

General Ideas & Suggestions for Teachers

1. Be a teacher, yes, but be a student forever.
 - a. Teach yourself.
 - b. You cannot jump start from a dead battery,
 - c. You cannot pour from an empty can.
 - d. You must first be what you want others to be.
 - e. Read, read, and then read some more.
 1. Tragically, in the USA, only 5% of the adult population reads one book per year.
 2. I have known of some who read one per day.
 3. He who will not read is no better off that a man who cannot read.
 4. Billy Graham, in his latter, has observed: “I have preached too much and studied too little.
2. Teach from the heart, and not just from the mouth.
 - a. Benjamin Franklin said:
 - Tell me and I forget
 - Teach me and I remember
 - Involve me and I will learn.
 - a. The mind grows by what it gives out.
3. Proper preparation prevents poor performance.
 - a. Too many are seeking the tricks of the trade rather than learning the trade.
 - b. You cannot teach what you do not know.
 - c. You cannot lead where you do not go.
 - d. You cannot bring another closer to god that you are.
4. It is a sin to do poorly that which one has the ability to do well.
 - a. It is a sin to teach God’s Word poorly.
 - b. Truth is too great to ever be taught dull.
5. When you try to impress your students more with the method than with the message . . . you have failed.
 - a. Teachers teach people . . . not lessons.
 - b. Teaching is knowing what people need and solving it with Scripture.
6. People are not made for lessons . . . lessons are made for people.
 - a. Be flexible and alert to needs.
 - b. “Salt in the attic will not cure meat in the basement.”
7. Don’t just teach . . . TRAIN.
 - a. Familiar Scriptures must be read more closely.
 - b. **Proverbs 22:6** – “Train up a child in the way he should go. And when he is old he will not depart from it.”
 - c. The word is “TRAIN,” not “TEACH.”

- d. Many brethren are disappointed: “I taught him right.”
 - e. **TELLING** is helping to know.
TEACHING is helping to know and grow.
TRAINING is helping to know, to grow, and to do.
 - f. Too many people major in “KNOW WHAT” rather than “KNOW HOW.”
 - g. Teaching INFORMS – training FORMS.
 - h. Winston Churchill said: “I am always ready to learn, but I am not always ready to be taught.
8. Bible teachers affect eternity.
- a. Teachers are special because they make a difference.
 - b. Emerson said: “Let me select the teacher, and I care not who arranges the course of study.
 - c. Know the text and live the text before you teach the text.
 - d. Teachers will be remembered long after the lesson has been taught.
 - e. Our goal should not be to students to say, “Wow, what a teacher!” But rather, “Wow, what a Savior.”
9. The Bible has not been successfully taught until faith occurs and lives are changed.
- a. Many know, yet do not have faith.
 - b. Many have information, facts, and knowledge . . . but not faith.
 - c. Knowledge can fill us with pride.
 - d. Our faith is not in our knowledge . . . our faith is in our Christ.
 - e. Teachers: transform knowledge and facts into faith.
 - f. Our prisons are filled with people who can say the books of the Bible.
 - g. We must have curriculums that result in faith.
10. Teachers open the way.
- a. Confucius once said of a teacher: “He opens the way.”
 - b. Teachers open the way to:
 - Learning truth
 - Believing truth
 - Obeying truth
 - Living truth
 - Honoring truth always.
 - c. **John 3:2** – “This man (Nicodemus) came to Jesus by night and said to Him,
 - d. Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”
 - e. Bible class teachers open the way and show their students the Teacher that came from God-our Lord, Jesus Christ.
 - f. Teachers open what the Devil wants remained shut.
 - g. Teachers reveal what the Devil wants concealed.
 - h. Teachers liberate what the Devil wants enslaved.
 - i. Teachers speak now what Jesus spoke then.

Teachers . . . never stand in the way of The Way

11. Teachers, handle your role prayerfully.
 - a. Handle you preparations prayerfully.
 - b. Handle your stewardship as a teacher prayerfully.
 - c. Handle God's truth prayerfully.
 - d. Handle the souls of your students prayerfully.
 - e. Never . . . no never ever do less than your very best, for the time in which you fail to do your very best may be just the time when your very best would have made the difference . . . all the difference . . . in the life of one of your students.
12. Always arrive earlier than your students.
13. Record important attendance information carefully.
14. Be a Daily Bible Reader yourself . . . each and every week.
16. Be willing to make changes when changes will better your class.
17. Dress so as to provide a good Christian example.
18. Attend all Teachers' meetings.
19. Never allow quarterlies and study guides to take the place of the Bible itself.
20. Make your class evangelistic . . . Lead your students to Christ.
21. Write letters or notes to students who are sick.
22. Be the very best teacher that you are capable of being.