Q & A

Teaching God's Word

- 1. What should motivate us to teach the truth?
 - Faith—in Christ Himself, in the power of His blood, in the power of the gospel (2 Cor. 4:13).
 - Love—a genuine concern for the souls of others (Eph. 4:15; Phil. 2:20; 1 Thess. 2:8).
 - The terror of the Lord (2 Cor. 5:11).

- 2. What kind of preparation is necessary to study the Bible?
 - Prayer (Acts 6:4; Eph. 6:18–19; Col. 4:2–3).
 - An understanding of our accountability to God (James 3:1).
 - Diligent and careful study (2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Tim. 4:6, 13, 15).
 - Faithfulness to the Lord (2 Tim. 2:2).

- 3. In Titus 2:15, Titus is given the following command: "Speak these things, exhort and rebuke with all authority." How can we teach "with all authority"?
 - By accurately teaching the word of God (Acts 18:25; 2 Tim. 4:2), just like Jesus did (John 7:16-18; 12:49-50).

- 4. In what manner should we teach the word of God?
 - With boldness, confidence (Acts 9:27, 29; 28:31).
 - With humility (2 Tim. 2:24–26).
 - With longsuffering (2 Tim. 4:2).
 - With gentleness (2 Tim. 2:24–26), but sometimes with sharpness (Titus 1:13–14; 2 Cor. 13:10).

- 5. What should be our goals as we teach the gospel?
 - To help others learn the truth (2 Tim. 2:25; 1 Tim. 2:4; John 8:32).
 - To produce faith, love, and a sincere conscience (1 Tim. 1:3-5).
 - To equip others saints for work in kingdom (Eph. 4:11-16).
 - To save ourselves, those who hear us (1 Tim. 4:16).

- 6. What must be true of teaching for it to edify, or build up?
 - Must be the word of God (Acts 20:32).
 - Must be clearly understood (1 Cor. 14:9, 19; Matt. 13:23).
 - Must challenge the listeners to apply what they've been taught (Josh. 24:14–15; Acts 26:28).

- 7. What kind of people receive teaching the best?
 - Those with humble hearts (Psa. 25:9; Matt. 11:25).
 - Those who believe that what they're hearing is the word of God (1 Thess. 2:13).
 - And who therefore realize how desperately they need it (James 1:21).

- 8. How can teachers do more harm than good?
 - By teaching commandments, doctrines of men (Matt. 15:7-9).
 - By teaching ANY doctrine besides the doctrine of Christ (1 Tim. 1:3-4; 2 John 1:9).
 - By using persuasive words of human wisdom (1 Cor. 1:17; 2:1-5).

- 8. How can teachers do more harm than good?
 - By featuring themselves instead of Christ (2 Cor. 4:5).
 - By being more interested in pleasing man than in pleasing God (1 Thess. 2:4; Gal. 1:10).
 - By not teaching themselves as they teach others (Rom. 2:21).

- 9. Do we have to be eloquent to teach the gospel?
 - Paul described himself as "untrained in speech" (2 Cor. 11:6, perhaps quoting his enemies), and yet, he was very effective.
 - Apollos, in Acts 18:24–26.