

EQUIPPED to INNOVATE

Lessons from the Master Teacher

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“GREAT WAS ITS FALL...”

“The wise man built his house upon the rock...”

- ▶ Matthew 7:24-27, the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount
 - Ideas connected to common experience...

 - With knowledge of the learners...

 - Presented in memorable ways...

 - Motivated by love

CONNECTING TO COMMON EXPERIENCE

- ▶ The power of patterns
 - The “cement of memory” (Willis)

 - The entryway for critical thinking (Willingham)

 - The foundation of creativity (Carson)

- ▶ The role of reference points

“[Metaphors are] a way of extending knowledge by looking at one thing in terms of another. Being accustomed to thinking in terms of a certain metaphor or group of metaphors can focus our attention in particular ways...They appeal not only to our knowledge of the typical properties of the things referred to, but also to our experience.” (Smith & Shortt, 104, 118)

KNOWING (TODAY'S) LEARNER

- ▶ Tech native but naive

- ▶ Value experience with vision and mission
 - Quick to question

- ▶ Value group dynamics

- ▶ Respect that is shown is reciprocated

MAKING MATERIAL MEMORABLE (INCREASING THOUGHT)

- ▶ Use questions to prime learning (Freeman & Robinson)
 - Examples
 - What made the American Revolution revolutionary?
 - Why do teeth have different shapes?
 - How can a story about a man who ascends to the throne be considered a tragedy?

- ▶ Provoke questions

- ▶ Introduce mystery

- ▶ Initiate conceptual conflict

- ▶ Include comprehension (labeling & sorting) and elaboration (blending the new and the known) activities

- ▶ Engage retrieval networks

DRIVEN BY LOVE FOR EACH STUDENT

- ▶ “The only good teachers for you are those friends who love you, who think you are interesting, or very important, or wonderfully funny; whose attitude is: ‘Tell me more. Tell me all you can. I want to understand more about you...’” (Ueland, 4).

- ▶ Love directs its teaching to the whole person, not just the mind

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