

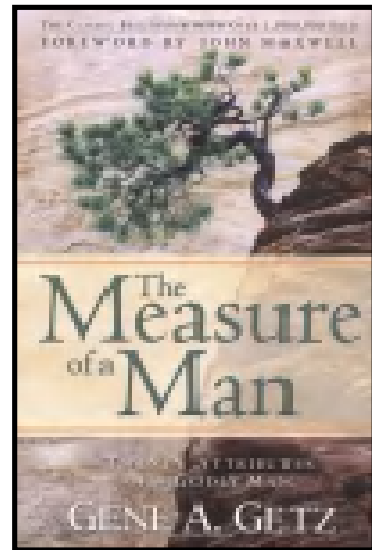
The Measure of a Man, “Able to Teach”

By Gene Getz

Both teaching and being taught is beneficial; the “teacher” may often express that they invariably learn by teaching. The “quality” of teaching is described as a combination of **communication, sensitivity, patience, temperance, and understanding**. Perhaps other qualities could be applied to teaching, but these are a few...

Well, before I get to conclusive, may I offer another quality? The quality of **prudence** or good judgment is one that comes to mind. In this quality is reserve and restraint from impulsively *jumping* into the fray of an argument or conflict. They prefer to try to reason and, if possible, to be at peace with others. Conflicts are certain – but the course should be to work-out the issues rather than heighten the affair to some unresolved altitude.

Returning to understanding – to include the audience or students – the teacher clearly holds to some convictions as well. In other words, the teacher is not patsy who gives way to every issue or contradiction; but instead, a student himself who attempts to understand – to listen, learn and reason.



The audience may have much effect on the teacher’s methods and delivery. A group that wants to learn makes it easier for the teacher; the group that does not however...

Besides the want is the base or depth of present understanding; that is, how much do they know? Again, the teacher must use understanding to comprehend this base and *go from there*...

Teachers of spiritual truths have other problems or issues to face. The spiritual maturity or growth of the group is very important. To the extreme, the group may be hostile toward spiritual truth...or they may be figuratively blind to the knowledge and truth of God’s word. Paul, of the New Testament, faced such circumstances in his mentoring and guidance of church bodies.

In the spiritual realm, teaching is a gift. This gift has a supernatural work, an implanted desire; the desire to understand the scriptures – but to seek to understand them through the inspiration that leads to study and application. Above all is the desire to see others grow in faith through prayer, study and obedience.