

Developing a lesson: We Must Teach the Scriptures

This is our whole purpose. Everything else is only secondary to this purpose. Be sure your lesson is correctly based from scripture and rightly divided. Make sure that the statements made are inspired. The entire Bible is the inspired word of GOD, but some of the individuals who make statements were not inspired – you will not want to use their statements to prove anything to be true or false. The inspired writers are just writing down what they said. For example: The Pharisee, Gamaliel, in Acts 5:34-39 gives advice to the counsel for dealing with the apostles. His advice is not sound. He would have known the old law and should have known the apostles were teaching truth. His ‘just wait and see’ advice was not good enough.

Be sure to read all that the Bible says about your lesson topic. You may want to use a concordance or other aids to find where your subject matter is located in the Bible. If you don't own a concordance it would be a good time to purchase one. They are very handy for finding verses you can't recall or finding all the information the Bible has on a subject. Learn to use your concordance to its full potential. If you have a Strong's Concordance it has numbers by the word that refer to the Hebrew and Greek words that are located in the back of the concordance. The Hebrew and Greek dictionaries will be located separately –just go to the back of the book find the one you need (either Hebrew (OT) or Greek (NT)) then go down the line until you come to the number given by the word you looked up. This will give you the original word and its meaning as it is used in that scripture.

You may also find other aids to be helpful in presenting your lesson, such as a good book of maps or charts. If you are studying Joshua for example, a map can be very helpful. Getting a mental visual of where things occurred can help your students remember and relate more fully to the lesson taught.

You may choose to refer to a commentary for clarification of some difficult passage. I caution you to please be careful about quoting from a commentary in class. I have heard many teachers quote a commentary writer as if he were an inspired writer of the text. There are many good scholars and it is true that for your personal study you may be able to divide between what is scripturally sound and what is not but your students may not be that advanced in their knowledge. They may choose to follow your example of using a man written commentary and be lead astray by something some man wrote instead of the word of GOD.

Being a Bible class teacher is a big responsibility. It is vitally important to be careful to handle the word aright. There are souls at stake. Now talk to the Father, pick your Bible topic, find all the scriptures pertaining to that topic and prepare to teach!!

Last month I promised to write on memory work this month –oops! I got ahead of myself. Sorry for the mix-up. We will look at the importance of memory work next month.