

## “I Want to Teach”

Teaching the Bible is enjoyable and encouraging.

When teaching, allow the students to think and respond for themselves. Be patient. Avoid correcting every word said. Encourage the students to answer questions and participate in the class. This will cause fewer problems and more growth in your students.

Today we want to discuss two different parts of developing a lesson:

### **Lesson Aims:**

Decide what you wish to accomplish with your lesson. What effect do you aim for your lesson to have on your students? What applications do you wish to emphasize at this time or what attitudes do you want your students to grow in? Find ways to impress these characteristics to the class. Everything we teach should have a purpose in the growth and development of the students in our care.

See last month's article on Memory Work for suggestions of what your students can learn. Use bulletin boards, charts, maps or whatever to mark the progress of the children as they learn the chosen information. It's amazing what a child will do for a sticker!! See the Happy Worm pattern in this month's edition for an example of how to track your students' progress.

### **Readiness Activities:**

The purpose of this section is to prepare the students' minds to receive the information you desire them to learn. This is an activity the class can participate in before the lesson is presented. This activity will prepare their minds to receive and understand the lesson more fully. For example: if your lesson includes something about the tabernacle, find a visual of the tabernacle to show before the lesson. Talk about what it is and what its purpose was for the Jews. This way they will better relate to what you are saying when the lesson is presented. This gives them a frame of reference.

A readiness activity can be as simple as a picture to color for the smaller children or a map to fill out or definitions to certain words to be used for older classes. You can go to a school supply store and purchase the 'sentence strips' on which you can print definitions to be read aloud and placed on the wall for review again later.

If you are teaching the journeys of Paul, make one of your bulletin boards a large map of the area Paul traveled. Bring a road map of the area in which you live and as a readiness activity you can spread the map on a table and let each student find the road on which they live. Talk about the distances in which each one might have traveled to get to worship. Discuss the methods of traveling today. Bring pictures of cars, trains, boats, airplanes, etc from a magazine. Then when you talk about Paul's travels the students will have some idea about the differences in the way he had to travel then and how we travel today. They will understand how walking or riding a donkey would take much more time than traveling in cars. This will also help them develop an understanding of Paul's dedication for his work for the LORD.

Being ready to take in information is an important step in learning. We all must have an open mind while studying the word so we can absorb the message the LORD wants us to gain. The souls under our care need all the readiness of mind we can help them have so they can gain the knowledge to lead them to heaven! It is my prayer you enjoy watching your students grow in the LORD!

Watch next month for suggestions on how to present a lesson. Please join us then!