

From Where I Sit . . .

"CARE GROUP PROGRAM UNDER WAY"

This past week marked the beginning of our new congregational development program called Care Groups. Teams 1 and 2 were scheduled for this first week, each being made up of 27 families. Team 1 reported that at least 20 adults had come by for the brief "touching base" meeting Sunday morning after services. The program will proceed weekly with 2 teams each week who are to have some opportunity for fellowship, work assignments, and visitation efforts. There are 8 teams total involving 221 families. I want to encourage each of you to make the choice to participate. We're convinced that everyone needs to feel that they "belong" to the family and that they know they are loved.

A brief recap of our goals and objectives are:

- 1. Provide a base of fellowship and involvement where each family fits in a particular group and where they can identify themselves with specific Christians to form strong bonds within the church;**
- 2. Provide a weekly accounting of all absentees broken down by Care Group Divisions;**
- 3. Provide the structure for a two-fold visitation outreach: within the church, and non-Christians;**
- 4. Minister to one another within our groups in cases of illness, death, spiritual weakness and special needs;**
- 5. Monthly meetings for each group in homes or in the multi-purpose room, or some other meeting place chosen by the team for a variety of activity choices: meals, devotionals and prayer sessions, singing, study, planning sessions;**
- 6. Promote involvement in special projects: field trips, picnics, special work projects, sports and family days, etc., card ministry, "brothers' keeper" outlook for one another;**
- 7. Visit newcomers and prospects, set up studies as often as possible;**
- 8. Strengthen every member by having others attending to their needs and giving them special attention;**
- 9. Involve new converts and new members immediately.**

There is something in the Care Group program for everyone. Not only will we all be on the receiving end of a great blessing in our mutual involvement, but we'll have the opportunity to be a blessing to others - some who may need our encouragement very badly.

..... Terry Broome

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