



Building Relationship with your School

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men. (Titus 3:1-2)

Credibility is a bit like money. You can do a lot if you're rich in credibility but if you're broke you won't get in the door. If you're in the school already you can assume you have some credibility. If your just getting started you'll need to show that your team is credible before you'll get an initial okay.

If your ministry is to be a success you need to ensure you continually build up credibility through good ministry and good communication, it's like adding money to your account. Here's how.

1. Always be friendly

A friendly face will break down barriers. Always say hello to the people working in the office when you arrive. Always greet teachers as you pass them by in the school

2. Communicate regularly with school staff

Regular communication helps to stop assumptions and miscommunications. If you aren't in regular contact with the school staff member who oversees ELEVATE in the school, organise once a term have a meeting with the person who oversees your program. It could be the principal or assistant principal, perhaps a welfare coordinator or chaplain.

Share about how ELEVATE is going with the school and ask questions of your overseer, such as:

- Is the school pleased with how ELEVATE is going?
- What have we been doing well that we could do more of?
- Are there any elements about the program that need changing?
- Is there anything additional we could do to benefit the school community?

3. Be ready to respond to the schools needs

At a recent breakfast club the Principal was thanking the team for their efforts and in conversation mentioned that the school was hoping to start a fruit program in the future. The breakfast club had enough funds to support the program and immediately suggested they could run the fruit program. The Principal was thoroughly impressed. Being able to respond to the needs of the schools banks a lot of credibility.

4. Do your ministry well

Credibility is not complicated. Turn up on time, be friendly, communicate, be consistent. All these things will benefit the local school and will open up doors to do many things. Build up enough credibility and the school will see your group as a partner not a program.