

Book Summary: Teaching Techniques for Church Education

Overall, I thought that this book was effective in communicating the basics of the teacher's responsibilities, preparation, organization, discipline and many other aspects of teaching. It seems as though, with some modifications, it could be easily adapted to any type of learning environment, Sunday school environment or a Christian Day School.

The following were some key points that were brought out in the book that I that were encouraging and others thought provoking:

- The evangelistic goal of leading people to Christ;
- As Christian teachers we should be putting some walk in our talk;
- We must give Christ full control;
- The teachers attitude will largely determine the classes attitude;
- The Bible is the best interpreter;
- When you are resourceful, you encourage your students to be resourceful;
- Never read without thinking and never think without writing;
- The best teachers guide their students to become independent investigators of the truth;
- Effective Christian teaching is the result of the Holy Spirit's empowerment;
- Order is contagious and so is disorder; and
- Teachers cannot successfully relate truth until they have applied it to their own lives.

ETA did make suggest the use of many different translations and made the statement that each version of the Bible has its own strength's and weaknesses, which was a bit discouraging. However, there was not an overwhelming theme of this throughout the book.

There was statement made in chapter 9 that "The real test of teaching is not what students learn, but what they become". Not without realizing that learning is important, I think that this statement summaries the purpose of teaching. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, giving Christ full control, teachers should be guiding their students in a matter that changes the way they live. Overall, there has to be learning in that process or their would not be change.

I have already begun to use some of the methods and ideas within this book that I have seen positive results from them.

Reviewed by: David C. Mills