

Engage your class members.

Two rules of thumb:

1. The teacher should talk half of the time. If you add up all the time the members of the class speak the total minutes should equal the total minutes the teacher spoke.
2. Members of the class ideally should speak the same amount of time as the other members. Do not allow one member to dominate.

No one lives a truth just told to them. It is important for members to discover Bible Truths for themselves. When they discover them, they are more likely to apply them to their lives. Our goal as teachers is not to teach them the things Christ Taught, but to teach them to live or observe the things Christ Taught. Carefully read Matthew 28:19-20.

So by having all members to engage and participate, you have a better chance that they will discover new truth for themselves rather than just be told a truth. Our ultimate goal is to get them to live the gospel. Lead them to discuss. This means that you will need to spend time writing out good questions that will spark discussion and life application.

Likewise we want everyone to participate evenly. If someone dominates, it will bore some of the class members. From time to time do a question where you ask everyone to share. If someone doesn't ever share, you might have to be more direct, but gentle in asking them a question that there isn't a right or wrong answer (more of an opinion). Make sure it is something they know something about. Again be careful.

Enlighten you class Members.

As Bill Hybels says it, "Move me, scare me, anger me, frighten me, but don't leave like I was when I walked through those doors."

You need to have something in every lesson that grabs their attention. Create interest in the lesson with a current event, pithy saying or a question that makes them think. Share something that they didn't know about the Bible passage and then lead them to apply the passage to life. If they suggest applications, they are more likely to live them out.

Your class doesn't deserve to be bored. The Bible is very relevant, but we can make boring, if we just recite and lecture. Challenge them to change their life. Ask yourself how they are waking out of the classroom different then when they entered. Make it interesting with great illustrations, stories, or jokes that make the point. It will take work to find these so don't start on Saturday night before Sunday Morning. Start on Sunday Afternoon and let God show you illustrations all week long that will help you keep it relevant and interesting.