

Proverbs for Teachers 15

A reprint series for LEA members
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Help! Help!

Prov. 11:14

A bicycle cannot stand on its own because it is two-tired.

Help! Help! Someone! Leap in and fill our dire need for a good joke. But you, dear reader, are probably too busy groaning to offer genuine help. Of course, if someone needed real help, you would respond immediately. Right? Most teachers spend the majority of every class session helping. Some students need help reading and understanding Bible stories. Some students need help with their conduct or with their self-image.

Many teachers, while modeling the role of helper with excellence, lack the experience or enthusiasm we need to offer real help in a specific situation. Most teachers need help on occasion—especially so the Christian teacher. Without outside help, you will tire. Proverbs 11:14 remind us, “For lack of guidance, a nation falls, but many advisers make victory sure.”

Do you think in terms of victory or merely success for your students? At times, your students’ victory depends upon the guidance you manage to seek out and receive.

Your teacher’s guide, media resources, and other teachers on your staff may prove helpful. But you must tap one other source—the most vital Helper and most expert Counselor of all! The Holy Spirit is waiting to hear from you. Without the Spirit’s guidance, victory is impossible. But will the Holy Spirit help you? After all, you are a sinner—sometimes proving the fact in thoughts, words, and deeds a dozen times each day!

Aha! Your sin may make you reluctant to ask for counsel, for strength, for help. But in reality, it also makes you, in God’s compassionate eyes, the perfect candidate for help. The Holy Spirit uses the weakness of His servants to demonstrate His own all-sufficient strength (2 Cor. 12:9). When we are weak, then in Christ our Savior we are strong (2 Cor. 12:10).

Pray: *Holy Spirit send help! I cannot teach without You. Lead me more deeply into Your Word. Pray for me, especially in those times when I don’t even know I need Your intercession. In Jesus’ name. Amen.*

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