize the results and discern areas for improvement. Give constructive feedback.
- **Restructuring** in order to accommodate more people who are willing to serve genuinely.





4. Encourage those who are Serving



“Praises are wages!” ...

- We all have the need to be recognized (celebrated), respected (feel important) and loved by significant others.
- Growth oriented Churches meet these needs in a godly manner. They strive to bring out the best in others through our words and actions.
- Never be too busy to say nice words to your people whenever they do something good.



To encourage try R.A.I.S.E....:



- **Recognize** – Call attention to what is being done
- **Affirm** – Show commitment to person and task
- **Improve** – Seek to develop through prayers, counsel and training
- **Support** – provide necessary assistance to meet needs
- **Exalt** – Move to the next level. Enlarge territory.



Conclusion:

- To become a more effective worker and to have a church where every member is engaged in a fulfilling enterprise (ministry), we must be willing to make shifts in priorities, practices and procedures.
- We must embark on intentional and aggressive discipleship. We must place people above programmes, relationships above tasks and ministries above money.
- We must develop an outward and others-centered focus because there is more work to be done than we can do ourselves. We must make our education ministry to work well.

