

# LEARNING STYLES *and* TEACHING METHODS

## STYLE: NATURAL

### LEARNERS...

- ...can identify elements in nature
- ...relate well to creation stories
- ...like to explore the natural world
- ...relate well to God's creation

**BIBLICAL MODEL:** David – spent a great deal of time in nature

## TEACHING METHODS

collect or display items from nature; conduct a nature walk; sort items from nature; observe items from nature; discuss protection of God's world; reflect on creation and the Creator; plant and cultivate

## STYLE: PHYSICAL

### LEARNERS...

- ...enjoy activity and active people
- ...are often well-coordinated
- ...like to act out stories they hear
- ...like mission projects / sports / dramatic activities

**BIBLICAL MODEL:** Ezekiel – acted out many prophecies

## TEACHING METHODS

engage in art activities; arrange the room for various activities; games; songs with motions; do Biblical simulations; role play; skits

## STYLE: REFLECTIVE

### LEARNERS...

- ...understand who they are and how they feel
- ...may prefer to work alone
- ...seek ways of self-expression
- ...are comfortable with solitude

### BIBLICAL MODEL:

Mary – solitude “pondered these things in her heart”

## TEACHING METHODS

lecture; case study; question and answer; discussion; written tests; worksheets and study guides; open-ended sentences; opinionnaire; attitude scale; creative writing; diary or journal; listening to music; listening guides

## STYLE: VISUAL

### LEARNERS...

- ...see with their imaginations as well as in concrete ways
- ...understand space and distance concepts easily
- ...relate well to videos, visuals, other presentations of reality

### BIBLICAL MODEL:

John – used imagery in gospel and epistles

## TEACHING METHODS

videos and movie clips; posters; charts; maps; paintings; object lessons; collage; wire or paper sculpture; graffiti; watching drama; art activities; visualizing; questions that ask, “what if...”; drawing diagrams

## STYLE: VERBAL

### **LEARNERS...**

- ...enjoy giving speeches, debates, stories, poems, essays
- ...learn best thru use of words: reading, writing, listening
- ...may have large vocabularies
- ...like word games

**BIBLICAL MODEL:** Solomon – wisdom and words

### TEACHING METHODS

lecture; question and answer; brainstorming; case study; written tests; worksheets and study guides; notebook; open-ended sentences; paraphrase of scripture; headlines; news story; creative writing; outline; word study; diary or journal; quotations; recordings; resource persons; listening guides; listening teams; personal sharing or testimony; oral reading (choral, responsive, dramatic); storytelling; circular response; debate; interview; panel; graffiti; singing; writing words for songs; Biblical simulation; dialogue; skit; writing drama; games

## STYLE: RELATIONAL

### **LEARNERS...**

- ...are highly social
- ...make friends easily
- ...may be good talkers
- ...recognize how others feel
- ...are drawn to activities that involve other people

**BIBLICAL MODEL:** Barnabas - Encourager

### TEACHING METHODS

case study; small groups; personal sharing/testimonies; storytelling; circular response; debate; interview; discussion; panel; symposium; Biblical simulation; dialogue; role play; question and answer; skit; games; brainstorming; videos, movie clips; illustrations; problem-solving that depends on working with others

## STYLE: MUSICAL

### **LEARNERS...**

- ...are often good listeners
- ...are sensitive to rhythm and pitch
- ...like to sing & listen to music – may move to the music
- ...like to write songs & music

**BIBLICAL MODEL:** David – lover of music

### TEACHING METHODS

creative writing (e.g., words for well-known hymns); recordings; singing; music forum; finding hymns that reflect the focus of the lesson; comparing words of hymns to scripture; listening to recorded music with an assignment in mind; live musical performance

## STYLE: LOGICAL

### **LEARNERS...**

- ...like to solve problems
- ...see patterns in the world
- ...can reason thru problems
- ...rely heavily on analogies
- ...like working with abstractions
- ...enjoy puzzles and games

**BIBLICAL MODEL:** Paul – note sentence structure in his letters

### TEACHING METHODS

lecture; written test; worksheets and study guides; notebook; outline; word study; statistics; debate; panel; inductive questions; questions that help discern relationships