God's People Teach One Another

MAIN IDEAS

- Teaching the Scriptures is to be an ongoing activity of Jesus' church, for all ages.
- Teaching toward Christian maturity involves instructing the mind and encouraging transformation of the heart and will.
- The shepherds, pastors, and elders are to carefully guard the teaching of the church.

MEMORY WORK

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.—2 Timothy 3:16-17

SCRIPTURE FOR THE LESSON

1) Deuteronomy 4:1a

2) Psalm 25:4; 78:5

3) Matthew 9:35a; 11:1; 28:19-20a

4) Mark 6:34

5) Acts 2:42a; 18:11

6) Colossians 1:28

7) 1 Timothy 4:13, 16a

8) 2 Timothy 3:16a

9) Titus 2:1

10) 1 Peter 2:24

11) Proverbs 23:12

12) James 1:22

AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

Read together several of the verses listed above. Emphasize that biblical instruction has always been an important activity for God's people. We cannot love, trust, honor, and obey God as we should without instruction from His Word. Ask: Can you name some of the teaching activities of our church? What is your responsibility when you are being taught the Bible? Can you recall something you have recently learned from a sermon or one of your classes? What is biblical teaching meant to "do" in your life? Read and talk about 2 Timothy 3:15-17; James 1:22; and Proverbs 23:12. Ask: Can you "do" these verses apart from trusting in Jesus? Why not? How could you "apply your heart" to something you have learned recently?

Read and talk about 2 Timothy 2:15. Point out that good teachers give their students tools and guidance about how to study the Bible so that, as you grow and mature, you are able to read a passage of Scripture and understand more about it. Even the oldest and most mature Christians in the church need to continue to be taught by others. Ask: Do you enjoy being taught God's Word? What do you find enjoyable? Is it also difficult sometimes? In what ways? Can you think of ways that we could help you more?

ACTIVITY

With your parents' help, if needed, follow the instructions in each box.

1. Giving Information

Read Ephesians 4:31-32.

3. Equipping

By carefully reading the verses and by defining important words, you have been given "tools" to better understand God's Word.

4. Illustrating

Use an example to show what the verses mean.

 How could you use a trash can and dirty garbage to show what verse 31 means?

How does the story from Matthew
18:21-33 illustrate Ephesians 4:32?

2. Providing Explanation

Define these words and phrases:

· Bitterness	
· Clamor	
· Slander	
· Malice	
· Tender-hearted	
· Forgiving	
· As God in Christ forgave you	

5. Encouraging Transformation

How does Ephesians 4:31-32 challenge and encourage any changes in my thoughts, feelings, words, and actions?