

Teacher Training

Preparation

Preparation is the key to effective teaching. It is especially important that those who teach the Bible are adequately prepared. The Bible is God's revelation of Himself to mankind in written form. It is through the Bible that we come to know and understand the Gospel and how to live out the Gospel in our daily lives. The man or woman who teaches God's Word ill-prepared is a very dangerous person. Teaching the Bible has eternal implications and should be taken very seriously at all levels.

PRAY

Before preparing any lesson the teacher must spend time in prayer. The teacher should not only pray in preparation for a particular lesson, however, the teacher should live a life of consistent and continual prayer. Your effectiveness in teaching depends on your prayer life.

READ

In preparation for teaching any text of scripture, the teacher should read the entire context of the text at least once every day leading up to the time the text will be taught. In addition to this, the teacher should be a regular reader of a variety of Christian literature especially in areas such as: theology, Christian living, and ministry. The teacher should also be in the habit of reading various commentaries and other works related to the text that he or she is preparing to teach.

EXPERIENCE

As the teacher reads the text, he or she should feel the text. Allow the scripture to speak to you and experience it in a real way. As you go about your daily activities, continually meditate on the text you are studying and learn how the text applies to the various experiences of your daily life.

PLAN

As the teacher continues their preparation they must carefully plan their lesson. This includes: outlining your text, writing down your personal thoughts, reading and listening to the thoughts of others, organizing your material, finalizing your action plan.

PRINCIPLES OF PREPARATION

Pray

Read

Experience

Plan

gAther

Relate

Exercise

GATHER

Material needed to present the lesson effectively must be gathered and organized. This includes any visual aids such as power points and props. Any notes, assignments, and hands-on material should also be gathered and organized.

RELATE

As preparation continues, the teacher should consider how the text relates to the audience. Consider how the text applies to and relates to a class of children, young adults, parents, older adults, for example. It is important that the text is chosen and studied before considering how it relates to the audience. Do not let the audience dictate what you teach, let the Word of God through the guidance of the Holy Spirit dictate what you teach.

EXERCISE

Practice makes perfect! Never go into the classroom or pulpit without first practicing your message. Such practice helps you in determining not just what to say, but how to say it. This is the stage where you can fine tune your material and teaching style.

NOTES: