

SHARPENING YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON YOUR TEACHING AND YOUR TEACHING SERVICE

*Prepared by Tom V. Taylor for presentation at Covenant
Christian Academy, Bethlehem, PA.*

25-26 August 2008

10:00 AM

**Devotional message and general greeting by
Pastor Philip Miller**

I. Some Introductory Notes; no study is complete without them!

10:15 AM

A. Perspective defined: A long view on something with just enough side glances to make it somewhat interesting. Our intention is to increase the effectiveness of our service for the Lord and for His people in the formal processes of education. Our academic information is only a part of the total labor but it is a very important part.

B. We move into this area with a brief and potentially tedious, but personal note, on the educational experiences as visualized by Tom Taylor--a schoolboy for many years and a teacher for even more!

He will tell you about it.....there is no need to cry, however.

II. The Work at Hand 11:00

A. Three Biblical texts to help us advance!

1. A Prayer Text: Psalm 25:4-6..His way: A clear path to to follow with the Word of God, the Help of the Holy Spirit, and the intercessory work of our Lord.
2. A Reminding Text: Hebrews 5:10 ff. As we prepare to teach we need to recall and utilize the basics.
3. A Procedural Text: Ecclesiastes 12:9-12. Start with the truth, scout the experiences, apply life lessons as they occur, and keep the ultimate end in view! We serve the Lord in a holy trust.

B.. **LUNCH!** (*I thought we would never geet here*) 12:00

C. Some open discussion on things that concern us (I hated these things when I was teaching but the worm has turned!) 1:00 PM

1. Do you set goals? (CAM..clean, attainable, measureable)

The goal needs to be set but not in rigidity....there must be allowance for deviation and variance and a snow day or so! If, however, a goal is established it affords a measuring stick for achievement.

2. Do you share problems and achievements with your associates?

3. What does it take to get you “steamed” and how do you react in that setting. (I my early days I was a youthful expert on getting unwary teachers “steamed”)

4. How do you react to students who are deficient in response?

5. What is your idea of a positive attitude with which one may lead or direct a class. There are a lot of factors in this... and we may have to resort to pictures and analogies to better understand the challenge.

6. There may be something much more important on your mind. If so, tell us!

D. As much as possible....remember to be a role model. Not perfect, of course, but “trying!” 2:00 PM

1. As a Christian: not perfect in every way (human attainments) but complete in our Lord (Colossians 2:10) and growing in the truth and manner of the Lord!

2. As a Guide for one who follows and later may lead as well Consider Hebrews 13:7 and 2 Thessalonians 3:7 as starting points.

3. A Citizen: one who follows the exemplary living patterns of Romans 13 and 1 Peter 2.

4. A friend ----read the comments of John 15m and Proverbs 17:17 as well as 18:21

5. A witness-----

DISMISSAL.....3:00 P.M.

AUGUST 26: 10:00 AM

E. Staying enthused for your ministry...even if the room is cold, the right supplies never come, half the class did not do the homework and you have heard a report that the pupils voted you the teacher they would most like to send to Iraq--but you finish that.!

1. Study beyond the prescribed area...plan to bring more to the table than the text book and lessons plans allow!
2. Watch for applications and illustrations that are familiar in the world of your students.
3. Review what you have done....restate for clarity if you think it was not established.
4. Make the most of 1 Corinthians 15:58
6. Be 'yourself and make the most of it. If you don't like hot dogs there will be some students who love you for your opinion!

F. Trials you never expected or, if you did, you never expected to be the victim. 11:00 A.M.

1. Coping with disagreeable parents
2. The exceptional child--- (several types of exceptions)
3. The Board of your school....not a perfect group....but...
4. The curriculum and academic expectations

III. **FINALLY:** Some notes in conclusion....to be dictated....I have typed long enough. 12:00AM