

## Topic Descriptions

1. The Privilege of Teaching\*

Do you want to imitate Jesus? Do you want to develop new talents? Do you look forward to rewarding experiences? Welcome to teaching. It's a privilege.

2. Developing Servants That Serve

Serving is the center of Jesus' teachings. How do we teach our students what it means to be a servant? How do we combat the natural selfish inclinations that make a student want to be popular and recognized rather than just serving in the background? How do we as teachers model being servants?

3. Encouraging Mission

"Sometimes, we can easily get caught up in spending most of our time making sure our students excel in learning and retaining all of the subject material they study in school. This is good to think about and pay attention to. Without minimizing the need for students to learn the facts, how can you as a teacher encourage mission-mindedness in our students in relation to foreign missions, local missions, or other mission related activities that the local church is involved in?"

4. Inspiring Excellence

What is the definition of excellence? Is excellence defined by the grades a student gets? How do we teach excellence in grades as well as excellence in character? How do we inspire excellence in all students even though we have a wide range of academic levels in our class?

5. Instilling Lasting Values

"What is the teacher's role in helping the students to develop good values while they are learning all of the factual information that is a part of education? Along with helping a student develop good values, are there things that a teacher can/should do to help these values not to be forgotten and discarded after a child has finished their formal education?"

6. Ladies-The Power of Trust

7. Preparation\*

The three most important rules for pilots, doctors, and teachers are preparation, preparation, preparation. What does that mean for us as teachers? What do I need to accomplish before the school term begins? Before each school day? Before meeting with parents?

8. 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Track\*

These workshops will be focused on teaching 1<sup>st</sup> grade.

9. Purpose of Science

Why do we study science? We are born with a sense of curiosity, and the study of science is a life-long pursuit of the how and why in the natural world.

10. History

What makes a well-rounded history student? Memorization of names, dates, and places? Or is there more to it? These workshops will explore the nuts and bolts of history class and will tackle more philosophical issues such as why history repeats itself and how we can change that.

11. Music

These workshops are intended for middle to upper grade teachers and will explore the following: importance of teaching music, concepts to cover in class, common challenges, curriculum recommendations, fitting music into my schedule, and principles for teaching music. And of course, you'll get to sing while you learn.

12. Presources\*

Gideon had no experience as a military leader, yet God chose him. God had been preparing Gideon for this great work, and God enabled him to do it. God has been working on you as well, and He will guide you to use your talents to His glory. You may feel inexperienced, but God has chosen you.

13. Incentives, Help or Hinderance

How can we effectively use incentives? What are some basic principles that we should think about before initiating incentive programs? Can incentives be overused? How about being underused?

14. Stress Management

Who said teaching was a 6 AM to 5 PM job? Did my school board come up with that or did I? Sally's mom is unhappy with all the homework Sally has. Bob got a 58% on his science test yesterday. Oh, it's Friday morning, and I forgot to prepare something for art last night. Last night...oh, yea, I was exhausted. I read a book. I probably should have read my Bible. This morning, I didn't get up in time. I'm still exhausted. Where did all these expectations come from? I'M STRESSED OUT!! Teachers have plenty of opportunities to stuff their bag full of stress. Do I get stressed out or do I choose stressed out? Am I a victim or a manager? This class will explore some foundational ideas about stress and how to manage it.

15. Life in a Fishbowl

Public. Eternal. Human. How can I best fulfill God's purpose for my job as a human that's being held accountable from every side?

16. Crafting Curiosity

Curiosity is the engine that drives learning. How can we kindle and fuel an atmosphere of curiosity that pulls our students minds into learning of their own accord instead of duty? What can ignite a bored student into an active pursuit of learning?

17. Presentation\*

"Give me to drink," Jesus opened a conversation with an unlikely student by getting her attention. He then built in her a desire to learn what He had to share. Jesus caused learning; we can to if we follow His methods.

18. Bible Memorization

What is the goal with Bible memory? How many verses? Scattered verses on a theme or full chapters? Does memorization equate to understanding? What about memorization techniques? What about school culture? Should I grade Bible memory? If yes, how? This class is intended to explore the importance of memorizing scripture and give direction to our Bible memory efforts to make them bear more fruit.

19. Devotionals (Upper Grades)

The deeper currents of school culture become visible in our devotional times. Likewise, our devotional times contribute significantly to school culture. This workshop will explore key elements upper grade teachers should be mindful of when creating a devotional plan for the year and when preparing devotions.

20. Teaching Bible Class

"How can a teacher integrate a worthwhile and interesting Bible class into their classroom? What are the keys to help your students to get excited about studying the Bible in the classroom? Our children get the Bible at home and the Bible on Sunday and the Bible at other times and sometimes Bible class can tend to be viewed as something "extra" and something that can easily be skipped. How can the teacher help everyone to see it as something essential and not simply as something extra?"

21. Preventing Teacher Burnout (Board)

Is teacher burnout an inevitable result of the workload that a teacher faces? Is the board responsible for keeping a teacher from burning out? What are specific things that a board can do to encourage teachers to press on? If we have high teacher turnover, do we need to be examining how our board is relating to the teachers? Is that the board's problem?

22. Ladies- Grounded In Christ

23. Procedures\*

There is a time for everything under the sun. A healthy set of procedures decreases your stress load and increases your effectiveness.

24. 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Track

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25. Facts of Science

The law of cause and effect. The law of inertia. The law of energy (energy cannot be created or destroyed). What are the basic principles we must teach to lay a foundation for logical scientific study?

26. History

See number 10 for a description.

27. Music

See number 11 for a description.

28. Long Term Teacher – Fact or Fiction

Some schoolboards search long and regularly for new teachers and pray for a long-term teacher. How long is long? Should long-term teaching be a goal in itself? What is the flip side of this? Could someone teach too long? How can a schoolboard encourage teachers to continue teaching? How can they graciously suggest a veteran takes a sabbatical when it is necessary?

29. Pitfalls\*

The road of school teaching has a deep ditch on either side and the middle is full of potholes. We can avoid making the same mistakes many others have fallen into. You don't have to fall; just step around the banana peeling next time.

30. Cliques and Clubs

What are the root causes of unhealthy classroom cliques? What are some of the dos and don'ts when faced with a tough situation? How can I inspire a classroom atmosphere that's positive?

31. Co-Teacher Dynamics

Description: Teachers face a lot of demand in the sheer number of things to do, let alone the nurturing of friendships on the team. However, healthy school culture depends a lot on healthy teamwork. This workshop will explore components that contribute to healthy teamwork and school culture.

32. Practical Discipline for Middle Grades

33. Sportsmanship

Recess is another window into school culture. Show me a young person who can respectfully absorb their own team's loss and bless the other team's win, and I'll show you a young person who is well on their way to becoming a fruitful spouse, employee, and member in the body of Christ. Is good sportsmanship taught by instruction or by example? How involved in recess do teachers need to be? Should we segregate ages for recess or all play together? This workshop will attempt to chase down some key elements of good sportsmanship and equip teachers to nurture these.

34. Ladies Talk

35. Artful Habits

A creation of beauty, mystery, and meaning surrounds us — yet most pass by unaware. How can we awaken ourselves and our students to see deeper and to find wonder in the overlooked? Join us as we explore how a pencil can train the mind to notice the hidden brilliance woven into everyday life that this world passes by unawares.

36. 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Track

These workshops will be focused on teaching 1<sup>st</sup> grade.

37. Questions of Science

How does a salmon navigate a thousand miles to return to its native stretch of stream to spawn? Why does soap help to get things clean? Does hot water really freeze faster than cold water?

38. History

See number 10 for a description.

39. Music

See number 11 for a description.

40. Comparative Teaching

Two teachers, one lesson, and plenty of live action. This session aims to present effective teachers in action.