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The character and the calling of the teacher

Teaching is a ministry

- It's a high calling and a God-given gift. (Rom 12:7; Eph 4:11)
- It's an influential ministry.
- Yet God is willing to use us as imperfect models!

A Calling

'The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.'

(1 Thess. 5:24)

How can we know?

Character

'A student is not above his/her teacher but everyone who is fully trained will be like his/her teacher.'

(Luke 6: 40)

Jewish parents would not ask about a teacher 'What sort of scholar is he?'

but rather

'What kind of person is he?' because a pupil becomes like his or her teacher.

God's Character being formed in us

Ex 34:5-8

- Lord authority
- Gracious
- Slow to anger
- Abounding in love
- Abounding in faithfulness
- Maintaining love to thousands
- Forgiving
- Just

Keys of Jesus the Master Teacher



Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Matt.11:28-30

- Committed unconditional acceptance
- Serving to pupils, parents, head and staff
- Discerning are we differentiating the workload?
- Modelling do our words and actions match?

Legalism or Grace?

,He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant – not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills but the Spirit gives life.'

2Cor 3:6

LEGALISM

Sees what's wrong and focuses on the negatives, fault-finding

Operates with rules

Majors on disapproval

Restrictive

Duty: you must

Discouraging

Provokes rebellion

GRACE

Sees both good and bad but focuses on the positives praising

Operates with expectations

Majors on approval

Releasing

Free will: you may

Encouraging

Wins the heart



Teacher or parent/child

SIN

Disobedience breaks relationship

Prayer & forgiveness Lord, please change me

Accountability Did you?

Restitution I will put it right Owning responsibility I did it

Understanding

Consequences I agree

I see why I was wrong onfession

Confession I'm sorry

The Goal of our Discipline

Mature choices

made by the pupil

with

an awareness of consequences

Remember!

A Christian teacher disciplines out of a relationship of unconditional love, reflecting God's love and the way he deals with us.

Be proactive rather than reactive

Be a responder not a reactor.

Keep your temper.

- Select your way of getting the children's attention.
- Insist on the hands up rule for small children particularly.
- Eye contact: if they're not looking, they're not learning.
- Avoid humiliating pupils.
- Encourage wherever possible.
- Differentiate the work when necessary

- Direct pupils to the given instructions.
- Do not allow talking when you are talking.
- Be clear about discipline measures.
- 'Back row' syndrome
- Boys and girls mixed
- Retain a sense of humour.
- Try teaching discipline through drama.