

Seven Laws of the Teacher – Part 6: Encouragement

Howard Hendricks

I. Introduction.

- A. The number one problem in education today is overcoming initial inertia.
- B. To overcome this, you must install an internal motivator.
- C. It is far more important to determine a student's motivational quotient (MQ) than his IQ.

II. Definitions.

A. The law.

- 1. Teaching tends to be most effective when the student is properly motivated.
 - a. There are many negative forms of motivation.

B. A motive.

- 1. That which is in the individual that causes him to act.
- 2. Two types.
 - a. Extrinsic.
 - 1) Comes from without.
 - b. Intrinsic.
 - 1) Emanates from within.
 - 2) The more significant form.
 - 3) The goal is to make students self starters
 - 4) As teachers the only place you can work is outside the student.
 - c. Examples.
- 3. Students need to be challenged.

III. Tools for your motivational toolbox.

A. You motivate a person by creating a need.

- 1. The Scriptures.

2. Experience.

B. You motivate by developing responsibility with accountability.

1. The greater the investment, the greater the interest.

2. Students need responsibility.

3. It is better to have students lose in the learning environment and win in the real world.

C. You motivate people by structured experience.

1. Four stages.

a. Telling.

1) Where possible, put it down on writing and on tape.

b. Showing.

1) People need to see it.

c. Doing under a controlled situation.

d. Doing under a real life situation.

1) It must be translated into real life.

2) Letting the student act.

D. You motivate by intensifying personal relationships.

1. Some of the best motivators are people outside the classroom because they are willing to flow into the life of the student.

E. You motivate by providing recognition and approval.

1. This can be the most transformational part of teaching.

IV. Conclusion.

A. Everyone can be a motivator, but not at the same time.

B. Timing is crucial.

C. Patience is needed.

D. People are needed who burn.

Application questions:

1. Why is intrinsic motivation so essential to learning? What are some of the things the speaker suggested for developing this kind of this?

2. Which of the five tools suggested by the speaker stood out to you the most? Explain.

3. Develop a plan to become a motivational teacher in the lives of your students. What are the greatest challenges that you may have to overcome?
