

Methods for Teaching Elementary Children (Grades 2-3)

- A. How Elementary Children (Grades 2-3) learn. They are characterized by:
 - 1. Logical thinking.
 - 2. A love for facts.
 - 3. Demonstrated reasoning and sorting skills.
 - 4. A sense of “right and wrong” justice.
 - 5. Cooperation with common group goals.
- B. What works and what does not work for Elementary Children.
 - 1. Do’s for Elementary Children:
 - a. Do work hard to catch every child being good and make a big deal of it.
 - b. Do have opportunities for group projects, activities, and interaction.
 - c. Provide as much factual and background information as you can in presenting the Bible story.
 - d. Do encourage students to use their Bibles to find verses and references.
 - e. Do allow students to make choices between activities.
 - f. Do enjoy the corny jokes and puns of elementary students.
 - 2. Don’ts for Elementary Children:
 - a. Don’t simply discipline bad or annoying behavior . . .reward and praise the good.
 - b. Don’t require the children to sit quietly and do all work individually throughout the class.
 - c. Don’t present Bible stories without giving some sort of context for the stories.
 - d. Don’t tell the students about the Bible content without allowing them the chance to look up verses themselves.
 - e. Don’t have the students do the same thing throughout the lesson.
 - f. Don’t expect sophisticated humor or adult thinking.
- C. Specific Suggestions:
 - 1. Continue to use stories.
 - 2. Memory work relative to the lesson can be helpful.
 - 3. Can cover the background of the Bible content.
 - 4. Tests, riddles, games, etc., are enjoyable for this group.

5. Relate the Bible and the Bible material to the everyday life of the Children.
Example: Loving your neighbor might mean to welcome a new playmate into a tight circle of friends.