

the fine detailed points, explaining exact verse by verse. These same methods he passed on to us & encouraged us to use them when teaching others.

38. ANOTHER TECHNIQUE WHICH HE FOUND TO BE VERY EFFECTIVE WHICH HE LEARNED THROUGH YEARS OF GOING TO CHURCHES & listening to sermons by lots & lots of preachers was that of telling jokes & funny stories. He always said that the best preachers in the world were not those who had big educations but the ones who were the best story-tellers, who could tell stories about real life & real events & experiences that happened to them. He would use many stories from Grandmother's life & his early years & her testimony in his lessons & things which he taught us, & he also liked to use a lot of jokes because he knew that one thing the church people really paid attention to was jokes. He said,

39. "MOST EVERY SERMON & PREACHER I EVER HEARD ALWAYS STARTED HIS SERMON WITH A JOKE until I had a whole notebook full of jokes told by preachers over the years." Sometimes he would use jokes which would catch people off guard & make sure they were paying attention. He would tell the joke which would illustrate a particular point he was teaching.

40. HE TOLD THE JOKE ABOUT THE PREACHER WHO ASKED THE CONGREGATION at the end of his sermon when he was calling for the decision, "How many of you want to go to Heaven?" & everyone raised their hand. Then a drunk cowboy stood up in the back of the church & staggered to the front & said to the preacher, "Now preacher, you don't know how to ask that question right! Let me ask that question again." And he pulled out his two big six guns out of their holsters

& pointed'm at the audience & said, "NOW, how many of you wanna go to Heaven?" & not a soul raised their hand!

41. TO HOLD PEOPLE'S ATTENTION HE WOULD OFTEN START A JOKE OR A STORY & THEN NOT FINISH IT & GO ON WITH THE REST OF THE LESSON LIKE HE GOT TO FINISH THE JOKE & everybody would be wondering what happened & when he was going to tell the rest of the story, but he would go on teaching the lesson. Then someone would ask, "What happened? What happened?" And he would say,

42. "REMINDS ME OF THE STORY-- HERE I GO AGAIN--ABOUT THE ROMAN SENATOR, who was droning on about the calamities of the falling Empire, when he noticed that everybody was going to sleep, so he stopped & started telling a story about a donkey. Immediately everybody woke up & started listening. Then suddenly he stopped right in the middle of the story, & went on telling about how Rome was falling down around their ears--& they all began to howl, 'Finish the story about the donkey!' He looked at them gravely, & said, 'I was telling you about the collapse of our Empire, & you'd rather hear a story about a donkey!' Well, that's just human nature; everybody loves a story, & Jesus & Paul & all the other great preachers I ever heard of loved to tell stories, because they always get folks' attention!

43. "IN FACT, THE GREATEST PREACHERS WERE ALWAYS THE GREATEST STORY-TELLERS! We're all like little children, & we've gotta be drawn a picture to understand the point--& I'm so full of stories, they're always popping out to illustrate something that just fits the picture, so I hope you'll forgive me, but I just can't help it! So there now I've just given you an illustration to illustrate the illus-

tration! Ha! PTL!" (55:68--MO)

44. HE LOVED TO KEEP PEOPLE IN SUSPENSE, WONDERING WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT SO THEY'D REALLY BE LISTENING. Sometimes he'd tell them, "I'm going to tell you a shocking revelation, I'm going to tell you a shocking statement," & then he'd go on talking & talking & talking, & then everybody would be waiting for the shocking new truth & they'd tune in through all the rest of the lesson. (See "The Easter Story" No. 972 paragraph 27 for the shocking announcement, & paragraph 261 for the answer.) Then maybe sometimes half an hour later or at the end of the whole sermon he would finish the story & say, "See? You thought I forgot, didn't you? But I didn't forget, I just wanted to make sure you were paying attention!"

45. AND OF COURSE WHEN DAD WAS TELLING THESE JOKES EMPHASISING A PARTICULAR PERSON HE WOULD ALWAYS DO GOOD IMITATIONS OF THEIR VOICES, like the Catholics & the Jews & cowboys & Indians & things like that. Acting out the story being told or the verse being read so that you really got into it like watching television, watching a movie, you would be totally wrapped up in what was being said & taught & not drifting off or going to sleep or your mind wandering. It's so much like Dad emphasised in the Letter, "Glamour or Glory" (No. 328). There're different ways to present the same lesson, like the actor who quoted the 23rd Psalm & the poor old preacher who quoted the 23rd Psalm, & the different result that each method got.

46. SO I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO KEEP SOME OF THESE SPECIFIC

POINTS & METHODS IN MIND WHEN DELIVERING THESE PRICELESS WONDER WORKING WORDS TO OTHERS straight from the MO Letters & from the MO Books, because if they're read in a dead, unexciting, uninspiring, unbelieving spirit they're not going to communicate life & belief & faith as effectively as if they are shared & delivered with power & force & emphasis & are really alive. (AMEN!)

47. YOU SHOULD REALLY PRAY WHEN YOU SHARE THESE LESSONS WITH YOUR FAMILY, with your children, when you have Communion, when you read the MO Letters together, that you really make it come alive for them, that you share it with them in a live & invigorating & on-fire way so that they just don't go to sleep or drift away in their mind thinking about something else when you're having Communion or you're teaching them a Bible Prophecy class, but that you read that MO Letter with conviction & power & ask God to make it be alive for them & give you the same power & anointing to pass it on that it was originally given in! So I pray that these points can be a blessing & a help to you. (AMEN! GAY!)

With love, Ho

"PLEASE READ ALL MO LETTERS SLOWLY & WITH THE EXPRESSION & SPIRIT WHICH YOU HAVE CAUGHT FROM THEM through private prayerful pre-reading before reading them publicly. This is a must--to read them in the same Spirit in which they were given! They are the gun & ammunition, but the guy using them has got to know how to shoot!" (AMEN!) (143A:156--MO. Please read it all!)

BIBLE STUDIES WITH DAD!--Part 2--By Hosea David
--Chapter Six of "Our Family History":
--Note-taking, Bible-marking & Tests!



"THE LEADER HAS TO BE THINKING, PRAYING, PLANNING, & DECIDING ALL THE TIME, at least one jump ahead of the rest, so he'll know what to tell'm to do next. If he doesn't, he'll be like the teacher who tries to get up & teach a lesson without having studied it himself first--& you know what a mess you can make of that! Study time is not only reading time, but listening to God time also...Before you, the shepherd, go before your little sheep to guide them, you should know where you're going. You should come from the very presence of God speaking as the oracles of God, from a full heart! PTL!

"THROUGH HIS TIME OF PRAYER & STUDY, PREFERABLY ALONE--I personally find the night watches, when everyone else is sleeping, & you can hear God clearly, with-

out distraction, very productive for this--he should be full of his subject in both heart & head, & if so, he may not even have to use notes, although those can be helpful & there's no reason why God can't inspire you in advance, & give you ideas & thoughts to jot down, to pass on to your people later...For them (your sheep) you should prepare & feed them from a well-stocked larder of study, prayer, & experience, along with a few good notes to remind you what to say if necessary, so you won't miss anything, or forget something that God told you to tell them.

"IF YOU'RE TEACHING DIRECTLY FROM A SCRIPTURE TEXT, which you've previously studied & prayed over, the text itself may be sufficient to remind you of the thoughts God gave you on it; but you'd best jot

them down, or circle a key word here or there, underline, or write a word or two in the margin to remind you. This is what I usually do when I'm teaching Bible passages--& the best notes are kept in the margin of your Bible, which you're not likely to lose. Other notes can get lost or come & go, but God's Word goes on forever." (62:6-8--MO)

1. IN BIBLE STUDIES, CLASSES & DEVOTIONS DAD ALWAYS ENCOURAGED US TO BRING OUR BIBLES. If we came to class without our Bible, pen & notebook he would send us back to get them again & just wait to begin. And in churches some of his first questions were to ask the congregation how many people brought their Bibles. Not only would he ask the question but he would ask them to please hold up their Bibles. And he'd say, "I don't mean a Gospel of John, I mean how many of you have the whole Bible with you?"

2. AND THEN HE WOULD EMPHASISE THE IMPORTANCE OF PEOPLE BRINGING THEIR BIBLES WITH THEM when they come to a meeting, whether it was to a little family Bible study or whether it was to a church meeting because he said they should be looking up the verses & following along in the lessons & not just expecting the pastor to spoon-feed them.

3. IF HE HAD A CHALK BOARD HE WOULD WRITE OUT THE KEY SENTENCES, THE KEY WORDS & THE KEY VERSES & he would have us copy them off into our notebooks. He'd ask us, "Now has everybody got this copied & then I'll erase it & I'll put on something else." So we knew we had better copy it down as quickly as we could because in a few minutes when he finished covering it he was going to rub it all out & we would miss it, & later on when we knew that the tests were coming we would not have the information to study & review if we did not

learn notes, so he always encouraged us to take notes, & he said, 4. "THE BEST NOTES ARE ALWAYS KEPT IN YOUR BIBLE." Your notebook paper you can lose, your sheets of paper & little cards you can lose, but your Bible is something that you usually hang on to better than anything else", he said.

5. AS A TEENAGER I REMEMBER SEEING HIS BIBLE WHICH HE HAD HAD SINCE HE WAS A TEENAGER which was more than 20 years old & he'd had to have it rebound 4 or 5 times because he had worn the covers out through his diligent use & study of it. I remember borrowing his Bible to go through & copy out the notes & lessons from different books of the Bible because it was all so clearly marked that I could just sit down & have the lesson myself by just reading over all the verses that he marked & copying them over into my own Bible.

6. HE USED A SPECIAL SYSTEM OF MARGINAL MARKINGS WITH CODE SYMBOLS THAT I ALSO FOUND TO BE VERY GOOD & USEFUL & have continued using it in marking my Bible & now even my MO Letters for years. It's a system of marking which he developed as a teenager in marking his Bible.

7. HE WOULD NOT JUST UNDERLINE EVERYTHING IN A COLOURED PEN OR HIGHLIGHTER, we didn't even have highlighters then, but he used a system of marking that he could follow through with whether he had a pen or a pencil or whether the pen was blue or red or whatever. His markings & code did not have to depend upon the colour of his pens or pencils. And when I later tried other systems using coloured pens & pencils, I found them to be awkward because you couldn't mark your Bible if you didn't have a whole handful of specially coloured pens, & if you were missing one