

# Becoming a Better Teacher!

1. Being a teacher means you are under stricter judgment.

People are watching you. They see what you are doing. You teach more by what you do than by what you say!

James 3:1 My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.

- a. A good teacher is a faithful, consistent follower of Jesus Christ who gives an example to be followed

Philippians 3:17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

- b. Being a Bible teacher is a Life commitment
- c. If you are not faithful you can't teach others to be faithful
- d. Your actions speak louder than your words

2. Every teacher ought to desire to be a better teacher and be actively working on improving Philippians 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward

the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

- a. Ability + opportunity = responsibility
  - b. Every Christian should desire the opportunity to teach others
  - c. Good teachers don't just happen. We have to work at it
  - d. The teacher is the key to success in any Bible class
  - e. The success or failure of a class ultimately lies with the teacher
3. Every Bible teacher should realize how much we need God to work in and through us as we teach
- a. Ask God for help. You have not because you ask not
  - b. Make prayer a regular part of your daily life
  - c. Pray for your students and all that is going on in their lives
4. Be a personal student of the Bible not just a teacher
- a. Work at learning more of the Word of God and more than anything see how you can practice what you learn
  - b. Your students will soon decide if you are a hypocrite or not. They are watching you

- c. Get so full of what you will teach that it spills out of you
- d. You should be very excited about the time with your class and even more than that what you will be sharing with your class
- e. There should be a fire and passion in you as you speak of God, His Word, that your students can easily see is very real to you

5. Not everyone can really teach.

- a. We do not have the same gifts and abilities
- b. As a teacher you must not only learn what the Bible says you must communicate it in words and ways that they can understand
- c. That will really only work as it works in and through you. You really can't separate the teacher from what they are teaching.
- d. It must be lived to really be taught
- e. If it is real to you then it will show in your life and then the teaching of it will simply be overflow

6. You must study

- a. You have to know what you are teaching. You must know the truth
- b. This is not a general knowledge or idea but you have dug down to get what the Bible is saying in the passage you are teaching
- c. You must work hard at studying. If you will not make time to study you really should give up being a teacher
- d. Always make the Word of God the authority in your class. Do not say, well to me this means!
- e. Stay away from opinions or traditions

## 7. Good teaching calls for sacrifice

- a. You will have to sacrifice your time to study, maybe miss some fun things, spend money to get some tools to study
- b. You must give time to study, to meditate, to pray
- c. You must sacrifice to be dependable. This is more important than your job. It is the work of God
- d. You might have another job but it is to give you the funds to do the job that is of eternal value.
- e. Don't come in late to your class-it tells everyone in the class what you think of the class

- f. Some teachers will miss more than be there even when they committed to teach
- g. Sacrifice to really love and like those you teach no matter how difficult

## 8. Get control of yourself

- a. Your life, your teaching, and your person should demand and receive the respect of your students
- b. Be confident, firm, courteous, kind, and considerate
- c. Keep yourself under control-don't get mad at the students
- d. Be in a good mood no matter what is going on around you
- e. Never allow yourself to think that you are a good enough teacher

## 9. Practical steps to improve yourself

- a. Constantly analyze yourself and your class, participation, attention
- b. Record your class, listen to yourself. Listen to them
- c. Accept criticism
- d. Grow spiritually

- e. Work on using new things that you are learning. New ways of communicating the truth

## 10. What to do when

- a. Do not be afraid to say that you do not know and that you will get back with them later
- b. Offer to meet outside of class to further discuss things that someone is dealing with
- c. If you notice your attendance dropping you need to quickly analyze yourself. Do not blame them for not being spiritual
- d. If you notice that they lose interest, come late, etc then again you need to find out what you can do to be more effective. Get participation. Ask questions.