

Basic Training for Sunday School Teachers—4

Positive Teaching Qualities that Influence Others

- Spiritual Character
- Biblical Accuracy
- People Skills
- Communication Skills

Two Vital Keys

- Good Preparation
- Good Presentation

Eight Steps in Preparing a Good Bible Study Lesson

1. Prayer is vital to good lesson preparation
 - Prayer in Preparation
 - Essential for my personal life
 - It connects my heart to theirs
 - Pray is needed in preparation
2. Start Lesson Preparation early in the week
 - Early Preparation
 - Engages Reticular Activating System
 - Anticipates the unexpected
3. Allow God to speak to you from the Bible text
 - Study Text Yourself First
 - It creates passion
 - It reaches the heart and life of the other person
4. Write down thoughts, principles and thoughts from the text
 - Write down Insights
 - The difference between Bible Reading and Study is the use of a pencil
5. Study resource material
 - Checking Resources
 - It clarifies
 - It helps me form an outline
 - Confirms your thoughts and insights

There is only one proper interpretation of a Bible text, but there are many applications of a Bible text.

- Outlines

- Each point should relate to the title or main teaching idea of the lesson
 - Often the Quarterly outline is excellent
6. Find ways to illustrate the main points
- Illustrate
 - Use activities, stories, etc.
 - Use best ones
 - Make the illustration match the audience
 - If a point is worth making, it is worth illustrating
 - Boredom is number two enemy of teachers
 - Illustration Ideas
 - Articles
 - Crafts
 - Stories
 - Game
 - Activities
 - Quotes
 - Video Clip
 - Visuals
 - Writing Projects
 - Drama
 - Brain Storming
 - Object lesson
 - Music video
 - Open-ended questions
7. Develop clear application
- Ask “So what?”
 - Fit the needs of your people
 - Life changes implied?
 - Issues and concerns?
 - Effect on faithful members?
 - Relates to lost?
 - Relate to family issues?
 - Relate to hurting?
 - Relates to new Christian?
8. Create Introduction and Conclusion
- Introduction
 - Capture attention
 - Give some background

- Introduce main idea
- Conclusion
 - Ties the points together
 - Call to action
 - Appeals to mind, will and emotions

Thoughts for Good Presentation

- Before the lesson
 - Get the room ready
 - Prepare to greet people
 - Empty chairs for guests
 - Learn habits of good communicators
 - Safety issues
 - Consider food allergies?
- During the lesson
 - Make class a “safe place”
 - Learn habits of a good communicator
 - Good eye contact
 - Good listening skills
 - Watch body language
 - Use positive humor
 - Remember attention span is about one minute for each year of age. Ten year old=Ten minutes before you must change approach in class
 - Avoid habits of a poor communicator
 - Oral pause—hum, ah, uh
 - Distracting clothing, appearance
 - Monotone
 - Close-talking—people need space
 - Communicating pride
 - No illustrations
 - Insensitivity to the clock
- After the lesson
 - Follow-up
 - Evaluate yourself
 - Leave room neat for those who come behind you