

Discuss

Jesus used a lot of humor in his teachings. Some of it was simple and obvious; other times it was witty or earthy or even came off as borderline absurd. His favorite though seemed to be the use of irony.

- Does Jesus’s use of humor surprise you? Why or why not?

Jesus’s use of humor was very strategic. He used ironic humor to lay the groundwork for something. He used it to cut through defenses in order to get a point or message across. He used it in a way that would penetrate and reveal, much like in [His dialogue with the Samaritan Woman](#).

- How does Jesus’s use of humor speak to you?
- How does Jesus’s use of humor challenge you to be strategic with your own humor?

It’s important to recognize the humor of Jesus to help us view Him correctly and read more accurately with the full context in mind (like the example below). Failure to see it as it was meant to be can cause serious misreading and distortion of who He was and His character and personality.

...Since she was a Gentile, born in Syrian Phoenicia, Jesus told her, “First I should feed the children—my own family, the Jews. It isn’t right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs.” She replied, “That’s true, Lord, but even the dogs under the table are allowed to eat the scraps from the children’s plates.” “Good answer!” he said. “Now go home, for the demon has left your daughter.”... ([Mark 7:24-30, NLT](#))

- What does Jesus’s humor tell you about Him?
- How does understanding Jesus’s humor help you to view Him accurately?
- How does recognizing Jesus’s humor help you understand His message?

Next Steps

Reflect on the passages we covered with the understanding of Jesus’s humor we learned about. Pray for God to speak to you with this new understanding in mind, and ask for His wisdom in hearing it and responding to it as you should.

May 3 & 5: [The Gospels: Big Picture Bible Study](#)

May 8: [Hope Vibes Serve Day](#)

Continued Reading

Read Luke [6:39](#); [7:31-34](#); [13:31-32](#); Matthew [12:22-27](#); [16:18](#); [21:31](#); Mark [1:16-17](#); [7:14-19](#), [24-30](#); [10:23-25](#); [John 4:1-18](#).

Prayer

God, thank you for the gift of laughter. Thank you for using laughter to connect with us. Help us to recognize it when we read your Word and help us to respond as we should.