

Share Your Love For God

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When I was young, my mom took my brother and me to church every Sunday. She was both a school teacher and a Sunday school teacher. She took the time to teach children six days a week, and she wanted to make sure that her children were taught six days a week, too. Whether we learned something at school or Sunday school, we knew that Mom would always take time to review it with us. She quizzed us on spelling words, English concepts, multiplication facts, but she also asked us to recite the books of the Bible, memory verses, and stories from Scripture. She took the time to make sure that we were learning what we were being taught. She wanted to know that we were paying attention and comprehending the lessons being shared with us.

You may have had a similar experience growing up, but you must realize that not of all your students will share this background. There are plenty of kids across the country whose parents won't have the time (or sadly, the inclination) to review concepts with them. There are children who rarely go to church because their parents' job commitments won't allow them to be there on a weekly basis. There will even be some students in your classrooms who don't have parents at all, so they rely on other family members to bring them to church.

Whatever the family situations you encounter among your students, take the time to share with them how much God loves them whether they can recite the books of the Bible or not. Perhaps with your encouragement, those children will continue to come to church every week and will grow in their knowledge and love of Christ.

“Do You Understand?”

by Wayne Goff

Philip asked the Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:30) if he understood what he was reading. The Ethiopian was not offended by the question, but as a sincere truth-seeker he wanted to know of whom the prophet Isaiah was speaking (Isaiah 53). You see, the Old Testament is the New Testament **concealed**, and only as the inspired apostles and prophets **revealed** the Old Testament could it be properly understood. Philip began at that Scripture and “*preached Jesus to him*” (Acts 8:35). Today we can take the New Testament and *understand* the Old Testament prophecies and their fulfillment, and bask in the **sunshine** of God's final revelation through Jesus Christ (Heb. 1:1-2).

Just remember: it is **not** a shame to fail to understand the Bible. It **is** a shame to fail to understand and to pretend that you know what you do not know. Scripture must be studied, and those more studied in the Scriptures can help to guide you (Heb. 5:12-14). Don't proudly sit in ignorance when help is readily available!

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