

The Challenge of Teaching Tips for Adult Bible Class

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The Challenge: We are trying to teach God's Word without having any formal educational training.

The Goal: In the time allotted various means to aid in this challenge will be given.

The Tools: There are many tools to aid in our becoming better teachers. One of the greatest tools we have is the written work of other great teachers.

- *The Seven Laws of Teaching (1886)* by John Milton Gregory
- *The Art of Teaching* by Gilbert Highet
- *How to Speak and How to Listen* by Mortimer Adler

The Specifics:

- My version of the *Seven Laws of Teaching*:

- 1) Know what you are going to teach. Your mind needs to be full and clear to accomplish the task at hand.
- 2) Gain and maintain the attention of those who are your students. Refuse to teach without their attention.
- 3) Speak to your students in a way that they will understand. Be clear and vivid in what you mean to say.
- 4) Proceed from what the students know to that which they do not know. Let that which is known lead them to that which is unknown. Use precise means to accomplish this.
- 5) Use the mind of the student. Allow the student to discover the new knowledge or understanding ahead of them.
- 6) Make the students reproduce the which has been learned. Let them find the language to put the new information in their own words.
- 7) Review! Connect what you have learned in past lessons to what is being learned here.

- The Teacher:
 - Know your Subject
 - Like the Subject
 - Like the Students
 - Need to be strong willed
 - Need to be kind
- The Teaching
 - Need to Prepare
 - Need to Plan
 - Need to Review
 - See Laws above for advice in class
 - Have the students recite what they know
 - Exam
 - Questions
 - Discussion

The Final Suggestion: Strive to be a better listener as well as a better teacher.