

# TARDINESS

## GENERAL IDEAS & TIPS

- Start on time no matter what. At a minute after, welcome and start the opening hymn. If you were going to a theater for a movie and the paper said it started at 7:00 but you knew they didn't start the film till 7:10, what time would you make sure you were there?
- Have the rolls marked so that each tardy says how many minutes late they are. Students can write down their own time or a class secretary can do this.
- A good class Presidency. A good class president can motivate, cheer and encourage people to be on time better than most any teacher. Peers encouraging peers to choose the right is the best way if you have a person as president that others look up to. No matter what idea you choose, a class president on board to help encourage it will make it work better. Don't choose a class president who struggles to be on time.
- Priesthood brother in the halls to encourage them to get into class. They can clear the halls, and ring the buzzers at the right time. They can also keep a lot of bad things from happening. Have the Priesthood ring the church hall buzzer two minutes before class and twice when class is to start.
- If the problem becomes too big, often a letter home to parents explaining the problem and the importance of being on time can help. In WISE you can send a message to all your parents letting them know how their student is doing with tardiness or absences, in just a few clicks.

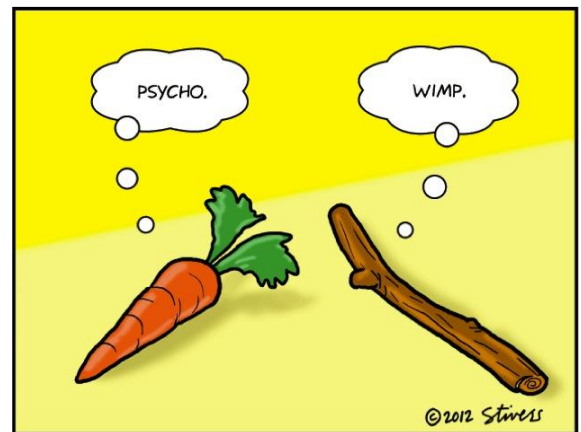
### S&I Policy Manual

Tardiness is not to be equated with absences. Seminary credit may be withheld, however, for flagrant tardiness. Parents should be made aware of tardiness problems and must be given ample opportunity to help correct the problem before credit is withheld. In some cases, the parents or teacher may wish to ask for the bishop's involvement. In each case, sensitivity to the student's continued enrollment and success in seminary should be the foremost concern.

## PENALTIES (STICKS)

Since this list is shorter, I'll put them first.

- In WISE you can send a message to all your parents letting them know how their student is doing with tardiness or absences, in just a few clicks.
- On the rolls, note minutes late. Explain to the students that flagrant minutes late can add up to absences. Remind them often and tell them when they have absences accruing.
- Talk to those with problems one on one. It is always better to talk to students before parents.
- Talk to parents and/or bishop. As a parent, wouldn't you want to know?



## INCENTIVES (CARROTS)

Read through the following ideas and see if there is one that you could adjust to work for your class. One idea might not work all year long. Stake Supervisors, you can help do some of these ideas at a particular building like "The Great & Dreadful Day" or the "Donut Day".

- **Bizarre Holidays & Observances.** At [www.brownielocks.com](http://www.brownielocks.com) you will find a list of lesser known holidays and observances for each day of the year. They are all official. Have the day's observance written on the board before class, and then after the closing hymn, erase it so those late miss out on the interesting fact.

- **Fun Opening Activity.** Do a spotlight or a get to know you game like “Two Truths and a Lie” before the hymn. so they will want to be there and not miss the fun activity.
- **“Bell Quiz”.** As soon as class starts, ask a review question from the day before and anyone who can answer it gets a treat or point. You could also do a trivia question from that book of scripture so they can show how smart they are. Maybe write that question on the board so those who walk in late will see the question they could have answered, if they had been on time.
- **Clues.** Have a prize they can win at the end of the week. Each day they are on time, they get a clue. Whoever guesses it right first on Friday, wins the prize. Example: prize could be some small colored pencils. Clues could be: ... “You wood love this”...”Don't let this make you blue”... “Oh no! Now I'm black and blue”... “With the luck of the draw you will be red faced”... “Orange you glad I didn't say banana, grapes, nuts, or broccoli?” With the prizes, I say go “White Elephant” on them (cheap and strange). Only one winner and prize per week.
- **“The Great & Dreadful Day”** Tell the class(es) that one day in the next weeks, there will be a day that will be extremely “Great” if they are on time or “Dreadful” if they are late, so be on time! Then randomly pick that day (don't let the kids know when) and make breakfast. Those on time will feast on breakfast while those who are late will smell the bacon and eggs but won't get any. You can do the same thing with ice cream sandwiches, hot chocolate or cider.
- **“Donut Day”** Similar to the last one, tell them that one day that week, whatever class has the highest percent on time will win donuts for the class to enjoy. If you don't have other classes in the building, then if you can have 90% on time, they will get donuts the next day. Adjust to your class's past performance.
- **“Day of Jubilee”** Like in the Old Testament, it is a day of forgiveness of past errors. If they are on time that particular day, they get 3 days of makeup work removed.
- **March Madness.** Set up a hoop or clean trash can in the class. Have the class divided into two teams. Then at the end of class they get to shoot once for being on time, and an additional shot if they read the night before. Prize at the end of March for the team with the most points.
- **Raffle Tickets.** Announce it the week before and then for two weeks, have someone pass double tickets with #s out at the door (You can buy a roll of double tickets from any party store). One ticket is kept and the other put in a bowl. Then at the end of the week, have something they can win like a candy bar or cheap puzzle toys. You could perhaps ask parent to donate baked items or “white elephant” gifts, at the end of the month. The more they are on time, the better their chances of wining become over the weeks. If you want it to sound biblical, you can call the tickets “Sheckles.”

