

Our Very Best Studies

For twenty-four years I have preached and studied from the New American Standard Version of scripture, yet I still quote 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (and others) from the King James. Don't ever remember reading it, but I quote it that way.

When I'm speaking publicly and turning to a passage of scripture, as my thumb flips past pages, to this day my mind is saying...
"Matthew....Mark....Luke....John....Acts... and the letter to the Romans...." Just as the song goes. And just as I learned as a child.

What do the above illustrations mean? Only that we DO remember for the rest of our lives what we learn as children. Our Bible classes are not craft sessions or baby sitting – they are Bible studies. Prepared to the appropriate level of the students in the class perhaps, but Bible studies nevertheless. Elders, deacons, preachers, their wives, and other men and women who will lead churches are sitting in those 3 year old classes and 5 year old classes, and all the rest. Lives and souls are going to be placed into the care of some of those Christians that are being trained right now. Every finger pointing upward as a "little light of mine" and every "slow down, we don't run in church" has its influence in imprinting little memory cards with godly behavior.

Year after year I hear adults around me speak of the Vacation Bible Schools of their youth, the singing, the teachers (by name sometimes), the classes, and yes, the fun that comes from having your local congregation aim their "adult-sized" efforts toward one week of specialized "child-sized gospel teaching.

Let me tell you that teachers were preparing for the V.B.S. we just completed weeks ahead of time. Many were at the building daily preparing for each night's class. Visuals and bulletin boards were made. Activities to re-enforce the lessons were prepared. Prayers were led, songs were sung, questions were asked and answered and the next generation was taught 5 days straight that the word of God is important to their lives and can be a pleasurable experience.

Thank you teachers, for your efforts. Our weekly teaching program is a powerful effort for truth here, but for this one week of extra work and teaching we would commend you.

Carl McMurray

Thanks to the following:

2 year olds – **Kim Retz, Cassondra Givans,
Diana Retz**

3 year olds – **Jill Hutchings, Nick Sullivan**

4-5 year olds – **Lisa Retz, Heather Hunt,
Holly Hutchings**

K-1st grades – **Nancy Ritter, Janet Gaines**

2nd grade – **Margaret Watson, Judy Roberts**

3rd grade – **Karen Green, Katina Petre**

4th grade – **Jenny Underwood, Nicole Hunt**

5th grade – **Joanie Ward**

Jr. High – **Nick Petre**