

**THE TEACHING OF BIBLE
CLASSES, PRINCIPLES AND
METHODS; WITH SPECIAL
REFERENCE TO CLASSES OF
YOUNG MEN AND BOYS**

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The teaching of Bible classes, principles and methods; with special reference to classes of young men and boys by Edwin F. See

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EDWIN F. SEE

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PRINCIPLES AND METHODS**

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PRINCIPLES AND METHODS

With special reference to
Classes of Young Men and Boys

EDWIN F. SEE
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INTRODUCTION

In this book are presented the notes of a course of study pursued by classes of young men under the leadership of the writer for several seasons. The leaders of over fifty other classes in different parts of the United States and Canada have used these notes in manuscript or pamphlet form, and from them now comes the request for their publication.

No claim for originality is set up for the contents of this book. An effort has been made to assemble from a somewhat wide field of reading material on the principles and methods of teaching which seems to be within the range of the average teacher of Bible classes for men and boys.

These notes are intended then for the average teacher upon whom, under our present economy, dependence must be placed for the leadership of the largest number of our Bible classes. It is the purpose of this book to make a simple statement of the elementary principles of teaching in so far as they are applicable to biblical instruction. The writer has assumed to be a middleman between some of the writers of the extensive literature of the subject and some of those busy people who are charged with the important duty of teaching biblical truth to our young men and boys. For this reason a considerable number of Illustrative Quotations have been introduced, and while full references are made to the sources of the material here presented for the use of those who can and will take the time to read widely on the subject, these quotations are offered for those who have not the time to read them in their original setting. The writer hopes that he will not be regarded as reflecting too

severely on his own work in stating that he regards these quotations as the best part of the book.

The needs of teachers of Bible classes for young men and boys have been especially borne in mind. The emphasis has been naturally laid in books concerning religious instruction on the characteristics of childhood and early adolescence. This is the time of character forming, and attention to religious culture during this period is in the nature both of wise construction and prevention. Attempts to make up in later life for deficiencies of education at this period must be in the nature of the case more or less pathological and corrective. And yet there must be a psychology of later adolescence to which a larger degree of attention should be given than has been bestowed upon it for the sake of those who have not had wise training in earlier years. In the selection of material for this book, this need has been kept in the foreground.

One of the crying necessities of the Church and its allied organizations to-day is for trained Bible teachers. The training has a twofold aspect, looking towards a larger grasp of the subject and a better method. Such training should be marked by an endeavor to furnish comprehensive, historic, biblical knowledge, and by an endeavor to inculcate approved methods of conveying this knowledge to others. These two elements by the plan here proposed are carried along at the same time in a training class of teachers who devote a portion of the lesson period to a study of the principles and methods of teaching as outlined in these pages, and another portion to the study of a common Bible lesson which is to be taught by them during the ensuing week to classes of which they themselves are teachers. By this method the members of the training class are not only prepared to teach an individual lesson, but are familiarized with the principles which will help them in the instruction of any lesson.