

# Tips for Teachers

- Smile!
- Maintain eye contact.
- Speak so all can hear.
- Be sure students can hear one another.
- Assume nothing! Be prepared!
- Know your students.
- Pray before teaching.
- Follow the K. I. S. S. rule: Keep It Short and Simple.
- Listen! Listen! Listen!
- Add illustrations from daily life.
- Ask “why” questions.
- Pray for each student—often.
- Avoid questions that call for “yes” or “no” answers.
- Ask “What do you think?” questions. Invite questions.
- Wait for answers. Allow plenty of response time.
- Ask open-ended questions.
- Ask follow-up questions.
- Accept all responses with a smile.
- Avoid criticism. Be positive.
- Outline a clear plan for developing the lesson.
- Select only three or four points for emphasis.
- Be clear about your expectations.
- Don’t keep students guessing.
- Encourage thoughtful responses.
- Stay on the subject.
- Write main points on a chalkboard, flipchart, or overhead so all can see. (Most people are visual learners.)
- Give positive feedback: “Thank you,” “Good thinking,” or just plain “Uh-huh” will do.
- Avoid repeating student responses. Let them make the point.
- Evaluate yourself after each class. What was good? What could be better? What should you change?
- Try some active and interactive learning: have students do something—then talk about it.
- Allow and encourage interaction.
- Encourage reasonable answers.
- Assume a they-must-increase-I-must-decrease attitude. Avoid presenting yourself as knowing-it-all.
- When asking questions, avoid “guessing games” or “I fooled you.”