Literacy

Key Points



- The inability to read is a life-controlling problem.
- Illiteracy robs people of independence and options, which allows drug abuse and relapse to thrive.
- Unemployment is 2-4 times higher for those with little schooling. They have lower income and lower quality jobs when they do find employment.
- Illiteracy also affects self-esteem and isolates us from others...both of which can be deadly to those battling addictions.
- Be proactive and creative in helping your students develop their reading skills so that it is not a life-controlling problem that holds them back from their full potential in life.

The Word of God



- Psalm 1:1-3 Joshua 1:8
- Ephesians 3:3-4 2 Corinthians 1:13

Consider This



"A person who won't read has no advantage over one who can't read." -Mark Twain

"Once you learn to read, you will forever be free." -Fredrick Douglass

Discuss — Evaluate — Execute



Watch the video, review the information above, and the ideas listed with this worksheet and then discuss the following questions with your team.

- Discuss your thoughts and implementation ideas with your team.
- What is your ministry's plan for helping students who have a problem with reading?
- → Write out a policy for your ministry to ensure consistent implementation. of support of your students. List the steps you will take with each new student to evaluate and train for literacy as needed.

Notes	
	

Literacy Ideas

- 1. Utilize online tests to test each new student with regard to reading comprehension when they first inter the classroom. Record their reading level.
 - a. Here is a simple one: https://a2zhomeschooling.com/all time favorites/reading level assessment/
 - b. To help them see their progress, have them retake the test when they are about to graduate the program. Be sure to use the same test you used when they entered they program. Remind them of the reading grade level they started out at when they entered the program.
- 2. Recruit volunteers as reading tutors
 - a. Recruit current students who have been in the program longer or graduates.
 - b. Recruit individuals from local churches.
- 3. Train tutors
 - a. Ensure the student can recognize the letters of the alphabet, both small and capital letters. If they can't, start there.
 - b. Have the tutor read with the student, pointing to each word as they read and ensure that the student is sure which word they are pointing at.
 - c. When the student is ready, have the student point to the word as they read and the tutor can ensure that they pronounce and understand each word.
 - d. Have the tutor question the student about comprehension for each paragraph they read. "What does that paragraph say or mean?"
- 4. Have the student keep a vocabulary journal.
 - a. Keep a few good dictionaries readily available for your students.
 - b. Have the student look up words they don't understand,
 - c. Then have them write the word and the meaning in that journal.
- 5. Provide the student with a copy of the NIRV (New International Readers Version) Bible. It is the lowest grade reading level Bible, written at about a 3^{rd} grade reading level. Give them a copy with a nice cover not a kid's cover.
- 6. Do your homework and find out what available in your town or county. Most have resources available. Visit <u>nationalliteracydirectory.org</u> to see if there is a resource near you.
- 7. Check out these literacy apps
 - a. on google play store:
 - i. Amrita Learning Reading APP
 - ii. AutoCognita
 - b. On itunes app store
 - i. <u>Learning Upgrade</u>
- 8. Review myteenChallenge.com > resources > advanced studies for new Christians > special needs > low reading proficiency for more resources and ideas.
- 9. Email us with suggestions for additional ideas.