



Be Part of the Big Picture

TIPS FOR TAKING GOOD GROUP PHOTOS:

TIP #1: MAKE SURE NO ONE IS COVERED UP

Selfie Sunday aims to capture a whole portrait of your church family. Scan the entire group before taking the photo to make sure that everyone can clearly see the camera. You may need to take several photos for a large congregation to capture everyone.

TIP #2: USE GOOD LIGHT

Consider taking your photos outdoors where there is good natural lighting. The brighter the light, the faster the shutter speed, the better the chance of having sharp photos.

TIP #3: GET THE HEADS ON DIFFERENT LEVELS

This helps stop faces being partially blocked by others, and makes the photo more interesting. A simple way to do this is to find a location that will allow for it. For example, have people stand on a staircase or slope. Alternatively, have the photographer stand up as high as possible (remembering health and safety issues: use a step ladder rather than a wobbly chair!)

TIP #4: COMPOSE THE PHOTO

A common mistake is to line up everyone's heads in the middle of the photo, leaving too much sky above and chopped off legs below. Don't do that! If you have heads on different levels (tip #3) the back row of people may be near the top of the photograph and the front row near the bottom: that's good for this type of group portrait.

TIP #5: TAKE SEVERAL PHOTOS

If you only take one photo, you might find it's a little fuzzy, that people are cut out from the sides, that people are blinking, or looking away. Many photographers put the camera on "continuous low" to shoot 3 frames per second. Take lots of photos, select the best ones, then delete the rest later. Check photos as you go.

TIP #6: SHOW CONFIDENCE

Make sure the photographer is clearly in charge and tells the group where to stand, when to look, what to say. Otherwise people may look everywhere and stand/sit in random locations.

TIP #7: TIGHTEN THINGS UP

Selfie Sunday is not the time for shyness: ask people to bunch up close together.

TIP #8: USE A GOOD CAMERA

Use the best camera you can access; it will produce better quality photos. Consider inviting someone who loves photography to visit your church service, or at least visit your congregation at the end of the service to take your church family portrait.

TIP #9:

If your church is recording people's names (which is a fun way to build connection with other people around Australia) pass around a piece of paper indicating who is sitting or standing where, or have a volunteer writing this down this on the day. It will make assigning names to faces easier later.

TIP #10: MAKE IT FUN

Selfie Sunday is a celebration of your church family (as well as the whole family of Churches of Christ); remember to smile!

