



SUNDAY SCHOOL "Others" Party Ideas

PURPOSE

We want to draw attention of the children to the teaching of Jesus, just like we will for the adults and the whole corps family during the corps banquet.

The teaching is from Matthew 8, ". . . many outsiders . . . will soon be coming from all directions—streaming in from the east, pouring in from the west, sitting down at God's kingdom banquet alongside Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."

We want the children to know that they can help bring "others" into God's kingdom. We want to help them be interested in more people than just the ones who already come to Sunday school and interested in the children in overseas countries, too.

SCHEDULE

A Sunday school "others" party could be arranged during week-night activities, after church on a Sunday or during your Sunday school hour. Think about when new children are most likely to attend, and let that be your guide.

INVITATIONS

Have the children anticipate the party by making invitations to give to friends. Making the invitations would be an activity that is done weeks ahead of the party.

Talk with the children about who they might invite as a teaching opportunity. Ask, "How many new people could we fit in our corps?" Involve them in process of bringing people to join in the party.

VOLUNTEERS

Ask for more than the faithful Sunday school volunteers to help. If the corps people want to help teach children the lesson about "others," they may be willing to help for this special event.

PLAN ON FOOD AND DECORATIONS

Cupcakes are always fun! You will know what your children enjoy!

DECORATIONS

Plan on decorations, banners, balloons.

SONGS

- "He sits us at his banqueting table, His banner over us is love"
- "Jesus loves the little children"
- "Jesus loves me"

STORY

Tell the story from John 6 of a young boy who was willing to share his lunch of bread and fish. Jesus used it to feed "others," in fact thousands of people.

MEMORY VERSE

"Love **others** as you love yourself."
— James 2:8 (MSG)

ACT OUT A BIBLE STORY

Tell the story from John 6 of a young boy who was willing to share his lunch of bread and fish. Jesus used it to feed "others," in fact thousands of people.

ACTIVITIES

- Introduce new children who have come to the corps for the first time.
- Take time to learn about the new children and what they like to do.
- Tell about corps activities for children and how new children can come and have fun, too.
- Distribute coin boxes so the children can participate in the World Services offering.
- Have a "letter writing" activity, in which children write messages of love and support to children in other countries. Explain that these letters will be sent to our overseas officers. They will share them with the children in their corps and service programs.