

# EFFECTIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES

(aka "Stuff I've Stolen From Everybody")

By Brent Randall

Workshop focus: To learn how to creatively illustrate stories or lessons to increase students' retention of the information.

## 1. STORY POINTS

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ repeat ("Calming the Storm")
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ interlude ("Jesus in the Boat")
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ line or \_\_\_\_\_ phrase ("Every Good Gift")
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ review ("Five Reasons")
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ hook line ("What did you learn in SS?")

## 2. MEMORY VERSE TECHNIQUES

- A. Puppet skit \_\_\_\_\_ ("Beaky Bird")
- B. Not Too \_\_\_\_\_ / Professor Pumpersnickel
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ game (Psalm 23:4)
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ Game

**3. OBJECT LESSONS**

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ Book
- B. Wordless Book \_\_\_\_\_ Illusion
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ (from Creative Ministry Solutions)
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ as Object Lessons

**4. SPECIFIC BIBLE POINT REINFORCEMENTS**

- A. "Ten Commandment" \_\_\_\_\_
- B. "\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_" Game

**5. OTHER TEACHING TOOLS**

- A. \_\_\_\_\_:  
Substitute alphabet (F, V, M, W, B, and P.)  
("Fun With Ventriloquism" by Liz VonSeggen from creativemin.com)
- B. \_\_\_\_\_  
Darcie Maze at Amazehealingwings.com
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Character

## TEN COMMANDMENTS FINGER PLAY

1. **"Do not have other gods before me."** Hold up one index finger for the number one. We worship one God.
2. **"Do not worship idols."** Hold up two fingers. Should we worship more than one God? No, two is too many! One of them must be an idol, and we should not worship it! (Idols and false gods are not only things like statues, but anything we place ultimate trust and allegiance in, for example money or possessions.)
3. **"Do not misuse the name of the LORD your God."** Use three fingers to form the letter "W" which stands for "words." Watch your words! God wants us to use His name in loving caring ways as we pray and as we talk about Him, not in swearing or in anger.
4. **"Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy."** Hold up four fingers; fold your thumb under to let it rest. The thumb has the right idea. It's the Sabbath, and the thumb is following the commandment to take a day of rest.
5. **"Honor your father and mother."** Hold up all four fingers and thumb on one hand as if you are taking a pledge, to honor your parents.
6. **"Do not kill."** Pretend the index finger on your second hand is a gun, shooting at the other hand. God's sixth commandment teaches us not to do what has become too commonplace in society.
7. **"Do not commit adultery."** Hold one hand out flat. The entire hand becomes the floor of the church. Two fingers on the other hand are the man and the woman to be married, standing in the church, making promises to each other. This commandment calls for couples to keep the marriage promises they make.
8. **"Do not steal."** Hold up four fingers on each hand for the eighth commandment. If you stretch out your fingers slightly, these become prison bars, which hold someone who has been arrested for stealing.
9. **"Do not bear false witness against your neighbor."** Hold up all four fingers and thumb on one hand and four on the other. Fold your second thumb under and turn your hand around, so the thumb is hiding. It is secretly going around telling the other four fingers on that hand, lies and rumors about the other hand. It is "bearing false witness," as it talks behind people's backs, spreading gossip, criticizing others without talking directly to the people involved.
10. **"Do not covet."** Hold out your hands, palms up, and wiggle all your fingers to show that they've got the "gimmies." Your fingers are saying, "Gimme what belongs to my neighbor. I want all those things my neighbor has." This is not the way God wants us to live.

(Source unknown.)

## S-A-L-V-A-T-I-O-N INSTRUCTIONS (From creativemin.com)

Select nine people to come forward and hold up SALVATION cards.

Point to the cards and say, "Here we see the word 'salvation.' How do people try to obtain salvation?"

Turn the "A" card to show \$ and say, "Oh! Look here! If you give money to the poor then you will have salvation, right? Well, no. The Bible teaches us to help one another, and giving tithes and offerings is very important, but no one can buy salvation."

Turn the "V" card to show the picture of the Bible and say, "Oh, I see! If I read my Bible every day then I'll have salvation, right? Well no. Reading the Bible is important but just reading will not give you salvation."

Turn the "T" card to show the picture of the church and say, "Oh yes. You must be a member of a church to have salvation, right? Well no. Salvation is for everyone all around the world. Going to a church is very important, but just going to a church does not give you salvation."

Turn the "O" card to show the praying hands and say, "Oh, you must pray, then you will have salvation, right? Well no. Praying is very important but just saying a prayer will not give you salvation."

Collect the four picture cards and have those four helpers sit down. Then ask the other helpers to turn their cards around to form a new word, JESUS and say, "Oh! Here is the answer right here. JESUS is the only way to salvation" (John 14:6). Jesus said, "I AM the way, and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." He had to pay the price for our sin.

The Bible tells us in Romans 6:23, "The wages of sin is death" Have the helpers turn the cards around to show the word SLAIN and say, "Yes, Jesus was slain for our sin. He died in our place." Pick up the "L" card and hold it up from the others and say, "The "L" helps me remember that Jesus LOVED us so much that he would even die to give us salvation (John 3:16)." Now hold up the "A" card and say, "The "A" reminds us that we all need to ACCEPT the salvation that Jesus has for us". The next part of Romans 6:23 says, "...but the gift of God is eternal life."

Salvation is a free gift from God. Have those two helpers sit down, and point out that the three remaining letters spell SIN. Move them close together and say, "As you can see, in the middle of sin is 'I'. It is a small word, but it can get us in big trouble. When we say things like 'I want' instead of what God wants that will lead us right into the middle of SIN."

Pick up the "S" and the "N" cards and have those two helpers sit down. Explain that in heaven there are two lists: one of the people who are SAVED (show the "S" card), and another of those who are NOT SAVED (show the "N" card). Say, "Which list do you want to be on?" or "Who needs to be saved?" I need to be saved! Show the "I" card. Turn the "I" card around to show the letter "U" and say, "Yes, YOU too need to be saved in order to go to Heaven. Isn't it great to know that Jesus can give you the gift of salvation today, if only you will accept it?"