Teaching the Bible to Elementary Kids

by Dr. Jennifer Cheatham

*Pray for wisdom in all things and rely on the Holy Spirit!

Setting the Scene

- Set up space to focus on the teacher; not just cute; aimed for instruction
- consider binging kids to you/your teaching space (mats, a convas cloth, mark X's like at a dig to spread out)
- Don't pass out materials until kids will be using them
- If you have multiple times in the room, teach the Bible lesson earlier in the day.

Engaging Kids

Classroom:

- When they walk in the room you want them to think, I belong here.
- Welcome them at the door.
- As much as possible get to know them personally and let them know you really care about them individually.
- Develop environment by providing ways for them to own the room (names, art work).
- Explain expectations (what you expect from them and what they can expect from you). Community:
- Be purposeful about helping kids connect with each other.
- Everyone learn everyone's names asap.
- Opporunities to share personal things.
- Pray together.

Teaching Content

- Study the passages & know the activites well; have everything ready; DO NOT READ the guide Intro:
- Teach Bible literacy (OT, NT, how to find the passage)
- Activities to get kids thinking about what they already know about the passage/topic
- Tell the objective/goal, what they will learn Vocab Show Me 5 - Challenge kids to learn something new. KWL just the K
- Make a statement T/F - Example(s) from the curriculum Look at a picture - what is happening?

Bible lesson:

- Continually emphasize that the Bible is God's Word and is completely true.

- Hold your Bible; Read from the Bible (or cut out parts of the lesson & stick it in your Bible)
- The Bible lesson is the focus. Take your time. Discuss it and answer questions.
- Make a connection to passage
- Include ways for them to interact during the lesson. Takes extra effort but increases engagement, recall, and comprehension. (sometimes the lesson has good ideas, other times act it out you need to add this in) respond when you hear ____
- Avoid metaphors, similes, and "church" vocabulary
- Explain any hard/special words need to use
- Example(s) from the curriculum

Conclusion:

- Summarize passage and main idea
- Make connections to life, to other Bible passages
- What do you want to remember or What will you do?
- Example(s) from the curriculum

Repeat the Pre to see growth

Now Show Me 5 Add to KWL

Make a Statement

Describe pic/put pics in order Make an action plan - Now what?

Think, Pair, Share

Association- when you see , think

flannel board

thumbs up/down

pics of what is happening