

Developing Biblical Literacy in Students

Eran Holt & Andy Lynn

Summary

This video discusses strategies to develop biblical literacy among youth. Key points include understanding different learning styles, employing various teaching methods beyond lectures, facilitating student engagement through activities like group discussions and student-led teaching, and utilizing diverse resources. The goal is to help students not just acquire knowledge but apply biblical teachings to their lives. Practical tips are provided, such as teaching verse-by-verse, explaining different biblical genres, challenging students with assignments, celebrating their achievements, and leveraging existing content from resources like The Bible Project and the YouVersion app.

Main Points

Introduction and Defining Terms

The speakers introduce themselves and the topic of developing biblical literacy for students. They define biblical literacy as the ability to read and understand the Bible and biblical fluency as applying biblical teachings to one's life. The term 'pedagogy' is also explained as the study of how someone learns.

Learning Styles and Teaching Methods

Eran and Andy discuss different learning styles and the effectiveness of various teaching methods. A pyramid chart is presented, showing that lectures and sermons have a low retention rate (5%), while interactive methods like group discussions (50%), practice (75%), and teaching others (90%) are more effective. The importance of employing multiple teaching methods is emphasized.

Shifting from a Lecture-Based to a Student-Centered Approach

The speakers propose shifting from the traditional lecture-based approach to a more student-centered one. Instead of preparing a complete 'meal' (sermon) for students to consume, the new approach involves providing ingredients (Bible passages and study tools) and facilitating students to discover and apply the teachings themselves. This method is described as more effective but also more challenging to prepare.

Practical Tips for Developing Biblical Literacy

Several practical tips are provided, including teaching verse-by-verse to model how to read the Bible in context, explaining different biblical genres, challenging students with assignments and response activities, celebrating their achievements in understanding and applying the Bible, and utilizing existing resources like video content, devotionals, and apps.

Action Items

- Lean towards verse-by-verse teaching to help students learn how to read the Bible in context.
- Explain how to read various biblical genres (e.g., Psalms, epistles, narratives, prophecy) when preaching or teaching from those genres.
- Challenge students with assignments or response activities, such as reading passages and writing their understanding or application.
- Celebrate and highlight when students demonstrate biblical literacy or share how a passage encouraged or impacted them.
- Utilize existing resources like video content (e.g., The Bible Project), devotionals (e.g., YouVersion app), and discussion guides (e.g., Feed.Bible) to supplement teaching and engage students in different ways.