

Ten Commandments for Sunday School Teachers

1. I will do everything within my power to develop in each of my students an ardent love for and commitment to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. I will never give up on any student, nor consider any student unreachable.
2. Seeing the beginnings of the Christian faith in a student, I will do all I can to strengthen it further. I will help him to realize the necessity of Scripture reading and prayer. I will also suggest books that are helpful in matters of the soul and will encourage him to unite with God's people. I will show him the importance of church work. In all this, I will stay close until his faith is established, remaining at all times accessible to him.
3. I will see that he finds a definite place in some specified task. I will not rest until every student finds a task or service of fruitfulness, for God has a place for each one to serve.
4. I will bring the Christian faith into everyday life. I will show my students the practical things the Lord expects from us. The ministrations that the world needs so much—meat for the hungry, drink for the thirsty—are judgment-day tests of genuine faith (Matthew 25).
5. I will seek to help each one discover the will of God, because the Master can use every talent. I will try to see in them what God sees. Michelangelo saw the face of an angel in a discarded stone. Christ saw a writer in a tax collector, apostles in simple fishermen, an apostle to the gentiles in an enemy of the faith. He takes the foolish things and the weak and despised to work His purposes.
6. I will instill a divine discontent into the mind of everyone who can do more than he is doing, not by telling him the pettiness of his life, but by giving him a vision of great things to be done enthusiastically, passionately.
7. I will make it easy for anyone to come to me with the deepest experiences of inner life, not by urging, but by sympathy and understanding. I will never let anyone think I am disappointed in him.
8. I will keep the cross of Christ central in the Christian life. It is great to be out where the fight is strong, to be where the heaviest troops belong and to fight there for God and man.
9. I will pray as I have never prayed before for wisdom and power, believing God's promise that "if any of you lack wisdom, let him ask...and it shall be given him." (James. 1:5)
10. I will spend and be spent in this battle. I will not seek rest and ease. I will not think that freshness of face holds beauty in comparison with the glory of heaven. I will seek fellowship with the "man of sorrows...acquainted with grief" (Isaiah. 53:3), as He walks through this stricken world. I will not fail Him.