

Program Ideas and Bible Study

June 2001

# SABBATH LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

**The CRAFT Model**  
*for Teachers*

How to Forgive

**Father's Day  
Program**

**Forgiveness Opens Hearts and Minds**

# Reading God's Credits

**Purpose:** To review a small portion of God's work in the lives of His children, His credits in the drama of the great controversy.

**Materials Needed:** Bibles, a dry erase board with markers and eraser.

**Theme Texts:** Hebrews 11; Romans 5; Revelation 22.

## June 2: Models for Prayer

**Texts:** John 17; Luke 18:9-14; James 5:16

**Discussion:** There is no greater prayer warrior to emulate than Jesus Christ Himself. People such as Job, Daniel, Solomon, Huldah, Mary, and many other faithful souls learned to converse with God. This lesson takes a somewhat unconventional approach to this subject of prayer by looking at a couple of short and often overlooked prayers and the "pray-ers" who offered them. **Activity:** Review the simple prayer of the publican in Luke 18:9-14 and discuss what elements were present in his prayer that made his forgiveness certain. Compare this prayer to the model prayer and counsel that Jesus gave in Matthew 6:9-16. Read the short and effective prayer of the two blind men in Matthew 9:27-31. How do these men show that they trusted in Jesus? Practice aloud saying a prayer that you believe would get God's attention.

## June 9: The Right and the Wrong

**Texts:** Hebrews 9:22; Genesis 4:1-11; Matthew 5:1-12; Philippians 4:8

**Discussion:** Read the story of Cain and Abel in Genesis 4:1-11. Why did Cain kill his brother? Compare Abel's experience to the end portion of the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:10-12. Share experiences with your class members about when you have been mistreated for being faithful to God. Share the joy you experienced knowing that God was with you. **Activity:** Discuss the dangers of worldly parties and seductive music, referencing the story of John the Baptist recorded in Matthew 14:1-12. What were some of the influences that in-

spired the death of John? **Ongoing Activity:** Form a small band of class members to go either to a nursing home or from door to door after church, offering to read encouraging psalms (songs) to anyone who will listen. Psalms 67 and 118 are great models. Be prepared to testify to the church about how the Lord led your endeavors.

## June 16: Giants of Faith

**Texts:** Hebrews 11; Matthew 8:5-13; 1 Samuel 1

**Activity:** Have two people prepare to mime or roleplay the story in Matthew 8:5-10. **Discussion:** What commendation did Jesus give the unnamed centurion in this story? Why did Jesus marvel about this man? **Activity:** Working with another class member(s), outline step-by-step on a whiteboard how the centurion exhibited faith in this situation. Using a sanctified imagination that brings in modern terminology (infertility, miscarriage, etc.), prepare a condensed, dramatized reading of the story of Hannah in 1 Samuel 1. How do the models of faith and prayer shown by Hannah help people live through many kinds of challenges in these last days?

## June 23: God's Women

**Texts:** 1 Samuel 25; Proverbs 31

**Discussion:** It is clear that God has a high regard for women. God's true church is personified as a beautiful woman (Jer. 6:2 and Rev. 12:1). *Wisdom and love* are also depicted as women in Proverbs 8:1-3. God has highly regarded women. He has also given them great faith and patience to live victorious lives (2 Kings 22). **Activity:** Compare Deborah's service as a judge in Israel to the service of women in the legal profession today. Review the experience of Huldah who lived in the days of King Josiah. What can we learn from Abigail about love and humility? Read the story of Abigail aloud from 1 Samuel 25:3, 23-32. Formally "introduce" her to a classmate, using the rules of etiquette and the pizzazz of TV commentaries. Compare her to the women in Proverbs 31:10-12 and 1 Peter

3:1-5. How did Abigail's godly traits preserve David from the sin of human revenge? Which of the traits of specific Bible women do you desire to see in yourself, a friend, wife, mother, or sister?

## June 30: "Big Deal" Sins

**Texts:** 2 Samuel 6; Romans 4:15

**Discussion:** Who has never been fooled by Satan into believing that there are sins that are "no big deal" to God? While it is true that there are different levels of guilt, there are no trivial sins. *All* cherished sin separates us from our God. *All* sin makes us worthy of death. Think about the first human sin recorded in the Bible. This is our best example. What act did Adam commit outwardly that caused all of us to inherit fallen natures? He ate some fruit. How much "smaller" can a sin be? But a man eating fruit from a forbidden tree made it necessary for God to put on flesh and die for me. My "tiny" sins have eternal results. **Activity:** Read the story of Uzzah's sin in 2 Samuel 6:1-7. What was so wrong with touching the ark of God? Did not Uzzah want only to keep the ark from falling? List reasons that Uzzah's sin required death. Share with the class why strict obedience to God is still necessary in the last days of earth's history.

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**L. David Harris** is a teacher in the adult division Sabbath School for the Community Praise Center church in Alexandria, Virginia. He is an assistant to the registrar at Columbia Union College in Silver Spring, Maryland.