

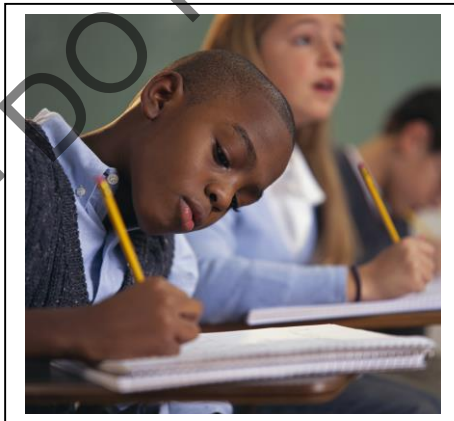
## Taking Care of God's Children

### Module 2: How Students Learn

Do we all learn the same way?

How can we incorporate preferred learning styles and intelligences into our teaching?

How does God view our diverse gifts and abilities?



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## Introduction

Through the power of God's Spirit, this course will help you bring good changes where you live and lead. It is different from other courses. It is not meant to be worked through alone. It should be used in a group. One person will lead the lesson, but each one in the group should have a written copy of the lesson and should actively participate.

The course is divided into six modules, each with lessons addressing a particular question.

## The Lessons

Four things happen during each lesson:

1. **Report:** At the beginning of each lesson (except for the first) each participant reports on what was accomplished since the last lesson.
2. **Discover and Discuss:** Participants read the Bible and discuss the questions together. Group discussion teaches participants to listen carefully to each other and to present their ideas clearly.
3. **Plan for change:** Toward the end of each lesson, participants write a plan to put into practice what they have learned. They report on that plan at the beginning of the following lesson.
4. **Pray:** At the end of each lesson these plans are brought before God for His guidance and blessing.

*The training is for those who are prepared to make plans, to put their plans into action between the lessons and then report on them during the next lesson. Most learning takes place between the lessons as participants work their plans.*

## Training Sessions

The training sessions are sometimes held for several days, for example during a series of training weekends. Training sessions can also be held over a week, for example during morning, afternoon, or evenings. The group will work through several lessons during the training sessions. In this case, each participant will make a plan at the end of each lesson and these plans will be discussed, but participants will actually write up only **one plan at the end of the training session**. That plan will be reported on when the group meets again. The course leader will explain all this to the participants.

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SAMPLE - DO NOT REPRODUCE

## LESSON 1

# How Did Jesus Teach?

1. **Action Plan Reports** – each participant should report on their Action Plan from Module 1 (to the large group or to small groups):

- Did you carry out the Action Plan you made at the end of Module 1?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing your Action Plan?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did any unexpected Kingdom changes happen in your school or community?

Write the most significant changes which this training produced:

- In your school, village or neighborhood
- In your family

2. There are many different ways an educator can present subject matter to students. Jesus used some of these methods with his followers.

Break up into four small groups. Each group should read one of the Bible passages together and answer the following questions:

- *What method did Jesus use to communicate His message?*
- *How did He use this method?*
- *In what ways is this an effective teaching method?*

Group 1: **Luke 18:15-17**

Group 2: **Luke 15:1-7**

Group 3: **Matthew 5:1-12**

Group 4: **Luke 13: 10-17**

When you have finished your discussion, go back to the big group and briefly report back to everyone what you discussed.

3. Give examples of some important things you learned about life outside of a school classroom. For example: I learned what season crops get planted in. I learned to count to 10. I learned to respect my elders.

*How do people in your culture learn outside of a classroom setting?*

*How can that kind of learning help students learn in a classroom?*

4. *What teaching methods are usually used in your school?*

5. *Can we use the methods Jesus used in our classrooms?*

Try to consider what that would be like by discussing together the following four questions:

- *How can we teach by being a model?*
- *How can we teach by using stories/parables/examples?*
- *How can we teach by using lectures?*
- *How can we teach by making use of spontaneous teachable moments?*

Each person should reflect on how they think their teaching might be made more effective if they used each of these methods in their classroom.

## 6. MY PLAN

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Based on this lesson, write down a Kingdom change you would like to see occur before the next lesson.

For example: Write one thing that will happen after you, the educator, adopts the new methods of teaching.

*How will you know this change has occurred?*

**Activity:** Write a plan that reflects specific action(s) that you will do before the next lesson to enable this change.

Finally, in writing, specify when you will do this activity.

7. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray about it together.