**Teaching Techniques**

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**OBSERVATIONS: Teaching Techniques Chapter 8**

**Understanding Psychology**

**Psychology is the Systematic, Scientific Study of Behaviors and Mental Processes**

**Psychology is the Study of What Makes Humans Tick. (Isaiah 55:8)**

**The; *who, what, where, when, why, and how***

* **First**, psychology deals with behavior. It is the study of a person’s observable actions or responses
* **Secondly,** it deals with the mental processes or what goes on in a person’s mind such as thinking, planning, and imagination.
* **Thirdly,** psychology is the study of the psyche. Psychology comes from two different words- Psyche and Logos.
1. Psyche refers to the individual
2. Logos means Word. (John 1:14)
* ***Therefore, psychology is the word of the psyche, or the study of the individual.***
* **Psychology has four Goals:**
1. To describe that organisms, behave in certain ways; Humans, plants and animals behave in certain ways
2. To explain the causes of that behavior
3. To predict future behavior
4. To control behavior

**Psychological Goals vs. Spiritual Truth:**

Describe behavior Born into Sin (Romans 5:12) Explain behavior Sinful by nature (Romans 6:23) Predict future behavior Become a new creature (2 Cor. 5:17) Control behavior Work of the Holy Spirit (John 16:13)

***Psychology is an attempt to help us understand people better. It is not above scripture, but when properly understood, it gives us valuable tools that enhance our teaching efforts. However, we as Christians have an advantage over psychology, when we repent and accept Christ as Savior, our behavior changes as we are given the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to us into new truth. Amen.***

**Seven Specific Aspects of Psychology: (***see page 52 Teaching Techniques for further clarification and definitions***)**

* **Psychobiological Psychology**
* **Cognitive Psychology**
* **Behavioral Psychology**
* **Psychoanalytic Psychology**
* **Humanistic Psychology**
* **Cross-Cultural Psychology**
* **Eclectic Psychology**

**Know the differences:**

* **Psychologist;** A psychologist is trained in the fields of education and psychology. The training deals with some of the areas of psychology such as cognitive development (how people learn), classroom management, methods of teaching, etc. The psychological aspect of training revolves around understanding how the mind and brain function.
* **Clinical Psychologist;** A clinical has an advanced education in psychology with an emphasis on diagnosing and treating abnormal behavior.
* **Psychiatrist;** Is trained in psychiatry along with medical training. A psychiatrist may prescribe medicine while a psychologist cannot.

**Various Fields of Specialization with Psychology: (***see pg. 54 for definitions and clarifications)*

* **Social Psychology**
* **Personality Psychology**
* **Developmental Psychology**
* **Experimental Psychology**
* **Psychometrics**

**Psychology overlaps with various other subjects, to name a few, when linked to psychology, enhances understanding: (***see pg.55 for definitions and clarification***)**

* **Philosophy**
* **Religion**
* **Physiology**
* **Anthropology**
* **Sociology**

**The point of all of this: you cannot and do not fully understand individuals by only looking at one aspect of their life. Understanding Individuals involves being aware of some basic psychological principles and factors, such as:**

* A Persons behavior is fickle,which means it’s not always predictable.
* Understanding a person’s behavior involves knowing things like:
1. Sense organ, or parts of a human’s make-up that are not observable, and
2. Visceral organs, or parts of a human’s make-up that are not observable, such as feelings.
* The relationship between the brain and the body:
1. Are men and women different in which side of the brain they use?
2. Is it really possible to be left-brained or right brained?
* Heredity elements play a role.
* Environmental elements also affect a person. These include:
1. Physical environment
2. Cultural environment
* The actions of others, such as peer pressure, influence and shape individuals.

**In reality, each of these interacts with the others in giving a better understanding of a human being. It must be understood that humans should be understood as a whole person, not just in individual parts.**

**Note:** **Remember the Journalistic Questions**: ***who, what, where, when, why, and how***