

Why Do We Have Teacher's Training?

You think when you first become a teacher, that your main concerns will be what to teach and when. And those things are very important. But once those main concerns have been addressed, you still have other issues to deal with. If you prepare yourself in advance for them, and have good staff support, you won't be so surprised (and possibly derailed) by them when they occur.

Satan likes to cause distraction and even destruction if possible. He will use anyone and everyone around you to do so, if he can. (*He may even try to use you!*)

Sounds sad, doesn't it? And it is. However, let us remember what Jesus said: "...*take heart! I have overcome the world.*" (John 16:33) He also said, "*I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.*" (Matthew 10:16)

In other words, be gentle and kind, but **keep your eyes open** and **watch your back!** Make plans and provision, just in case the unexpected happens. And, of course, when you are working with children, you have to be especially carefully and wise.

If you are in charge of teachers, you have to teach them about these things; instructing them and warning them. New teachers don't know all of this. But they will eventually run into these problems. You can either help them now, or you can help them later. But by then they may have become confused, discouraged, or even disillusioned. You don't want to lose a good teacher, just because you didn't prepare them in advance. Knowing what to do, when problems arise, will help them greatly!

Think about it; if you start a new job, the place where you are working teaches you the things you need to know. They may even devote days or weeks training you to do your new job. This is to help protect you, the clients, and the company (or job) itself. Training helps ensure that you are effective, that the clients get what they need, and that the company succeeds.

In churches, all too often, we think to ourselves, "Why should we do any training? It won't really make much difference. Everything will work out alright in the end, no matter what." And, why not? God is in charge, we are doing His will, and the Holy Spirit is present; therefore, we think, everything will be OK. And we are right. After all, in the end God wins! Praise God!

However, in the meantime, damage can be done, ministries can be unhinged, and people can be driven away from the truth and a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. **Better safe, than sorry.**

Therefore... *be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. Matthew 10:16*

And that's why Teachers' Training is so important.

Read the Bible Verses on the next page together. Discuss how they apply to being a Sunday School teacher and/or to Teacher's Training.

Bible Verses for Teaching and Teachers' Training

Why do we Teach?

Great Commission

Matthew 28:18-20 *Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Gift of Teaching

1 Corinthians 12:27-30 *Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?*

God Prepared Good Works in Advance for Us to Do

Ephesians 2: 10 *For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

Why do we Use the Bible to Teach?

All Scripture is God-Breathed

2 Timothy 3:16-17 *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

Why do we Need to Keep Learning?

To be taken forward to maturity

Hebrews 6:1 *Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity...*

Why do we have Teachers' Training?

Teachers' Training offers Counsel and Advice from Teachers to Teachers

Proverbs 15:22 *Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.*

Proverbs 12:15 *The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice.*

Proverbs 19:20 *Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise.*