

“Jesus the Teacher”

Summary

In this powerful exploration of Jesus as the Teacher, we're challenged to cultivate a spirit of teachability in our hearts. The message draws from Matthew 28:18-20, emphasizing our calling to 'teach all nations.' We're reminded that true teaching isn't just about transferring knowledge, but about imparting the very spirit of Jesus. The story of the prodigal son is beautifully woven in, illustrating God's commitment to teach us even in our moments of rebellion. This message invites us to reflect on our own openness to learning, urging us to move beyond surface-level Christianity and dive deeper into the rich treasures of God's word. Are we allowing ourselves to be shaped by God's teaching, or are we resisting His guidance? This call to embrace spiritual education isn't just for our personal growth - it's about equipping us to impact the world around us with the transformative power of Christ's teachings.

Main Points – Jesus the Teacher

Title: Jesus the Teacher: Cultivating a Spirit of Learning in the Church

Sermon Summary: This message explores the fifth aspect of Jesus' five-fold ministry: Jesus as the Teacher. It emphasizes the importance of cultivating a teachable spirit within the church, highlighting that true teaching goes beyond mere knowledge transfer to include character transformation and spiritual growth. Pastor Rob stresses the need for both anointed teaching and hungry learners, encouraging the congregation to embrace learning as a lifelong pursuit that shapes them into the image of Jesus.

Key Points:

- Teaching is one of the five graces given by Jesus for the perfecting of the saints
- True teaching involves more than knowledge transfer; it includes the transference of spirit
- Being teachable is crucial for spiritual growth and maturity
- The church should cultivate an atmosphere of learning and teachability
- Understanding foundational doctrines is essential for spiritual maturity
- Teachers must be learners themselves to be effective
- God uses various methods to teach us, including adversity and affliction
- The goal of teaching is to conform believers to the image of Christ

Scripture Reference:

- Ephesians 4:11-13 (The five-fold ministry gifts)
- Matthew 28:18-20 (The Great Commission)

- Hebrews 5:11-14 (The need for spiritual maturity)
- Deuteronomy 6:4-7 (The Shema and teaching children)

Stories:

- The Pastor Rob's recent golfing experience and the need for practice to improve
- The prodigal son as an example of learning through adversity
- A muscular man at the gym preparing himself for pain before lifting weights
- John the Baptist leaping in his mother's womb as an example of spiritual calling

Small Group Study Guide – Jesus the Teacher

Key Takeaways:

1. Teaching is one of the five-fold ministry gifts given by Jesus to equip and mature the church.
2. True teaching involves more than just transferring knowledge - it's about imparting spirit and character.
3. Being teachable is crucial for spiritual growth and maturity.
4. The church needs to cultivate both the teaching grace and an atmosphere of teachability.
5. Foundational doctrines are essential for every believer to understand and be able to teach others.

Discussion Questions:

1. Pastor Rob mentioned that real teachers are learners. How does this idea challenge or affirm your understanding of teaching in the church?
2. Reflect on a time when you learned something through adversity or challenge. How did that experience differ from learning in a more comfortable setting?
3. The sermon emphasized the importance of being teachable. What are some signs that someone has become "dull of hearing" as mentioned in Hebrews 5:11? How can we guard against this in our own lives?
4. How do you respond to the idea that God sometimes leaves challenges in our lives to teach us? Can you share an example from your own experience?
5. Pastor Rob stressed the importance of understanding foundational doctrines. Which of these doctrines do you feel you understand well, and which ones might you need to study more?
6. How can we as a small group create an atmosphere that encourages both teaching and learning?

Practical Applications:

1. Choose one of the foundational doctrines mentioned (repentance from dead works, faith toward God, baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead, or eternal judgment) and commit to studying it more deeply this week.
2. Reflect on areas in your life where you might be resistant to God's teaching. Pray for a more teachable spirit.

3. Look for an opportunity this week to share something you've learned from God's Word with someone else, practicing the principle that we should all be teachers.
4. As a group, consider how you might support the teaching ministry in your church, whether through prayer, volunteering, or other means.
5. Practice active listening in your daily interactions this week, remembering the importance of truly hearing as emphasized in the Shema (Deuteronomy 6).

Closing Prayer:

Lord, thank you for your desire to teach us and grow us into maturity. Help us to be teachable and to value the teaching gifts you've placed in the church. Give us wisdom to discern truth from error, and empower us to not just be hearers of the Word, but doers also. May we grow in our ability to teach others as we continue to learn from You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Discussion Questions – Jesus the Teacher

How can we cultivate a truly teachable spirit in our lives, and what might be holding us back from being open to God's instruction?

In what ways might we be 'dull of hearing' in our spiritual lives, and how can we sharpen our ability to hear and respond to God's voice?

What does it mean to be 'conformed to the image of the Son' through our learning, and how might this differ from merely acquiring knowledge?

How can we balance the need for 'milk' and 'solid food' in our spiritual diet, both personally and as a church community?

In what ways might we be unintentionally 'exporting our dysfunctions' as Christians, and how can we address this?

How can we ensure that our teaching and learning are not just transferring knowledge, but also imparting the right spirit?

What role does adversity play in our spiritual education, and how can we embrace these 'teaching moments' when they arise?

How might we apply the concept of 'teaching all nations' in our modern context, both locally and globally?

In what ways can we cultivate and balance all five aspects of Jesus' ministry (apostolic, prophetic, evangelistic, pastoral, and teaching) in our personal lives and church community?

Scriptures – Jesus the Teacher

Here are the [scripture references mentioned or alluded to in the sermon](#), along with some relevant verses for general themes discussed:

1. Ephesians 4:11-13
2. Matthew 28:18-20
3. John 16:12-13
4. Psalms 32:8-9
5. 1 Corinthians 8:1-3
6. Matthew 9:9-13
7. Luke 5:17-26
8. Isaiah 29:24
9. Isaiah 30:19-21
10. Judges 3:1-2
11. Hosea 4:6
12. Hebrews 5:11-14
13. 2 Peter 2:1-2
14. 2 Timothy 4:1-4
15. Deuteronomy 6:4-7

General themes with relevant verses:

1. Teachability:
 - Proverbs 1:5
 - James 1:19
2. False teachers:
 - Matthew 7:15
 - 1 John 4:1
3. Teaching as part of spiritual growth:
 - Colossians 3:16
 - 2 Timothy 2:2
4. Jesus as teacher:
 - Matthew 7:28-29
 - John 13:13-15
5. The importance of sound doctrine:
 - Titus 2:1
 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17

6. Learning from adversity:

- Romans 5:3-5
- James 1:2-4

7. The role of the Holy Spirit in teaching:

- John 14:26
- 1 Corinthians 2:13

Devotional – Jesus the Teacher

Here's a 5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide:

Day 1: The Heart of Jesus

Reading: Ephesians 4:11-16

Devotional: As we begin this journey, let's reflect on the heart of Jesus. The passage speaks of Christ giving gifts to the church - apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. These aren't just roles, but expressions of Jesus' very nature. How might your life change if you saw these not as distant offices, but as aspects of Christ's character to be cultivated in your own life? Today, ask God to reveal which of these areas He wants to develop in you. Remember, it's not about titles, but about serving others and growing into the fullness of Christ.

Day 2: Teachability

Reading: Proverbs 1:1-7

Devotional: Our journey in faith requires a teachable heart. The scripture tells us that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge. This reverence for God opens our hearts to true wisdom. Reflect on times when you've resisted God's teaching. How might pride have played a role? Ask the Holy Spirit to soften your heart and make you receptive to His instruction. Remember, even Jesus, the greatest teacher, was first a learner - growing in wisdom and stature. Cultivate a spirit of humility and eagerness to learn from God today.

Day 3: The Power of God's Word

Reading: Hebrews 4:12-13

Devotional: Today we focus on the transformative power of God's Word. The scripture describes it as living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword. This isn't mere information, but life-changing truth. As you read, allow God's Word to penetrate your heart. What areas of your life need to be exposed to its light? Are there attitudes or behaviors that need to change? Invite the Holy Spirit to use Scripture to shape you more into the image of Christ. Remember, true learning isn't just accumulating knowledge, but being transformed by it.

Day 4: Teaching with Love

Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Devotional: As we've learned, teaching is more than transferring knowledge - it's imparting the very spirit of Christ. Today's passage reminds us that without love, even the most eloquent teaching is meaningless. Reflect on how you share your faith with others. Is it done with genuine love and concern for their well-being? Ask God to fill you with His love,

so that your words and actions reflect His heart. Whether you're a parent, mentor, or simply a friend, remember that the most powerful teaching comes through love.

Day 5: Leaving a Legacy

Reading: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Devotional: We conclude our journey with a call to pass on our faith. The Shema instructs us to love God wholeheartedly and to diligently teach His ways to the next generation. This isn't just a task for parents or teachers, but for all believers. How are you investing in those who come after you? Are you leaving a legacy of faith? Today, consider practical ways you can share God's truth with others - perhaps through mentoring, volunteering, or simply living out your faith visibly. Ask God for opportunities to impact the next generation for His kingdom.