

My college students tell about

“CREATIVE THINGS I’VE SEEN MY PROFESSORS DO”

1. To add variety I’ve seen my prof. stand on a table to lecture.
2. Prof has brought Greek sheet music to class and had us sing in Greek.
3. Prof has shown us incredible class ice-breakers for our ministry with an invisible flea, “Myrtle.”
4. Prof got us to pretend that we were his presidential cabinet in the midst of a terrorist attack.
5. All my professors have used, movies, YouTube, and object lessons.
6. Prof would open every class with a short Bible reading and application to practical living.
7. Prof often acts out certain Bible passages, putting a clarifying spin on it.
8. Prof began each class with a insightful thought to set the mood of the class.
9. Prof [*very conservative guy*] made himself an example during a lecture on situational ethics in public. He opened his shirt and threw his tie around his neck to demonstrate a negative appearance.
10. Instead of lecturing, prof opens a discussion in his Rapid Greek Reading class. Many interpretations, and much feedback take place.
11. I knew of a prof who started every lecture with a statement such as, “Today we are going to explore three things. Blah, Blah, & Blah, and why each one is significant. He would close class with a similar wrap-up.
12. One teacher threw a book to a student and told him to tear it up and throw it in the trash can to show how much our society over-values printed material.
13. Prof allows any rabbit trails as long as they are related to practical application.
14. In our class, students teach a poignant mini-topic every day. The student must present and defend his viewpoint clearly.
15. Prof uses funny paper cartoons [*and political cartoons*] to illustrate his lectures.
16. Prof once snapped an oak seedling in half, then took our whole class outside and had 6 students sit along a huge branch [*1 ft thick*] of a Live Oak to illustrate the strength of spiritual maturity. Both objects were solid oak.
17. We had to plan an entire youth social during class one day: icebreaker, singing, getting names of newcomers, snacks, Bible talk, skits, announcements, prayer, challenge [*both for believers and unbelievers*], Gospel, and follow-up those who had raised their hands for salvation decisions.
18. During 3 personal evangelism class, we went to a nursing home, a local community college, and chatted with neighbors around the college.
19. Creative field trips: morgue, ethnic section of a Spanish grocery store, Asian grocery store, Santeria Botanica, cemetery, Buddhist temple prayer walks through drug-infested neighborhoods, AIDS victim’s homes, rescue missions, and even a hospice.
20. Christian motivational DVDs during Phys. Ed.
21. Review principles taught by bringing in objects she had used throughout the semester. Students had to make the connections.
22. During Denominational Distinctive class, the prof had many pastors from the community come to present the specifics of their churches. Questions afterwards.
23. Read a dramatic portion of Scripture so passionately that the sweat popped out on his forehead.
24. Prof lay down on the floor to demonstrate dead to sin.
25. We had to teach the same topic 5 times throughout Creative Bible Teaching. My topic was greed.
26. Prof used small buzz groups to discuss topics during class often.
27. She spoke about lost people she had witnessed to and often had to wipe tears from her eyes.
28. Role playing helped us learn how other people perceive us in lots of awkward situations [*witnessing, teaching, leading, even acting super-godly*].
29. Drawing pictures [*and lots of lists*] of Bible events and people on the white board.
30. He hugged us and wept.
31. One prof opened class by taking four minutes to write two words on the whiteboard, “Go Slowly.”
32. Dressed us up in 14 ethnic costumes. Each of us represented 1/2 billion people in the world. We wore signs like: Christian, I know 2 Christians, I’ve never met a Christian, What’s a Christian?
33. Prof, who was an archeologist, brought artifacts to explain culture and certain Bible verses.
34. Learning songs and verses in a foreign language.
35. Prof used a rope to tell a Bible lesson.
36. A prof spoke on 5 topics in 5 chapels one semester. Each time he used a broom to introduce his theme. *Another prof used a wooden match, a candle, a paper match, and a flashlight.*
37. During his sermon, a pastor wrote a sin he had recently committed on a small piece of paper then burned it and dropped it into a metal trash basket to illustrate how completely our sins are forgiven.

38. In a class of 150 our prof fielded all questions from the floor. Answers were succinct.
39. My seminary professor invited a 3-day old believer to attend a prayer meeting with many mature saints of God. After Prof prayed in the circle he tapped Jim on the knee. Jim said, "Hello God, this is Jim. I just met you last Wednesday, remember? Thank you for saving me."
40. Prof brought a 1 lb. jar of rice to illustrate the population of the world, 7 billion. 22 of us counted out 1,000 grains a piece [*in less than 10 minutes*]. One grain per person would fill 400 half-ton pick-up trucks. He took us outside to look down the highway. The line of trucks would have extended 7,200 feet = 1.4 miles @ 25,000 grains of rice per pound.
41. One professor wrote two or three quotes on the board before class began. Sometimes he never made mention of their value.
42. She set up the chairs differently each week to make best use of proxemics: circle, facing one another in lines, all students facing the walls, quads or triads, men on one side with chairs facing the women on the other side as we read through the entire book of Song of Solomon [*male and female parts, and in unison for the parts of the "chorus" or maidens voices*].

Students also came up with

"19 WAYS A PASTOR COULD GET HIS CONGREGATION TO PARTICIPATE IN HIS SERMON"

- a. Underline words in their Bibles.
- b. Put question marks in their Bibles near verses they want to look up later.
- c. Turn from chapter to chapter with him.
- d. Take questions from the audience during a sermon.
- e. Recite verses with the pastor.
- f. He asked us to raise our hands if we had a friend or neighbor whom we had never witnessed to. I raised mine. I thought of Bill whose kids I often took to Sunday School. Then he asked if we would stand if we would make a commitment to talk to that neighbor during the coming week. I stood. He prayed for all of us who were standing.
Next week he asked how many of us had stood the week before. Would we raise our hands? I raised mine. Then he asked us to stand if we had upheld our commitment to talk to those unsaved friends. I almost wept. I had not. What a powerful lesson.
- g. Hold you Bible up in the air if you've read through the whole book.
- h. Have a different member read a Bible passage aloud from his/her seat prior to sermon.
- i. Have members raise their hands [opinions, or "I didn't know that," or "I've done that!"].
- j. Come to the platform, take the mike and tell or read a personal [*1 minute*] testimony or an experience about the day's sermon topic. *Prepared, not ex tempore.*
- k. Fill out a 3x5 card and pass to the center aisle. Question, decision, prayer request, confession.
- l. Stand to affirm a decision they have been invited to make.
- m. Pass out a sermon outline to fill in.
- n. Ask for volunteers to do some research on sermon topics coming up in the next month.
- o. Pass out weekly thought provoking "homework" for those who would enjoy the challenge.
- p. Conduct church wide surveys on any number of topics by having the members of the congregation raise their hands. Somebody kind of takes a quick count.
- q. Stand up if you've talked to a Muslim friend about Christ.
- r. Reading in unison.
- s. Sing a relevant hymn together in the middle of the sermon.