

The Art of Learning

Now I am sensitive to the need for each of us to make learning a life-long goal. As Hebrews 5:12-14 says, we need to be mature people who can handle solid food and who “have trained themselves.”

We need to continually challenge each other as missionaries to develop the habit of teaching ourselves, and being in fellowship and studies in which we can continue to learn. Three steps can help each of us ensure that we never stop learning.

Step One: Changing our attitude.

We must develop a desire to improve and grow personally. Then we need to believe that learning can be fun. If you don't have these attitudes, why not ask God each day for the next month to give them to you?

Step Two: Finding sources of good information.

I subscribe to journals and special services that highlight the “best of the best” in the fields of knowledge where I'd like to grow. In addition, I regularly ask people for recommendations of excellent materials. Here are some of my favorite sources:

- *Current Thoughts and Trends* is a monthly summary of the best from Christian and secular periodicals (Nav Press, 1-800-288-2028).
- *Fast Track* summarizes the best business books on cassette tape (1-800-232-4323).
- The *Leadership Resources* catalog from the Charles E. Fuller Institute offers excellent books on leadership, personal growth, finance, marriage, evangelism, and church ministry (1-800-999-9578).
- *Operation World* is one of the best mission resources ever published. Call us for a free copy of the brand new edition.

Step Three: Doing something with what we learn.

It can actually be fun to apply what you learn and pass it on to others. And any instructor will tell you that the things they learn best are those they teach.

Whether it's with friends or family members, or in a formal setting in your church, find avenues for passing on the exciting truths you gain on your journey of self-learning.

I am confident that the Holy Spirit of God will guide you as you seek to grow. He will use you to be an ever more powerful tool for the expansion of His Kingdom.

Adapted by Doug Nichols from a general outline by Mark K. Dyer, President of International Teams/USA