



HOW STUDENTS MAY HINDER EFFECTIVE TEACHING

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We continually hear parents blaming teachers for why their children aren't learning; both in and out of the church. It is true that in some cases teachers do a poor job in teaching. But we must admit that students are also responsible for ineffective teaching results by the teacher. It takes both teacher and student in sync if learning is going to take place.

Jesus said the disciple (student) has a major responsibility in the learning event: 'Take heed WHAT you hear" (Mark 4:24), and "Take heed HOW you hear (Luke 8:18). Therefore, it is not the teacher's fault if a student fails to learn. Students may hinder the teacher from doing an effective job for some of the following reasons:

1. The student has little or no interest in the subject. His attention wanders.
2. The student may have a hidden agenda to spring in the class; waits for opportunity to do so.
3. The student may not be fluent in English; there will be a language barrier.
4. The subject may be theologically more than the students desires to grasp or want to know.
5. The student may have a negative attitude toward Bible study and the church.
6. The student fails to pay attention or take notes.
7. The student doesn't have a felt need for the subject presented in class.
8. The student will not participate in discussion or asking questions.
9. The student's mind is preoccupied with other things.
10. There is no background to relate the material to; no interest in learning.
11. Too much exposure to media, technology; short attention span.
12. Didn't come to class with a desire or expectation of learning anything.
13. Physically tired, needs sleep and rest.
14. Cognitive or mental handicap prevents learning.



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15. Doesn't know his dominant mode of learning: auditory, visual or kinesthetic.

One of our jobs as teachers is to train students in how to learn in a Bible class.