

Bible Classes: Shaping Hearts for God

I. The Importance of Bible Teaching

- A. Teaching has always been an important part of God's _____ (*Gen 18:19; Deut 6:6-7; Ezra 7:10*).
- B. One of the primary works of the _____ is to teach God's word (*Matt 28:18-20; Eph 4:11-16*).
- C. Teaching is one way the church functions as a _____ and buttress of the truth (*1 Tim 3:14-15*).
- D. The developmental time comes when disciples of Christ ought to be _____ (*Heb 5:12*).
- E. Bible classes are:
 - 1. One practical way elders can work to "_____ the flock of God" (*1 Pet 5:1-2*).
 - 2. A means of nurturing tomorrow's _____.
 - 3. A mechanism to help us guard against _____ (*Heb 3:12-13*).
 - 4. Not a substitute for training at _____.

II. Obstacles in Bible Teaching

- A. Some don't know how to teach.
- B. Some have a lack of desire.
- C. Some are afraid of questions.
- D. Teaching effectively requires a great deal of effort.
- E. Teachers sometimes deal with under-motivated students and a lack of parental concern.

III. Advantages of Bible Teaching

- A. The message doesn't change (*Jude 3; Gal 1:6-8*).
- B. The message itself is motivating.
- C. There is something for all ages.
- D. There is no greater personal reward (*1 Tim 4:16*).

IV. Where Do We Go From Here?

- A. Our work of teaching and preaching should have constant emphasis in our prayers.
- B. We must develop our talents and work to train effective teachers.
- C. We cannot afford to fail in planning for our needs.