

The Lakeview Lamp

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” – Psalm 119:105

April 26

2009

Open Letter to the Teachers of my Children

Author Unknown

Two or three times a week I trust you with my most prized jewels, and those two or three times a week, you live up to that trust and return them to me – though not quite the same. Somehow you manage to take them and gradually, week by week, polish them to make them shine a little more than I sometimes think possible. You are patient and wise enough to see the potential for riches in what others may see as only rough ore.

I know you spend much unnoticed time in preparation to teach my children about Jesus. I’ve seen the literally hundreds of objects they bring home to remind them of your object lessons. You always win when I prematurely suggest discarding certain Bible class memorabilia. Much of it has a lot of your TLC, not to mention time and creativity, behind it.

I saw a note one of you wrote to one of my children, challenging her to be the great Christian leader and example you expect her to be. You even promised to pray for my daughter and reminded her that you are always there if she needs to talk.

Thank you for the time, the love, the prayers, the expectations, and the support you devote to my children. And thank you for being a constant reflection of Jesus. They notice. And when they do, so do I.

Please resist the temptation to feel unappreciated. You’re not only appreciated but needed – and not just by my children but by me. And please don’t underestimate your influence or your teaching role on them or me as a parent. My children echo much of what you teach them, probably more than you think they hear. In fact, they remember some of your stories and illustrations long after they are promoted to another class.

As a Bible class teacher, you give my children Christ and yourself. You can’t give a greater gift. I can’t give you enough thanks.

“An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes” – Romans 2:20

You Ought to Be Teachers

Harold Hancock

God has purposed that there be teaching in the church. Paul said Christ “gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (**Ephesians 4:11-12**). Furthermore, Paul told Timothy, “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (**2 Timothy 2:2**). It is evident that God intends for us to be instructed in His word and to share this knowledge with others. You ought to be teachers!

Teaching is an important part of Christianity. One must be taught about God, Christ, and the will of God before he can become a Christian; he must continue to learn God’s word after baptism. This is clearly seen in Jesus’ charge to His apostles in the Great Commission, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you” (**Matthew 28:19-20**). Today, who will teach God’s Word to the lost and the “babes in Christ”? You ought to be teachers!

In the early days of the New Testament church, the word of God increased and the number of the disciples multiplied (**Acts 6:7**). There is almost always a direct correlation between the amount of teaching done and the growth of the church. We must plant and water so that God can give an increase (**1 Corinthians 3:8**). If you want the church to grow, you ought to be teachers!

Teaching God’s Word may include teaching Bible classes when saints assemble to worship. This is important. However, we also need people who will teach family, friends, neighbors, fellow-workers, and classmates. We must recognize and seize every opportunity given us, and we must pray for more (**Colossians 4:3-5**). New Testament Christians preached and taught Jesus “daily in the temple and in every house” (**Acts 5:42**). They went everywhere preaching the word (**Acts 8:4**). You ought to be teachers!

The writer of Hebrews wrote to some who by reason of time should have been teachers but who were not (**Hebrews 5:12**). Such slothfulness hinders the work of the church in spreading the gospel and weakens the church spiritually. Time that could be spent teaching those outside of Christ must be spent teaching again those who are “dull of hearing.” And those “unskilled in the word of righteousness” are unable to discern good and evil. You ought to be teachers!

“Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed...” (**2 Timothy 2:15**). Do not be “dull of hearing” (**Hebrews 5:11**) or “entangled in the affairs of the world” (**2 Timothy 2:2-4**). Equip yourself to teach the Word of God!

News and Notes

* The teaching seminar with Ken Weliever is this coming weekend. Come ready to learn!

Members:

* Joyce Werner had surgery Thursday and is doing well.

Friends and Family:

* Michael Read, **Cotton and Nancy Read's son, has colon cancer. He had surgery last week at Skyline and had part of his colon removed. He will now receive chemotherapy.**

Absent: Bonnie Brown (Rugby, TN).

New Reports: None known.

Effective Bible Teaching — May 1-3

Series by Ken Weliever

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Friday	7:00 p.m.	1	Teaching Today Touches Tomorrow
	8:00 p.m.	2	The Bible: A Teacher Training Manual
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	3	Some Principles of Learning
	10:00 a.m.	4	Creative Teaching Techniques
	1:00 p.m.	5	Visuals are Vital (1)
	2:00 p.m.	6	Visuals are Vital (2)
Sunday	5:00 p.m.	7	Teaching Various Ages
	6:00 p.m.	8	Planning the Bible Class Program



“Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His lovingkindness is everlasting.” – **Psalm 118:1**