**Ministry Job Description:** Sunday School Teacher

**Goal of Position**

The purpose of this position is to nurture the spiritual lives of our children who are at the very beginning of their Christian journey. Teachers will teach their students to know who God is and disciple them into a living, growing relationship with Jesus, recognizing always that it is the work of the Holy Spirit to convince a child to respond to the gospel message.

**Responsible to**

The Sunday School Coordinator (provide person’s name)
**Edit to suit your church.**

**Job Description**

Sunday School is a vital ministry of your church. It’s a program that provides one of the best means of nurturing faith and so will require people willing to be “*God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him.” (1 Peter 2:9b – The Message)*Teachers help the Sunday School Coordinator in leading Bible lessons and craft activities and serving as role models to the children in their classes.

**Edit the information below to suit your church.**In addition, teachers will:

* Tell God’s precious story to impressionable hearts.
* Model Christ’s love so learners will see Jesus in you – be passionate about God’s story of
 salvation.
* Love God and what he has done in your life.
* Have a heart for children and loving those in your class.
* Know the children in your class, the types of learners they are and any issues any of them might
 be struggling with.
* Pay special attention to the child that may provide difficult challenges (shy, aggressive, sullen,
 hyper, etc.) – let them know you won’t give up on them. Look for ways to build a relationship
 with them outside of class.
* Build a relationship with your class and let them know you as a person, not just “the teacher”
* Pray regularly for the children in your class.
* Share your own faith journey with your students
* Be committed to your Church, its core values, and long term goals.
* Attend meetings and training events.
* Serve those you lead
* Be willing to grow spiritually.
* Be dependable, consistent and committed to your task.
* Commit to preparing well and carefully for each lesson, then commit your lesson to God.
* Foster a sense of security with your students by letting them know simple routines and the
 intentions for your class.
* Have fun and enjoy the children God has entrusted to your care.

**Time required**

Two to three hours a week, including preparation time.

**Edit to suit your church.**

**Length of commitment**The basic responsibility of a Sunday School teacher is to develop a loving and caring relationship with the children in their class that will help nurture their spiritual lives. To do this, children will benefit most and be blessed from teachers who are willing to commit for more than one season. So a preference would be for at least a two to three year commitment.
**Edit to suit your church.**

**Training Provided**In order to develop people in their ministry roles it is important that teachers are provided with training and equipped to teach with confidence. Such a meeting will orient those who are new to this role and refresh memories of those who have done this before, as well as give the group the feeling of being united in this ministry – that they are part of a team. Training should include lesson planning, classroom management, ideas to build relationships, safe church policies etc.
**In this space provide the specific training your church would provide.**

**Qualifications or special skills**

As someone who is nurturing children in their faith, it’s vital that a Sunday School teacher takes care of their own spirituality, spending time in scripture, prayer and worship. Additionally, teachers should be team players, flexible, open to learning, have a positive attitude, love working with children and know how to have fun, laugh and enjoy life.

Lastly, the church is not just a place of worship and where ministry programs happen, but also a place of safety and trust. Parents will want to know that not only are their children being cared for spiritually, but also that they are in a safe environment. As such, those serving in any children’s ministry program will be required to provide a current police background check.

**Benefits to this position**In your role as a Sunday School teacher, you will likely be challenged in some ways, but you’ll also be blessed in abundance. Here are some things you can expect:

* *Help young children in their faith development*
* *See young hearts and minds unfold and blossom*
* *Build relationships with the children of your church*
* *Growth in your own faith journey*
* *Affirmation of your gifts*
* *Develop lasting friendships with other teachers*
* *Joy in seeing God at work through this ministry to children*

*Most of the information provided for this document was taken from the booklet “So you’ve been asked to Teach Church School” by Jessie Schut. Some additional information came from a Network article (Leading a Child to Jesus) written by Laura Keeley.*