

# THE BEST TEACHER EVER

By Colleen Ishimaru



## 1. Pray

*Matthew 19:13-14*

*Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."*

- The most important thing you do is to pray for your children.  
*"A man must talk to God about his children before he talks to his children about God."*  
Ed Cole
- Pray for yourself – that you would be the teacher that God desires you to be to your kids.
- Pray for your church – that teaching the next generation would be a top priority.

## 2. Plan

*Proverbs 16:3 Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.*

- Have you set goals for your class – what do you want to accomplish for the day, for the quarter?
- Have you thoroughly looked at the material? Do you understand it? Do you have ample time to prepare?
- What other things will you need? Have you gathered the necessary supplies? Last minute details?
- Have you considered your kids? Their age? Their personalities? Their learning styles?

## 3. Prepare

*2 Timothy 2:15*

*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.*

- Did you read the Bible scriptures for the lesson?
- Get the story straight – names of characters, what is taking place, what does this lesson teach about God, what is God teaching me.
- Know that you have two types of children in your class – the saved and the unsaved – teach to both!
- Present the Gospel somehow, somehow every class meeting.

## 4. Practice and Present

*Deuteronomy 32:2*

*May my teaching drop as the rain, my speech distills as the dew, like gentle rain upon the tender grass, and like showers upon the herb.*

- Are you using visuals? Practice with them.
- Don't read directly from the book! Make eye contact.
- Use your voice effectively.

# BUT WHAT IF...OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

## 5. The Kids

- Short attention span
- Easily distracted
- Restless
- Selfish
- Learning disabilities



## 6. The Room & Environment

- Distractions in the room
- Temperature
- Furniture
- Set up
- Noise

## 7. The Teacher...Again!

- Did you set the guidelines at the beginning of class?
- Are you creative in your teaching?
- Are the teachers working together as a team?
- Are you evangelizing your children, i.e., presenting the Gospel?

## LASTLY – IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Be consistent – do what you say!
- Don't apologize for deficiencies – the kids don't notice anyway!
- Avoid constant verbal correction, i.e., "stop talking", "sit still".
- Use a positive approach, "Thank you for raising your hand", "I like the way you are...".
- Never use physical punishment, however a gentle touch is effective in gaining attention.
- Overlook some things.
- Look for improvement, not perfection.
- Make the punishment fit the offense.
- Let them have fun!