

Dear Workshop Participant:

The enclosed material describes the purpose, structure, and function of the workshop of July 27 entitled The URANTIA Brotherhood School.

The principal aim of this workshop is to develop a detailed proposal for a "URANTIA Brotherhood School".

Another equally important goal is to share with one another the experience of a cooperative group endeavor. In order that everyone might participate in an active manner, all of the activities of this workshop are being divided up into component units and distributed among the workshop participants. The achievements of this workshop will therefore depend largely upon the degree to which we, as a group of individuals, are able to manifest a sincere spirit of teamwork and cooperation.

This approach to the workshop activities is suggested in the following quotes from the URANTIA Book.

"One of the most important lessons to be learned during your mortal career is teamwork. The spheres of perfection are manned by those who have mastered this art of working with other beings. Few are the duties in the universe for the lone servant." (312)

"In civilization much, very much, depends upon an enthusiastic and effective load-pulling spirit. Ten men are of little more value than one in lifting a great load unless they lift together - all at the same moment." (911)

"One hundred men united and working in unison can move a great stone." (763)

"The group potential is always far in excess of the simple sum of the attributes of the component individuals." (113)

"Not only in the realms of life but even in the world of physical energy, the sum of two or more things is very often something more than, or something different from, the predictable additive consequences of such unions." (141)

"Intellectually, socially, and spiritually two moral creatures do not merely double their personal potentials of universe achievement by partnership; they more nearly quadruple their attainment and accomplishment possibilities" (494-495)

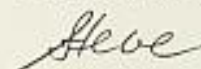
Our study topic is fascinating, and so is the process by which we shall attempt to pursue it. We all have an opportunity to grow experientially and perhaps to make a useful contribution to present and future students of the URANTIA Book.

Read the enclosed material thoroughly. As soon as possible please return the sheet indicating your assignment preferences. And begin thinking about the possibilities for a "Brotherhood School".

Your suggestions, comments, opinions, etc. on any matter having to do with this project would be most appreciated and are strongly encouraged.

May the Spirit of Truth lead us all along the path of true service and loving cooperation.

Affectionately,



Steve Dreier

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PURPOSE, GOALS, AND PHILOSOPHY

The workshop of Sunday, July 27, 1975 and the preceding activities thereof have as their purpose the development of a model for a "URANTIA Brotherhood School".

This "school" is envisioned as an education-service institution - a forum of learning and doing. The general objectives of the "school" are:

1. To provide a forum wherein diverse persons may join with one another in cooperative effort designed to foster intellectual, spiritual, and experiential comprehension of the URANTIA Revelation on levels of fact, meaning, and value.
2. To provide individuals with enlarged opportunities to augment their abilities as teachers and practitioners of the gospel of Jesus to the end that the truth of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man may be spread to all the earth.
3. To pursue these efforts according to our highest insights of experiential wisdom and revealed truth with the intention that this undertaking may achieve levels of excellence, and thereby serve as a model "school" for all mankind, and as a dynamic proclamation of the presence and love of God.

The proposed model shall analyze the component structural units of such a "school". It shall describe, in detail, the organization and functions of each of these components. It shall demonstrate how such elements support and further the major purposes for which this "school" is to be brought into existence.

The insights arrived at in this study will be given in the form of a written report, and a copy will be sent to each participant.

The following philosophical viewpoints will be reflected in the design choices for the entire "school" as well as for each of its component units.

1. Real learning requires active participation. Actual experience in and with a subject is the primary learning route for mortal personalities.

2. Variety of experience enlarges insight and serves to prevent distorted and one-sided interpretation. Therefore provision shall be made to allow individuals the opportunity to function in different roles such as student, teacher, and administrator.
3. Personality is unique. Therefore sensitivity to individual needs must be maintained along with the simultaneous recognition that individuals live and work in groups.
4. The "school" and its component units shall recognize the planetary nature of the URANTIA Revelation. Every effort shall be made to design a "school" which can serve all truth seeking persons regardless of nature or origin.
5. Living institutions are dynamic. Therefore all levels the of "school" design shall include provision for self-renewal as experiential insight dictates.
6. The "URANTIA Brotherhood School" is to serve as a model institution. Therefore our primary concern shall be sincerity of motive and quality of achievement. The reach for excellence shall characterize all activities of this "school" - the sincere search for truth and the willingness to follow that search wherever it leads.
7. We recognize that we are attempting to extend the borders of human accomplishment. We understand that the attempt to actualize new realities in human experience is never an easy undertaking. We realize that our ability to progress in this work depends largely upon our sincerity and seriousness of purpose, and, through prayer and worship, upon the maintenance of living connections with the Universal Father and the Sovereign Son, in behalf of whom we gather together in pursuit of these high goals.

ORGANIZATION OF STUDY ACTIVITIES

In undertaking this study, we shall divide the major topic up into those elemental units which, when taken together, constitute a school.

These component units are (more detailed specifications will follow):

1. Purpose, Goals, and Philosophy
2. Students
3. Curriculum
4. Methods of Instruction and Learning
5. Teachers
6. Administration and Administrators
7. Evaluation and Self-renewal
8. Social Recognition - degrees, titles, etc.
9. Relationship to Societies and Study Groups
10. Publications, Study Aids, Library, etc.

We shall arrange ourselves into study groups for the intensive examination of each of the above component areas. These study groups will be composed of three or four workshop participants, with one person serving as group coordinator.

The unit study groups will have responsibility for the following tasks:

1. Each group will function as a center for the reception and coordination of suggestions related to its specific study topic.

While we will each be concentrating on some particular aspect of this study, it is obvious that these various areas are intimately related to one another. Each participant is therefore encouraged to consider all aspects of the study. Invariably, each group will develop some suggestions concerning the study topics of other groups. All such suggestions should be communicated to the appropriate study group coordinator. In this manner, everyone will have an opportunity to contribute his/her ideas relative to any of the specific areas of study.

2. Each group will conduct its own intensive research study into the area of assignment.

This will involve study of the URANTIA Book, as well as any other material which is deemed useful in the full development of the topic.

3. Each group will be responsible for the preparation of a written report of its study activities.

This report should include:

- a) A summary of the various suggestions which have been made to the group concerning its study topic, along with the reasons which support such suggestions. Both majority and minority views should be represented.
- b) A detailed discussion of the insights and conclusions arrived at as a result of the intensive groups study activities. The discussion should demonstrate how the conclusions support the goals of the "school".

This report should be completed by July 14. It will be duplicated and sent to each workshop participant in advance of the workshop session. This will give everyone an opportunity to examine the various proposals before we assemble for our face to face session.

4. Each group will be responsible for the presentation of its topic on the day of the workshop session.

Approximately thirty minutes will be reserved for the presentation and discussion of each topic. Since we will have time restrictions, each group should seek to identify and set forth its critical conclusions.

ASSIGNMENT TO STUDY TOPICS

Enclosed is a sheet listing the various study topics for the workshop. Please indicate by number your first five preferences for specific study areas. In addition, please indicate whether you can serve as a coordinator in any area.

Return these sheets as quickly as possible. When everyone has responded, the study topics will be distributed. To facilitate communication, a summary list will be prepared of the members of each study group along with their addresses and phone numbers. This list will be sent to all participants.

Let us keep the lines of communication open, and share our developing thoughts with one another.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

General reading can be done between now and the time when the specific study assignments are finalized. Suggestions for general reading are:

1. The URANTIA Book

Each participant should begin to scour the URANTIA Book for insights having to do with "education". Try to prepare an orderly list of your references. At the conclusion of the project all of these reference lists can be collected and organized into a mini-index on "education".

2. Goal Analysis by Robert F. Mager (Fearon Publishers, 6 Davis Drive, Belmont, California, 94002 - \$2.95)

This book is an excellent introduction to modern instructional design. It is easy to read and will help to focus attention on some critical factors in the development of instructional programs.

3. Preaching to the Contemporary Mind by Merrill R. Abbey (Abingdon Press, Nashville 2, Tennessee - 1963)

This book contains a number of thought provoking discussions which can help us clarify the purposes and anticipate the challenges of developing a truly useful and viable "Brotherhood School".

There are no specific reading assignments for the individual study group topics. Each group should select its own reading material. A visit to the education section of a library will provide much useful reading matter. Keep a list of any references you find particularly helpful.

Workshop Study Topics
The URANTIA Brotherhood School

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Indicate by number your first five preferences for an intensive study topic.

- _____ Purpose and Philosophy
- _____ Students
- _____ Curriculum
- _____ Methods of Instruction
- _____ Teachers
- _____ Administration and Administrators
- _____ Evaluation and Self-Renewal
- _____ Social Recognition - degrees, titles, etc.
- _____ Relationship to Societies and Study Groups
- _____ Publications, Study Aids, Library, etc.

Can you serve as a coordinator of study activities in any of the above areas? Which areas?

Please return this completed form as soon as possible to

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