

Student Ministry

Sunday School Teacher Training

Ordinary to
Extraordinary

“The biggest problem with communication is the assumption that it has taken place.”

– George Bernard Shaw

Ministry Strategy

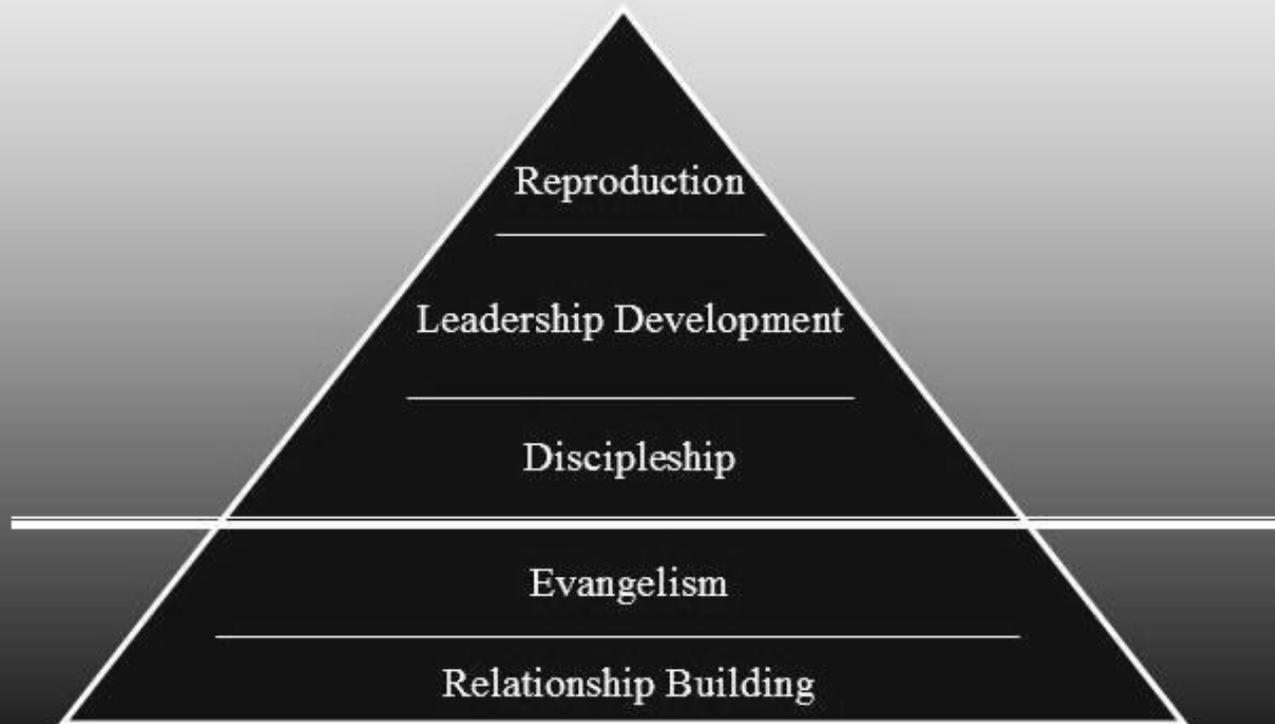
- When you walk into your small group, what do you hope to accomplish?
- How do you know if it has been accomplished?
- Do your students know the purpose of meeting together in small group?

A clear strategy helps YOU to focus on your purpose!

What is your strategy for the group?

Dr. David Adams

Strategy for Mission Fulfillment



Relationships and Teaching

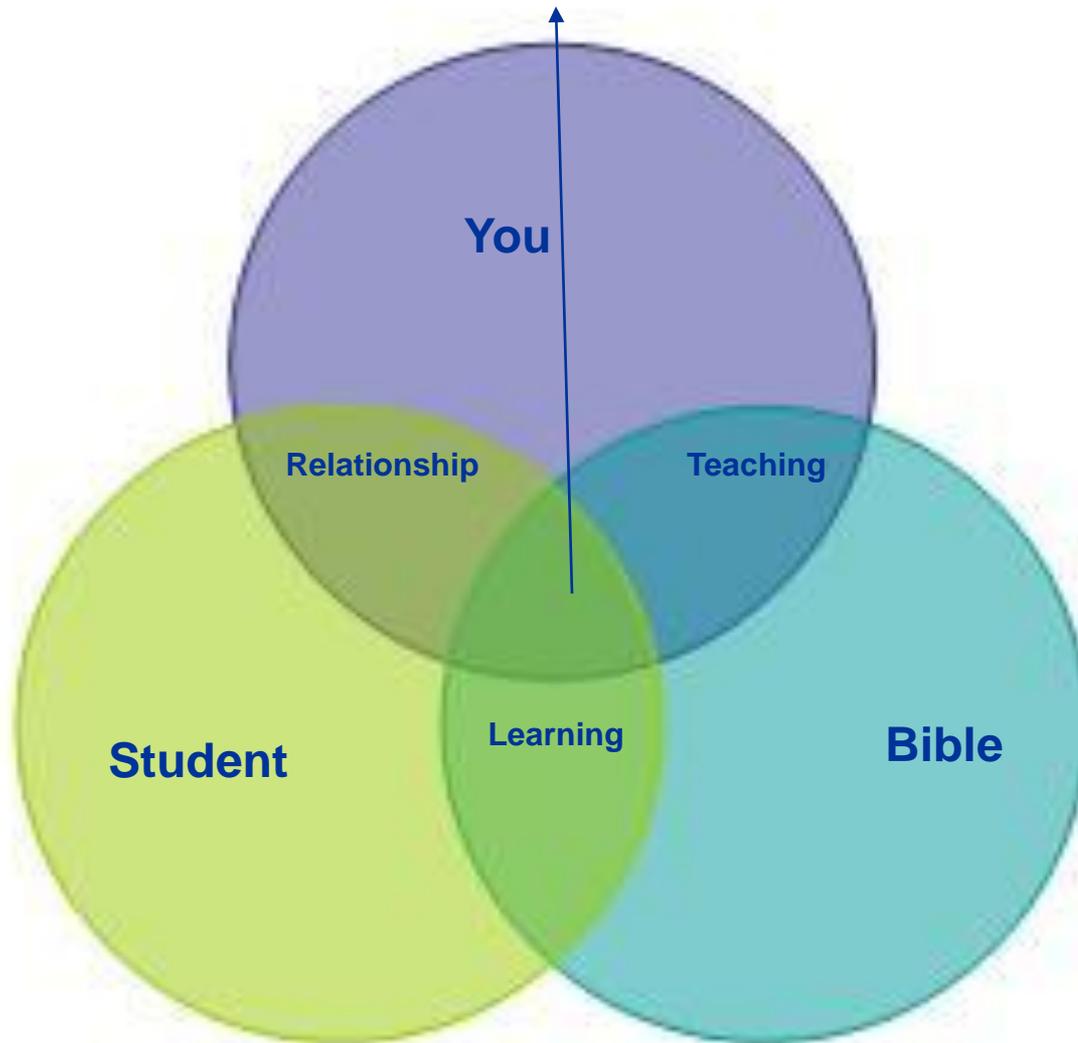
- The goal is to build relationships strong enough to bear the weight of truth.
- What you teach on Sundays will resurface in conversations outside as you spend time with students.
- The common experiences you have outside of church provide conversation starters in the classroom.

Relationships and Teaching

Our teaching gives our
relationships purpose,
Our relationships give our
teaching credibility.

Transformation: The End Goal

Romans 12:2



What is your strategy for the individual?

- Do you know the spiritual condition of the individuals in your small group?
- Once you know where they are, where do you hope to take them next?
- How do you know if an individual is growing spiritually under your leadership?

5 C's (Markers of Spiritual Growth)

Dr. David Adams



How...?

- Do your students know why any given lesson is important?
- Do you ever find yourself feeling like a given lesson lacks meaning?
- What do you do about it?

YOUR biblical theology may play a vital role in the meaning of your lessons being loud and clear!

What is biblical theology?

- Biblical theology is...

seeking to discover the unfolding revelation of God through the Word itself.

It must take into account:

Historical Setting

Relation to other texts within Scripture

Cohesion of the entire Bible

Sequence of Events

- Creation
- Adam and Eve
- The Flood
- Abraham
- Slavery in Egypt
- Moses
- The Promised Land
- The Judges
- Samuel
- King David
- The Exile
- Daniel
- Nehemiah
- Jesus
- Peter
- Paul
- White Throne Judgment
- New Heaven and New Earth

2 Timothy 3:16

- What are your “well worn paths”? Why?
- What areas are most difficult to teach? Why?
- If ALL Scripture is God breathed, what is the danger of ignoring difficult passages?

The Word

- Read Hebrews 4:12 and reflect back over the creation account.
- Now read John 1:1-5
- How valuable is God's word?
- How powerful is God's word?

“If God were to withdraw for a split second His powerful word, the universe would cease to exist in the same split second.”

- Grame Goldsworthy, According to Plan, pg 97

The Big Picture

From beginning to end, the Bible is about God's story. Our very existence serves to reveal more about HIS nature. The Word recorded for us puts this in perspective by declaring God's power and righteousness, contrasted by our sinfulness. The binding theme is God's love and grace.

Reading in Circles

- We cannot understand the Old Testament without the knowledge of the New Testament. Likewise, the New Testament is not complete without the knowledge of the Old.
- This is how Jesus viewed it:
 - Luke 24:25-27
 - Luke 24:44-45
 - John 5:39-40

Major Themes

- Abraham covenant – Genesis 17:1-8
- Exodus – Plagues Ex. 7-12, Passover Ex. 12, Exodus Ex. 12-14
- Promised Land - Joshua
- Judges Cycle - Judges
- Kings and Davidic Covenant – Deut. 17:14-20,
2 Sam. 7:8-17
- Blessings and Curses – unconditional and conditional
- New Testament/ Christ
- Early Church

So what's the point?

- Every lesson must fit into the larger story of revealing the character of God through the person and work of Jesus Christ.
- It is our job to declare who he is and what he did!
- We must remember the essence of the gospel in every lesson!

What is the Gospel?

- What are the key elements of the gospel itself?
- What are important elements of a presentation that do NOT change the gospel itself?

Embracing and Sharing Your Passion

- In Judges we see that the people all “did what was right in their own eyes”.
- How did this pattern arise?

“After that generation died, another generation grew up who did not know the Lord or the work that He had done for Israel.” - Judges 2:10

Embracing and Sharing Your Passion

The amazing fact is that God has chosen to use His children to carry out His work. He did not have to do this, but this is His plan. We are His instruments in this great work. As a teacher of the Bible, you possess a ministry and a message given by God... You are an agent of reconciliation. – Creative Bible Teaching^[1]

^[1] Lawrence and Bredfeldt. Creative Bible Teaching. Pg 54.