

Learning to lead (for ages 18 and up)

Tips and strategies to prepare for a camp class, Sunday school class, Bible study, speech, or discussion.

James 3:1 “Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment.”

Hebrews 5:12 “For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.”

2 Timothy 4:3-4 “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.”

2 Peter 2:1 “But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bring swift destruction upon themselves.”

Luke 6:40 “A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher.”

Goals for this class:

1. Give practical, short-term solutions for teaching/leading a class or group.
2. Develop a passion for teaching for long-term results.

Teaching to Change Lives

By: Howard G. Hendricks

1. The Law of the Teacher – Stop growing today, and you stop teaching tomorrow. Can't teach what you don't have – be a learner.

Example: An inactive evangelist, trying to teach an evangelism class.

Practical: Pray early and often about your class/discussion.
Start preparing early

2. The Law of Education – How people learn determines how you teach.

Practical: Try to gauge the age, level and interest of the group you will be working with. Develop definitions and/or word pictures for Biblical words or concepts. Can you define “mercy” so that a 1st grader can understand and remember it?

3. The Law of **A**ctivity – Maximum learning is always the result of maximum involvement.

Example: Brent R. teaching, “defending your faith”

Practical: Create tension by putting people in groups to role play.

Avoid questions that cause the class to guess what you are thinking. “So it is clear what Daniel was thinking, right?”

Avoid “you do want to have your sins forgiven, washed away, and be at peace all of your life, don’t you?”

4. The Law of **C**ommunication – To truly impart information requires the building of bridges.

Example: “Everyone stand up...all the Christians sit down”

Practical: Spend listening time, outside of class, with your students/group and get feedback.

5. The Law of the **H**art – Teaching that impacts is not head to head, but heart to heart.

Example: Nathan “teaches” David using a heart story.

Practical: Notice what your class is passionate about...new shoes, football, or facebook.

6. The Law of **E**ncouragement – Teaching tends to be most effective when the learner is properly motivated.

Example: What causes you to be motivated?

Practical: Do demonstrations...ask a volunteer to come forward...etc.

7. The Law of **R**eadiness – The teaching-learning process will be most effective when both student and teacher are adequately prepared.

Practical: “Turn in your Bibles to”vs...”What would you do if you knew you could not fail?”

The Voice of Experience

This is advice given to me by older, more experienced men on taking meetings:

- 1 Prayer should be central to your preparation.
- 2 Trust the power of the Word.
- 3 Ask members of your audience to read passages aloud.
- 4 Any message should be supported by Scripture.
- 5 When speaking on a passage of scripture, consult commentaries for other viewpoints.
- 6 Look for originality in your presentation, not in your concepts. Be careful of novel ideas.
- 7 Humor is out of place in serious messages, especially the gospel.
- 8 Use objects, analogies, and examples to help the audience relate to the material.
- 9 Don't pun on Scripture.
- 10 No one will be mad at you for ending early.