



EQUIPPING U

THE INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION/JULY 2012

The B-I-B-L-E

Kimberly von Oeyen

“Yes, that’s the book for me.” As a child I sang that chorus in Sunday School with great delight and gusto, not realizing how foundational the truth I was singing was for my life.

“I STAND ALONE ON THE WORD OF GOD”

Oh, that I had stood alone on the word of God. But lies about God, myself, sin, priorities, and circumstances seeped in and invaded my mind while I wasn’t even looking. Perhaps, that was the problem.

Romans 12:2 ESV instructs believers, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Standing alone on the word of God doesn’t happen naturally. We must actively renew our mind by embracing and believing the written word of God, the B-I-B-L-E.



Communicating the Gospel Effectively

adapted from Mary Smith’s ICEA Workshop

The Gospel of Jesus Christ, the power of God for salvation to all who believe. Jesus left his disciples with an important mandate when he commissioned them to “Go...make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the

Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20 ESV)

Jesus had been given “all authority



TEACHING TIP. Plan a time of movement in your classroom. Otherwise kids may be squirming in their seats during the time when you really want them to sit quietly and focus.



TEACHING TIP. Consider using tables. They allow students to have easy access to their Bibles and can be a great help for people who need extra help sitting or standing.



TEACHING TIP. Visual aids can be a powerful tool, especially when teaching children. They harness focus and allow another sense to take in the information.

on heaven and in earth,” and in that authority he was commissioning his disciples to make disciples. The mandate was clear then, and the same mandate is ours today.

We, too, are to make disciples of all nations by being ambassadors—servants of the gospel message.

Christ died for our sins... was buried... was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures

This message of forgiveness of sins, no condemnation, and life in Christ Jesus is glorious because it is the power of God for salvation.

No condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus!

To effectively communicate the gospel we need to understand not only the mandate and the message, but also the kind of messengers who put the gospel on display.

This ABC method helps us understand the characteristics of effective messengers of God.

A - Attitude of humility. Effective communicators of the gospel are broken before God. When we recognize how Christ rescued us, we'll desire to share Him with others.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Mary Smith

ICEA is a volunteer staffed ministry, and each month Equipping U will highlight and honor one of these faithful servants of God.

A dynamic ICEA Workshop leader, Mary Smith has a deep love and gift for equipping others to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Mary, we thank you for your generous heart, transforming teaching, and faithful service.

B - Blameless lifestyle. Servants of the gospel live a growing life, free from hidden sin and deceit, not a hypocritical life.

C - Clarity of speech. God's ambassadors explain difficult concepts simply so people can understand their need and Christ's offer.

Living the ABC's in the power of the Holy Spirit, while embracing the mandate and message of Jesus, will enable us to effectively share the gospel to a spiritually hungry world.

FROM THE EDITOR

I was delighted to hear from many of you how much you enjoyed the inaugural issue of Equipping U. I pray that each issue will encourage your faith and glorify God in ways I could never imagine.



How encouraged I am by Mary to remember my ABC's and faithfully share the gospel of Christ as God provides opportunities. May many come to know Christ this summer through our witness.

Serving with U,

Kimberly von Oeyen
EquippingU@iceaOnline.org

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Request a free monthly electronic subscription by
e-mailing EquippingU@iceaOnline.org

CONTRIBUTORS

Mary Smith & Kimberly von Oeyen

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