

HANDOUT – LESSON 10 PREPARING TO TEACH

[TEACH]ING THE TRUTH IN LOVE ...Eph. 4:15

This week I came across one of the best statements I have found concerning the teacher's preparation. The writer charged the teacher who would adequately prepare to attend to both "his heart-work and his homework."

"Heart-work," or love for God, God's word, and God's people is essential to proper preparation, but it is also essential to understand what that means and what it includes. No one has said it better than R. L. Whiteside:

Much is said about preaching the truth in love and so it should be preached. But in love of what? The preacher should so love the truth that he will not sacrifice any of it nor pervert it, and he should so love people that he will not withhold from them even one unpleasant truth. He that does either of these things loves neither the truth nor the people.

Martin Luther had earlier written:

If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the Devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved, and to be steady on all the battle front besides, is merely flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.

Read and understand both of these statements, and, if you would be the Lord's teacher when you stand before your class, commit to both of these statements and follow them fully.

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