

## GENERAL ENCOURAGEMENTS for AWANA Volunteers

*This Section will be primarily a repeat of the Encouragements Section found on the first page of the Children's Ministry part of this website. From time to time there may be a few things appear here that are different because they primarily have to do with AWANA Volunteers, but for the most part if you have seen and read the Encouragements for Kids Connection Teachers, then you have read what is here.....*

To teach God's Word to children is a high calling. God cares for children and desires that we teach them about Him and His ways. **Surely the Lord Jesus treasures the sacrifices of those who teach** little ones. The secular world does not take much note of these types of roles and even the very children that teachers serve or their parents may not fully appreciate what Godly teachers do, but the Lord Jesus knows and sees....

All teachers from time to time feel a little discouraged or forget what an awesome privilege and responsibility it is to teach of God to youngsters. Sometimes we feel overwhelmed by the task or not up to it or undone by other things outside the classroom. We can easily forget teaching is something we cannot do in our own strength well, but **through the power of His Spirit, both working in our lives and speaking into the hearts of children, even on days when we feel we have failed to hit the mark we can know that God is in control.** He will not allow His Word to return to Him void. He loves us just as we are and He knows and loves the children we serve even more than we do. He is there to help us, guide us, and when we need it He comforts us.

**Teachers can also help one another** by banding together in fellowship, by lifting each other up in prayer and supporting each other through community.

Like the *Ideas* section, the desire here is to provide teachers with some general encouragements to help provide focus, but also to give a fluid forum for an occasional "shot in the arm", so to speak. **Check out the second pdf file (*Forum for Encouragements*) now and then for any new additions** when you might be feeling you could use a good pick-me-up, a refocusing, or maybe just a good laugh. **We'll try to put up new verses, thoughts, jokes, anecdotes and articles of interest, book titles, other resources or occasional stories from time to time just for your well-being.** If you have favorites or come across any you think others would benefit by reading, please pass them along to Louise Grider to post on this file. Enjoy!

**Format**

**General Encouragements (this file)**

**Forum for Encouragements—  
[ verses, thoughts, jokes, anecdotes, articles, book titles, stories, etc. ]  
Go to next file**

*From Notes on Teaching--General Encouragements*

***Teaching is a Spiritual Calling***

**Teaching is a high calling**

***Children Are Important to God***

God, the Father values children (Deut. 6)  
Jesus values children (story of Jesus blessing children)  
Children are a mission field  
Children are the future of the Church and the World

***God Has Sent His Spirit to Guide Us in All Things, Particularly in What  
to Say about Him***

See John 14: 16-18; John 16: 13-15; John 17:26, 27

***Submitted by Louise Grider  
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