

# Teaching & Learning

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Teaching is the inculcation of the incomprehensible into the minds of the ignorant by the means of the incompetent . . . is the transfer of material from the teacher's notes to the student's notebook, without it going through either's minds.

J. Dennis Miller, president of Church Youth Development states that a problem with educating young people in the church stems from a failure to understand how young people learn. He claims that adults learn in the following pattern: (1) acceptance of absolutes; (2) subordination of attitudes and actions to absolutes; (3) application of truth received to life experience. Knowing something as an adult is based primarily upon remembering information and intellectual learning.

Youth, Miller contends, learn in a different way: (1) evaluation of life experience; (2) discovery of attitudes and actions which validate their life experiences; (3) identifying truth based on their relevance to life experience; 4) acceptance of truths that prove reliable from life experience. Life experience is the main influence on the learning young mind.