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I. MASTERING THE BASICS

1. Because our society is changing, some have suggested the age of ____________________________ is past.

2. Sunday School is not an agency separate or apart from the church but is, perhaps, the best structured agency in the local church for carrying out the teaching ministry of Christ.

3. A healthy Sunday School emphasizes the basics of:
   a. Reaching
   b. ____________________________
   c. ____________________________
   d. ____________________________

4. Read Deuteronomy 31:12 and discuss.
II. THE CALL TO TEACH

God has bestowed a great compliment upon you. He has called you to teach His Word!!

Teaching the Word of God is exciting. The Bible clearly indicates the responsibility of teaching (James 3:1). Not everyone possesses the gift of teaching (Romans 12:6-7); but everyone does carry the obligation to share the Good News with others.

3 C’S OF QUALITY TEACHERS
(People Who Have A Heart For Ministry)

Committed
Passion for ministry/enthusiasm for faith
Love God/display fruit of the Spirit
Love people— enjoy them, have fun with them, encourage them

Consistent
Patient
Can count on them
Stable self-esteem (Don’t take themselves too seriously)

Creative
Lifelong learners/learn along with students
Flexible
Always looking for something new
Take a moment to evaluate yourself as a teacher by answering the following questions:

(1) On a scale of 1-10, how do you rate yourself as a teacher?

(2) Do you demonstrate warmth and love in your relationship with each pupil?

(3) Do you bore your students with your talking?

(4) Do you teach the lesson the same way each week?

(5) Are you consistent in what you expect from your students?

(6) Do you have a poor classroom atmosphere?

(7) Do you spend an adequate amount of time in preparation?

(8) Do students actively participate in the lesson?
The Teacher

What is a teacher?

A teacher teaches by his:

• ____________________________________
• ____________________________________
• ____________________________________

Setting Goals

Define goal:

Goals Provide

• ____________________________________
• ____________________________________
• ____________________________________
• ____________________________________

State your goal as a teacher:
Rules of Teaching

1. Know what is being taught.

2. Know what changes you are seeking in your student’s behavior.

3. Gain to keep the attention of the student upon the lesson.

4. Use words, terms, illustrations, and methods understood the same way by the student and teacher.

5. Lead the student from the known to the unknown.

6. Stimulate the student’s own mind to action.

7. Actively involve the students in the learning process.

8. Require the student to reproduce in thought the lesson he is learning.

9. Repeat, review, and otherwise reproduce the lesson.

Indicators of good teaching

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interest</th>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Behavior</td>
<td>Flexibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realism</td>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>Problem Solving</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
III. WHO ARE YOUR STUDENTS

A teacher who wants to teach successfully must get to know their students personally and specifically. The pupils' interest, abilities, and experiences are the launching pad for new learning. Your pupils have general characteristics very much alike. Read through the characteristics below and find out what your age group is like.

Birth to One Year

**General Characteristics** - Tiny, dependent upon adults to meet needs, cries to communicate needs, require individual attention, sleeps a great deal, learns by attitude of those around him.

**Needs** - Loving physical care, clean surroundings

**Levels of Understanding** - Absorbs attitudes of those who care for him, simple words.

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Age One

**Attention Span** - 2 minutes

**General Characteristics** - Constantly moving, learning to talk, imitative in action, requires individual attention, fearful, tires easily.

**Needs** - Frequent change of activities, frequent rest times.

**Levels of Understanding** - Simple, brief stories using concepts of God, Jesus, Bible, and parents; retell stories often.

**Activities** - Conversations about pictures, simple stories, simple songs, action rhymes, simple puzzles.
Grades One and Two

**Attention Span** - 7 to 15 minutes

**General Characteristics** - Active, talkative, likes group activity, asks questions, seeks personal attention from the teacher, learning to read and write, building attitudes toward himself, learning masculine and feminine role, honest, eager to learn, emotionally immature.

**Needs** - Caring teacher, variety of activities, opportunities to talk, chance to display reading and writing skills, concrete stories and examples, security and patience.

**Levels of Understanding** - Appreciates the Bible as a special book, genuinely loves God and Jesus, prays sincerely, understands that Jesus is a special person, beginning to understand what sin is, can apply biblical principles to everyday problems.

**Activities** - Dramatic play, story telling, Bible games, art activities, music, puppets, reading.

Grades Three and Four

**Attention Span** - 10 to 15 minutes

**General Characteristics** - Energetic, thinks correctly, likes group activities, ask questions, enjoys personal attention, continues to build attitudes toward himself, begins to demonstrate specific interest, “law and order” sense of morality, eager to learn, memorizes easily, wants to help.

**Needs** - Variety of activities for involvement learning, caring teachers, opportunity to pursue and demonstrate interests, opportunities to help, concrete stories and examples.

**Levels of Understanding** - Chronology, application of Bible principles to life problems, Jesus as Savior, sin, need for salvation.

**Activities** - Drama, projects, field trips, role play, puppets, Bible games, bible research, art activities, music, reading, listening, memory work, using own Bible.
Grades Five and Six

**Attention Span** - 10 to 20 minutes

**General Characteristics** - Energetic, loud, inquisitive, talkative, wants to be like his peer, competitive, hero worshipper, dislikes outward display of affection, gang spirit, wants to be involved in classroom procedure, memorizes easily, activities affected by attitude towards himself, developing attitudes toward social groups and institutions, independent.

**Needs** - Firm, loving discipline, involvement in learning activities, challenge to memorize, encouragement, good examples of Christian lifestyles, security in the midst of competition.

**Levels of Understanding** - Chronology, what sin is, need for salvation, Jesus as Savior, Bible background, application of Bible background, application of Bible to daily problems.

**Activities** - Drama, projects, field trips, role play, puppets, Bible games, Bible research, art activities, music, reading, listening, memory work, using own Bible.

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Grade Seven, Eight, and Nine

**General Characteristics** - Awkward, growing rapidly, self-conscious, boisterous, independent, peer approval more important than adult approval, interested in the opposite sex, capable of abstract thinking, able to reason, developing his own faith and value system.

**Needs** - Guidance without pushiness, opportunity to make choices, consistent strong adult models of Christianity, challenging material, social activities in a Christian environment.

**Levels of Understanding** - Understanding and application of Biblical principles in life, what sin is, Jesus as Savior, interrelationships in Biblical material.

**Activities** - Field trips, Bible games, music, discussion, Bible research, role playing.
Grades Ten, Eleven, and Twelve

General Characteristics - Independent, rapidly increasing abilities, sometimes a “know-it-all”, emotional, grown up one day but a child the next, doubts, physically mature, influenced by peer pressure, interested in the opposite sex, choosing a vocation, cliquish.

Needs - Caring teachers who supervise without oversupervising, guidance, challenging material, challenges and opportunities to serve, social activities in a Christian environment, opportunities to express doubts and seek answers, dating guidance.

Levels of Understanding - Christian lifestyle, life application of Biblical principles, interrelationships in Biblical material.

Activities - Field trips, Bible games, music, discussion, Bible research, role playing, using Bible study tools, drama, reading.

Age 18 to 24 (Young Adult)

General Characteristics - Selecting a mate or learning to live as a single, establishing a home, completing education and/or getting started in a vocation, settling into an adult faith.

Needs - Practical Christianity applied to his life, opportunities to serve, people who care.

Levels of Understanding - Finds the Bible as a source of power; Jesus is Savior and Lord.

Activities - Music, discussion, Bible research, art activities, personal study and prayer.
Adults

General Characteristics - No two adults are alike, although some psychosocial adjustments must be made by all adults; rearing children, accepting the changes of aging, advancing in a vocation, adjusting to aging parents, learning to accept death.

Needs - A personal, vibrant, growing faith.

Levels of Understanding - The Bible as a guide, Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Activities - Bible research, art activities, drama, music, discussion, service, personal study and prayer.