

Good Judgment

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. James 1:5

Wisdom is before him that hath understanding; but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth.
Proverbs 17:24

Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.
Proverbs 4:5

Every moment of the school day a teacher is making judgment calls that need the wisdom of God and counsel with other professionals. We must fully understand the situation in order to discern the correct judgment call. My professor, Dr. Blacketer, encouraged us to take our time, to think about it and not feel we must make snap, impulsive decisions. He said to hold “pressing people” off by letting them know you are working on it and will let them know. Some things need immediate attention, but other important decisions can wait.

Glen was an 8th grade student that was always disturbing other students as they worked, the class cut-up. He was pleasant enough, but caused a lot of ruckus and problems. After many weeks of trying a lot of different ways to solve the problem we decided to remove him from class for a couple weeks in an in-house suspension. Our room was next to the janitor’s boiler room. We spoke to the janitor and he agreed to help us. Glen liked the idea at first. As the weeks wore on he kept asking when he could return to class. A new girl was also placed in our classroom which added to the attraction to return. Glen returned a changed guy.

Another student began acting out a lot. Glen said, I think it is time for him to have a couple weeks in the boiler room to think about the way he is acting!

We need time to think about our future actions. Perhaps we don’t need two weeks, but time to find the answer that God is trying to communicate to us.

“God’s love has been expressed in His justice no less than in His mercy. Justice is the foundation of His throne and the fruit of His love. It had been Satan’s purpose to divorce mercy from truth and justice. He sought to prove that the righteousness of God’s law is an enemy to peace. But Christ shows that in God’s plan they are indissolubly joined together; the one cannot exist without the other. “Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Psalm 85:10” The Desire of Ages, by Ellen G. White, pp. 753,754

He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God: Micah 6:8

Discipline VS Punishment

Logical, reasonable, restorative, loving, consistent, supervised follow through, safe.