

A Simple Checklist to Strengthen Every Adult Bible Teacher

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(Built Around a Question-Based Teaching Framework)

A Leadership Challenge Every Minister Faces

You can't sit in every classroom. But you can shape how teaching happens in them.

Most adult Bible teachers are faithful and committed. The issue is rarely training. Many have been taught sound educational principles. The challenge is consistency - especially when discussion stalls and teachers instinctively default back to lecture.

One of the most effective ways to strengthen adult Bible teaching is to reinforce a simple rhythm: **Teach with questions, not just explanations.** And when teachers prepare thoughtful questions ahead of time, something important happens in the classroom. Adults begin interacting with Scripture rather than simply listening to a lesson.

- Participation increases.
- Ownership grows.
- Conversations move from surface-level comments to meaningful engagement.

But good intentions alone don't create that culture. Teachers need a simple structure that reinforces these habits week after week. That's where a checklist helps.

Think of it like a pre-flight checklist. Pilots don't rely on memory alone - they use a simple list that reinforces the most important steps every time they fly. A short preparation checklist can do the same thing for adult Bible teachers.

Why a Checklist Helps Ministry Leaders

A simple checklist multiplies your leadership influence because it:

- Reinforces a consistent teaching rhythm across multiple classes
- Supports new teachers without constant coaching
- Reduces the tendency to fall back into lecture when preparation time is short
- Encourages teachers to prepare thoughtful discussion questions
- Strengthens a culture of Scripture-centered conversation

Training events introduce ideas.

Checklists reinforce habits.

Over time, teachers internalize a simple preparation rhythm:

Pray. Prepare. Ask. Connect. Teach.

The following checklist can be shared directly with your teachers as a weekly preparation guide.

Adult Bible Teacher Preparation Checklist

A simple weekly guide to help teachers prepare discussion-centered Bible lessons.

Before Anything Else

- ☐ Pray specifically for each class member and for the upcoming lesson.

Study the Passage First

- ☐ Read the Bible passage carefully before consulting commentaries or curriculum helps.
- ☐ Identify the **core message of the passage in one sentence**.

Prepare Discussion Questions

- ☐ Prepare **3–5 open-ended questions** that help the class think through the passage.
- ☐ Make sure at least one question encourages **personal reflection or application**.

Prepare the Flow of the Lesson

- ☐ Plan a short introduction that naturally leads into discussion of the passage.
- ☐ Decide where your key questions will fit within the lesson.

Stay Connected to Your Class

- ☐ Reach out to at least one class member during the week.
- ☐ Remind the class of the upcoming lesson through email or conversation when possible.

Final Preparation

- ☐ Review any support tools you plan to use (commentary, worksheet, curriculum guide).
- ☐ Pray again for the class and the upcoming discussion.

Sunday Morning

- ☐ Arrive early.
- ☐ Pray over the room and greet class members warmly.
- ☐ Guide the class through the passage using your prepared questions.

Remember: You don't have to carry the entire lesson yourself. When teachers prepare thoughtful questions ahead of time, the class begins sharing the responsibility for learning. That's when real discussion begins.

For Teachers Who Want Help Preparing Questions

If preparing discussion questions each week feels overwhelming, structured discussion worksheets can help reinforce this same teaching rhythm while saving preparation time. You can learn more at:

StevesBibleQuestions.com

