



Mr. Andrew Speca: Second Grade Teacher

Andrew Speca is a 2006 graduate of Mount Vernon Nazarene University. Mr. Speca earned his Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. During his four years at college, he had experienced in a variety of classroom settings from preschool to second grade. He spent a three weeks in a second grade classroom on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona, and completed his student teaching in the second grade classroom.

After college, Mr. Speca was a substitute teacher for a number of different classrooms. It ranged from special education classrooms to sixth grade classrooms. For two years, he taught in an inclusion preschool in Arizona. This past year he taught third grade at Destiny Christian School, and this year will be teaching second grade.

Through his many experiences, Mr. Speca has found that students learn best by providing different strategies. All students are different, and one strategy will not reach them all. Teaching students requires the teacher to find a way to relate the materials to the students. This can be accomplished through music, activities, memorization, writing, and many other strategies.

To accomplish this, Mr. Speca believes it is extremely important to know the students. Knowing each student helps him to know what strategies work well for them. Knowing the students is also important for the students to be able to trust the teacher. When you devote the time to getting to know the students, they will trust that the decisions the teacher makes are fair.

Mr. Speca endeavors to keep his classroom a positive place. He believes that Ephesians 4:29 is a great verse to teach the classroom. "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only that which is helpful for building others up according to their need," this verse will be the basis for his management system for this upcoming year.

Mr. Speca was raised in a catholic home, and attended church on a weekly basis. When he was a senior in high school, he was attending a lock-in at a local church and gave his life to the Lord. He realized that his life was missing pieces, and with a lot of support by his friends, started his Christian walk.

Mr. Speca attended a Christian University where he strengthened his walk and gained more Christian friends to support him. This past year, he attended Catechism class at Faith Temple and graduated in July. He believes that there is one God who created everything. He sent us His son to redeem our sins. He then sent us the Holy Spirit, who works in us to help us lead a life that is pleasing to God. He believes that Jesus came to serve us, and in turn we should be there to serve others. Matthew 20:28, "just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."