

Successful Classroom Management

Definition

Discipline is the training of a child in mind and character so he can become a self-controlled, constructive member of society.

“Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” —Hebrews 12:11

“No horse gets anywhere until he is harnessed. No steam or gas ever drives anything until it is confined. No Niagara is ever turned into light and power until it is tunneled. No life ever grows great until it is focused, dedicated and disciplined.”—Benjamin DeJong

Prevent Discipline Problems

- Consider the classroom set up.
 1. It should be neat and orderly.
 2. It should be as light as possible.
 3. Children need to be able to see.
- Consider the needs of the children.
- Consider your own preparation.

Principles of Effective Classroom Management

- **Discover your students.**
 1. See them as individuals.
 2. Learn their names and call them by name.
 3. Talk with them as they are waiting in line to go into class or as you are walking them to their cars.
 4. Talk with them as you look over their devotional books.
 5. Learn the basic characteristics of boys and girls.

• Intercede for them.

1. Prayer is your most powerful resource.
2. Prayer should be proactive rather than reactive.
3. Have prayer for every child, every week, by name.
4. Tell the children you pray for them.

What you cannot do, God can do.**• Set good standards.**

1. Do the children see in you and your staff what's expected of them?
2. Give instructions carefully and clearly.
3. Keep rules simple.

Rules for Having Fun!

- Raise your hand if you wish to speak.
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- No talking if someone else is talking.

4. Make sure all rules are consistent and fair.

• Correct faulty conditions.

1. Whatever isn't working, fix it.
2. Decide what's not being done that should be done.
3. Are procedures being followed consistently?
4. Make sure everyone is well prepared no matter how small the task.

• Inspect your own disciplines life.

1. How are you doing in your walk with the Lord?
2. Do you practice what you preach to the children?
3. What do the children see in you?

• Plan your time and lessons carefully.

1. Eighty percent of classroom problems are directly related to the teacher.
2. Study faithfully and prepare well.
3. Start and stop on time.

• Love the students unconditionally and listen to them.

1. They need to hear it.
2. They need to see it in your actions.
3. They need to see it as you take time to listen.

• Involve them.

1. Make sure you have sufficient activity.
2. Plan for all four learning styles.

Visual learner

Auditory learner

Kinesthetic learner

Tactual learner

• Never lose your temper.

1. It only shows you have already lost control.
2. You should find out all sides before making a decision.
3. Be Spirit-filled.

• Evangelize and educate.

1. Remember why you are there. It is to reach them for Christ.
2. Teach them to be Christ-like in character.

Teaching Aids to Help You with Discipline

1. Visualized songs (*CEF Press*[®]) www.cefpres.com
 - “Work on Your Attitudes”
 - “Do What’s Right”
2. *Children’s Ministry Resource Bible* (*CEF Press*)
 - Full-page articles
 - “Maintaining Classroom Discipline” (p. 780)
 - “Methods of the Master Teacher” (p. 1208)
 - “Think As Children Think” (p. 1452)
 - “Teaching Children from Troubled Homes” (p. 1504)
 - “Problems Children Face” (p. 1544)
3. *Teach Kids*[®] magazine www.teachkidsmag.com
 - Many ideas and helps for teaching