



## Taking Care of God's Children

### Module 3: **Developing Student Gifts**

How can educators help students discover their God-given gifts?

How can working together help students learn?

How can working together help educators teach?



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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: NOT TO BE REPRODUCED

## LESSON 1

# How Can Educators Discover and Develop Each Student's Unique, God-given Gifts?

1. **Action Plan Reports** – each participant should report on their Action Plan from Module 2 (to the large group or to small groups):
  - Did you carry out the Action Plan you made at the end of Module 2?
  - 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. Read **Mathew 19: 13-15** and **I Thessalonians 5: 16-18**.

*How can you make time to pray daily for each student?*

3. Break up into groups of 3 or 4 and discuss the following questions:

A. *How can you get to know each student individually within your classroom? Think of at least 3 ways.*

B. *How can you get to know each student individually outside your classroom*

- *Do you visit their homes?*
- *Have you been to their churches?*
- *Do you interact with them during outdoor playtime?*
- *What are the barriers which keep you from doing these things more often?*

C. *How can you give value to students who demonstrate:*

- *Vocational gifts rather than academic gifts?*
- *What about the artistic gifts?*
- *What about the musical gifts?*

*How can you incorporate time into your classroom for students with these gifts to showcase them?*

4. Return to the large group. *What did you learn from your small group discussions?*

## 5. 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. What could happen when

you start to help students to recognize and value a wide range of gifts within themselves and their classmates?

*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.

For example:

- Plan an art exhibit for young artists to showcase their work.
- Plan a concert for student musicians to showcase their vocal or instrumental gifts.
- Give vocationally gifted students opportunities to fix things that are broken or invent something that would be useful to the class.

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

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