

Teaching notes:

Motivational gifts and teaching styles

This section gives opportunity for teachers to reflect on their own motivational gifts and the ways they are used in teaching.

A teacher's God-given gifts may be reflected in his/her teaching style or classroom management style as follows:

Teaching: the ability to impart knowledge and lead others to revealed truth

(Teaching-centred)

Strengths:

- shows diligence to the profession
- is enthusiastic about subject matter
- researches subject matter deeply

Weaknesses:

- tends to use large group instruction (lecture style)
- shows lack of emotional involvement with personal needs of pupils
- does not involve students in planning

Serving: the ability to see and do things that need to be done

(Child-centred)

Strengths:

- provides numerous and colourful materials
- able to think 'on the spot' and provide individual instruction
- teaches according to the child's interests
- puts the students first

Weaknesses:

- gives little direct instruction
- focuses on short-term goals, ignoring long-term goals
- may be prone to 'burn-out', trying to meet the needs of every individual.

Giving: the ability to handle and give resources to others

(Child-centred)

Strengths:

- likes big projects
- sees the big picture
- encourages students to look outside of themselves
- has a generous spirit
- likes to work with others

Weaknesses

- may have an excessively liberal attitude towards finances and materials

Encouragement: the ability to encourage others to grow and to be equipped to meet the experiences of life

(Child-centred)

Strengths:

- provides necessary detail
- gives concrete examples
- wants all the children to 'get it'
- knows who has, and who has not 'got it'

Weaknesses:

- can be a little harsh if children don't respond

Leading: the ability to see long range goals and to help others find and move in their ministry

(Learning-centred)

Strengths:

- tries out new systems
- runs classroom systems well
- lets children choose within a system
- is good teacher 'up front'

Weaknesses:

- may become frustrated; (impatient when things are not going the right way)
- may have excessive ambition for moving into a leadership role
- needs to guard against pride

Mercy: the ability to feel where people are and identify with their needs

(Child-centred)

Strengths:

- facilitates in interpersonal relationships
- shares himself / herself with the class
- wants to shape students

Weaknesses:

- needs to beware of too much emotional involvement
- can be disorganized in room management

Prophecy / insight: the ability to 'see' where people and programs really are

(Subject-centred)

Strengths:

- has a passion for curriculum
- wants truth to be communicated completely and totally
- has high standards for the classroom

Weaknesses:

- may not be popular with the staff due to prophetic motivation
- may give too much attention to irrelevant detail
- may be more concerned about classroom standards than individual needs

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