

Methods for Teaching Adults

- A. How Adults learn. Adults' lives are characterized by:
1. Transitions
 2. Family involvement
 3. Vocational concerns.
- B. What works and what does not work for Adults.
1. Do's for Adults:
 - a. Do create a sense of community
 - b. Do gear the format of your class around discussion and idea exchange.
 - c. Do help adults see the relevance of what is being learned. Connect the content of the lesson with everyday life.
 - d. Do cover topics that Christians face at any age. Understand the differences between adult generations.
 - e. Do honor the unique learning styles of individual adults.
 - f. Do offer a time for students to determine a strategy of personal application of the lesson content during the week.
 2. Don'ts for Adults:
 - a. Don't lecture exclusively.
 - b. Don't teach the content and facts without applications.
 - c. Don't underestimate the value of adult generations learning from one another.
 - d. Don't assume that all adults learn the same.
 - e. Don't dictate to the students how to apply the lesson to their lives.
- C. Specific Suggestions:
1. Keep the class informed – Announcements
 2. Prayer
 3. At beginning of lesson, briefly review previous lesson. This gives continuity.
 4. Questions
 5. Discussions
 6. Sensitive to major community, national, & international news and event. Use as a basis for emphasizing some Biblical truth.
 7. Visuals
 8. Handouts
 9. Class members to read from study guide (quarterly) and Bible.
 10. Use stories & Illustrations.
 11. Honestly seek input from class members.
 12. If standing, move around some.
 13. Ask for examples and practical applications. Causes class members to think.

14. Praise input. Express appreciation for the input.
15. Have multiple Scriptures available to support lesson points.
16. Be sensitive to some special need or concern a class member might have.
17. Teach people . . . not lessons.
18. Summarize near the end of the class. If two bells, begin at first bell, etc.