Opening a low-cost school

Q: How simple is it to open a low-cost school?

A: Easy and cheaper than you may have thought. <u>Liberty University Online Academy</u>, which utilizes curriculum from Alpha Omega Publishers, explains it well:

"All you need to do is provide the space, an internet connection and adult supervision. Student's come to your church with their laptop computer and a packed lunch ready to begin their daily coursework when they log in to Liberty University Online Academy...Some churches have even provided a chapel service for their students. Think of the blessing your church can be to your congregation and your local community.

Q: Can I really have a school in my church building?

A: Yes, you can indeed have a low-cost church school

A school in your church's building should be the goal of every pastor and ministry worker. If you have one empty classroom during the week, you can make it happen. There are experts ready to help, with everything you need.

A church school is a ministry of your church, and not necessarily a separate entity.

Steps to setting up a low-cost church school

- 1. Identify an available classroom and choose the person to head the school
- 2. Select homeschool or other school curriculum for individualized learning in a multi-grade classroom
- 3. Get expert advice to set up your school by talking to those who've gone before you
- 4. Communicate to your congregation and parents in your community
- 5. Start school, even if you begin with only one pupil the word will spread

What would make it "low cost"? A hypothetical fee structure could be: on an annual basis, you charge each pupil for curriculum (could be \$600); electricity, water, sanitation (could be \$200); and for a supervisor-teacher (could be \$2,000). Per student, this would annually cost \$2,800 or \$233/mo. in a 12-month period — very affordable compared to most Christian-based schools.

Contact these experts to learn how to set up a low-cost church school

- 1. Dr. Clint Kneeland, Western Christian Academy at (559) 855-7778, email: ixoye55 (at) gmail.com
- 2. Christina Fambrough, principal, <u>Mountainside Academy</u>, 888-TEACH-98 email: funchurch (at) go2mountainside.com
- 3. Christian Law Association can assist you with understanding legal requirements Call 888-252-1969 | access their helpful materials