

13. Of snakes and lambs

The snake was able, by crafty persuasion, to make Eve discontent with all that she had in the paradise of Eden. The snake in my classroom wants to make me lose my sense of peace and allure me elsewhere. In other schools I would be: paid more, the photocopier would be more reliable, I would be better recognised for my contributions, I would have less duties, my undisciplined students would face stronger discipline regimes, I would have better professional development opportunities, my annoying boss would be gone.....etc.

From time to time there is a divine call to move on, but the regular pull of greener and more distant fields is not something that originates in heaven. God has placed you in the school that you are in to serve the kingdom faithfully there. It is a laboratory to shape and grow your character. The Author and Director of your life will allow all manner of circumstances to come your way that are not pleasant or easy to handle. In all of this you will reach out and take Spirit empowered responses, or you will compromise and not succeed. The Teacher will allow you a repeat class; you will have to redo *Christian Character 101* again just as happened to Peter, (Jn 21-17).

Your calling is to lead students into righteousness and impart wisdom, (Dan. 12:3). Get on with feeding His sheep, your resources and energies may be few- but a school child's lunch box of fish and bread can be resource enough to feed the masses who demand so much of you. Expect and look for the supernatural to banish discontent from your ministry today.

