

SO WHAT?

What difference does all this make to my own life and ministry?
Here are my personal 10 resolves.

I wrote these commitments to myself as I traveled across the country on my way to taking my first college teaching post.

1. A continuing effort to learn the Word of God must be a priority in my life.
2. Because all truth is God's truth, as a teacher I must be ready to glean from many sources of knowledge and scrutinize it all with a biblical searchlight. I also need to design a strainer to sift out the chaff.
3. I must allow my students to question the validity of my presuppositions and must be ready to give them solid scriptural support.
4. Classroom content must be linked to community context in my students' lives.
5. My own home must produce children who show evidence of integrating faith and learning.
6. Classroom creativity is a commodity ever in demand.
7. I'll fight the tendency to dilute either academic excellence or commitment to the personal needs of my individual students. I resolve never to enter a classroom unprepared pedagogically or spiritually.
8. The transparency of my life before my students will change the course of their lives far more than my input to their notebooks.
9. As "form follows function," so my classrooms must be developed to meet the needs in people's lives right where they are.
10. I'll have to avoid answering questions that no one will be asking, as well as neglecting the questions which everybody wants to solve.