

## ***Bible Classes - What Can I Do?***

Perhaps not all of us can teach a class, but there are a number of ways in which we can help those who do teach and make our Bible classes of greater profit. Here is a list of some things you can do:

1. ATTEND EVERY BIBLE STUDY. These periods of study will make both you and the congregation stronger. We all need to continue to grow in the grace and the knowledge of the Lord (2 Pet. 3:18). Can you think of a better or more important way to spend an hour?
2. BRING YOUR CHILDREN (Don't just send them). With things the way they are in the world today, your children need all the help they can get — especially spiritual help. There is no better place for them than the Bible classes.
3. BRING/ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO ATTEND. Use your half-empty automobile to bring others (children or adults) to our Bible studies. We cannot expect others to come unless we first invite and encourage them. Remember, we have classes for all ages.
4. PARENTS, HELP YOUR CHILDREN WITH THEIR BIBLE LESSONS. No doubt you are concerned about whether your children complete their school homework assignments. Are you as concerned about their Bible lessons? Do you know what they are studying? Do you ever discuss the Bible with them? Encourage your child to prepare the lesson if one has been assigned.
5. PARENTS, ASK YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER HOW HE/SHE IS DOING IN THE CLASS. Perhaps there are some things you could do to help. Are you as concerned about your children's spiritual progress as you are his/her secular education?
6. OFFER A FEW WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO YOUR TEACHER (or to the teacher of your child). By so doing, you will not only let teachers know that you care, but will bolster their confidence and inspire them to greater efforts.
7. STUDY, STUDY, STUDY! You can attend every class that meets, but unless you study (preferably, both before and after) it will be of little benefit. There are too many who let the teacher do all of the studying. Do you suppose that might be one reason why there are not more who are able to teach?
8. PARTICIPATE IN THE CLASS DISCUSSIONS. When you study your lesson and become enthusiastic about it you will find it difficult not to participate. Participation is a sure sign that the learning process is in motion.
9. VOLUNTEER TO TEACH. Good teachers for Bible classes are always in demand. Let someone know if you desire to be of help.
10. PRAY FOR THE TEACHERS AND THE RECEPTION OF THE LESSONS.

Above all, don't let their labor be in vain. Do all that you can as a student of the Word and as a servant of the Lord.

- by **Bob Dickey**

---

## ***Nothing To Hide!***

Consider this:

- If someone has some printed money but is not willing to have it carefully examined, people will probably think it is counterfeit.
- If one stands accused, and is afraid to take a lie detector test, people will almost certainly think they are guilty of the crime.
- If someone conducts a business but is unwilling to let anyone investigate it, folks will probably think they are running a crooked business.

Yet many people teach doctrines that under no circumstances will they test or allow to be tested by the Bible. However, millions of people will accept them as upright, honest teachers of the truth, and will risk their salvation upon them.

What makes the difference? The Bible instructs us to test those who claim to be teachers of spiritual truths (1 John 4:1). The truth never fears investigation! It has nothing to hide!

**- by Bill Crews**

---

### ***Aim Small, Miss Small***

Jordan Spieth has taken the world of professional golf by storm. The 21 year-old is winning at a record pace. He won this year's Masters and the U.S. Open, and barely missed the win at the British Open. He's also won several other tournaments. Analysts are already comparing him to some of the greatest players who have ever played the game.

So, what is the key to his amazing success? He follows this philosophy on the golf course -- "Aim small, miss small." He explains it this way: "The smaller the target that you can pick, the smaller your misses are going to be." Thus, instead of just aiming for the fairway in general, Spieth aims for a specific branch on a tree. He usually ends up where he wants to be – or very close to it. He breaks down every hole into its component parts, and then solves each of those parts in turn. The value of such an approach is obvious in the success Spieth is achieving.

Christians can benefit from a similar methodology when it comes to serving God. There are some huge challenges out there. The world is full of lost people, the moral climate is deteriorating, temptations are multiplying, discouragements seem to be mounting. What can we do? The answer is: pick a small target, take aim, and shoot for it.

What do we mean? Well, instead of thinking of ALL the lost in the world – most of which we will never have the opportunity to personally reach – think of your neighbor, your co-worker, your near relative. Aim to reach these with the gospel. Rather than taking wide, random shots at converting the lost, try reaching out to someone you already know and have a relationship with. This is a proven strategy that will work. Or, in regards to dealing with temptation, try simple and obvious things that are sure to succeed. Turn off the TV, limit access to the Internet, etc. Take small achievable steps towards the greater objective. Or as Jordan Spieth says, "Aim small, miss small."

**- by Greg Gwin**