

Christmas

As we enter into the Christmas season, have you ever thought how important Christmas is? You may have never realized that every time you check your calendar or refer to a date or write one down, you are using Jesus Christ as your reference point. Because of Jesus, history is divided into BC (*before Christ*) and AD (*anno Domini, in the year of the Lord*). Every other event in history and every event on

your calendar today is dated by how many days and years it has been since Jesus Christ appeared on earth.

Even *your* birthday is dated by *his* birthday.

Christmas is a great time for us to come together as a church family and remember what God has done, is doing, and will do in our lives. Please take time to share the greatest gift ever with someone: the love of Christ. Merry Christmas!



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Church vs. Hardware Store

The question may seem absurd, but do you believe the church is more important than a hardware store? The reason for the questions is the employee can likely tell you the purpose and products in a hardware store. They will take you down each aisle of the store and proudly point out hundreds of different products.

But ask a member of our church why the

church exists. Ask someone to articulate the basic purposes of the church. Can you define the basic reasons or mission for our church? Are you sharing these reasons with your students?

“To pattern our lives after Christ” by...

...Coming to Him in worship.

...Growing in Him through discipleship.

...Serving Him by serving others.

...Telling others about Him.

We have a great responsibility as leaders to teach, lead, mentor, and illustrate. Hopefully there is no one in our church that believes the hardware store is more important than the church.

Special points of interest:

- Check out the new EDLINK Blog page at:

campbellsvillebaptist-church.com

- Find the articles that will help you lead a Sunday School group to live out the vision of CBC.

Important December Dates

Dec.13	"The Ornament"	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
	Children's Production	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 16	Preschool Christmas	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 20	Church Carol Sing	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 24	Candle Light/Lord's Supper	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 25	Christmas Day	
Dec. 23 & 30	No evening activities	

Upward is HERE!

Upward is HERE! We have over 250 participants in Upward this year who will be hearing about Jesus each week from their coaches. Please begin praying for these coaches, players and cheerleaders that God will work in their lives. Sunday School classes can do many things during the Upward season: Pray, adopt a team for the season, help with the Upward Café, help during games to greet the hundreds of people in our facility every week, etc. If you would like to know a team to adopt or how to get involved, please contact the CLC or Mike "Sarge" Pollock.

Care Groups: Meeting Needs Through the Sunday School

Many churches realize that one or two ministers cannot meet the needs of the majority of the members of any congregation. So, CBC, like many other churches have turned to Sunday School to do ministry. There are three reasons why Sunday School is the best area in the church for this: the structure already exists, the people in the classes already know one another, and those called on to help are likely in the same age group as the people they are serving.

Care Groups will even help a larger class or department in Sunday School achieve this, plus care groups will allow the teacher to focus on his or her calling - to teach. The following are qualities of an effective care group:

Concern: Care group leaders must have a genuine interest in others, a thoughtful disposition, and a servant's heart.

Size: A care group consists of 5-7 adults or couples. This is a manageable size for a volunteer leader.

Outreach: Each care group is to reach out to others in their community. Guests and visitors are assigned to different care groups within the class.

Prayer: Care group leaders should pray for those on their lists and write them periodically. There should also be times of fellowship.

Promotion: Care group leaders help to remind their groups of upcoming class, ministry, and church-wide opportunities.

As you look at your class evaluate if this would help ministry happen by answering these questions:

- ◆ **Has someone slipped through the cracks over the past 6 months?**
- ◆ **I just do not have enough time as a teacher to keep up with all my members?**
- ◆ **Are visitors/guests getting lost in the shuffle?**
- ◆ **Is this a way for other members of our class to use their gifts?**

If you answered "YES" to any of these questions, then care groups will help your class. For more information, please contact Brad in the Discipleship Ministry Office or email at bradl@cvillebaptist.com.