

Disability Awareness Sunday



The Goal of Disability Awareness Sunday

A successful *Disability Awareness Sunday* can take a lot of forms, but the end goal is to prepare your entire church for future disability ministry. A second but also important goal is to have an outreach into the local disability community.

A typical *Disability Awareness Sunday* focuses the church's attention on disability from God's perspective. It usually includes a few things:

Pre-Sunday Walk-Through

Walking or rolling-through your church property to make sure it is really accessible can help you see if or where changes need to be made!

A Disability Awareness Sunday Team

A team to pray for and coordinate your day – usually this includes your regular leadership and some volunteers.

Vision

Think through what the ministry you are working towards will look like! Options may include:

- A Buddy Ministry for children with special needs
- Periodic respite programs
- Outreach carnival for families
- Support group for moms, dads, siblings, etc.

Ways to put the focus on Disability Awareness:

- Make the sermon about God's heart for those with disabilities
- Share a testimony or two by someone affected by disability
- Interview a family affected by special needs
- Share a short video of a day in the life of a family or individual affected by disability
- Songs, Scripture readings, etc. can reflect the sermon topic and focus on disability awareness
- Be creative – those serving could do so from wheelchairs, etc.
- If you are unveiling a ministry vision, have sign-ups available for people who would like to volunteer to be trained and participate. Consider using a church survey!