The Gifts 5—Teachers sermon for 8-06-17

Purpose: To teach our family the functions, traits, and necessity of the 5 fold Ministers.

What does this teaching accomplish?

This teaching will allow the family to recognize the calling on people who are called into the 5 fold ministry which will enable them to submit to those gifts without the need for hierarchical authority structures freeing up the body from pointless ladder climbing and ambiguity to accomplish its collective mandate joyfully and effectively.

Thesis: Teachers are gifts from Jesus to the church designed to push God’s people to continually grow in understanding and application of truth. A mature teacher will teach others how to teach.

**Ephesians 4:10-13** (NLT)

**10**And the same one who descended is the one who ascended higher than all the heavens, so that he might fill the entire universe with himself.

**11**Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. **12**Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. **13**This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

**Teachers are the expositors of the church that equip us by adding to our faith and virtue knowledge through thorough and systematic explanation of the Word of God.**

They explain complicated ideas to us in a way that we can understand so we can practice what we’ve learned.

## **Some of us are called to be Teachers**

Characteristics of a Teacher

* Has a gift of teaching—meaning he or she will be good at teaching.
* True teachers are fully convinced of the truth of God and know why they are convinced, so they will often be perceived as firm people. To them truth is truth and we must all face it.
* They are motivated to expose false assumptions and errors.
* Teachers are life-long learners themselves and will read a lot on many different subjects.
* A true and mature teacher will encourage others to teach and train them to be life long learners.

Why do we need teachers in the church?

1. **God’s Word tells us to continue learning.** 
   1. **Proverbs 23:12 (NLT)**

**12**Commit yourself to instruction;  
    listen carefully to words of knowledge.

* 1. **Proverbs 15:14 (NLT)**

**14**A wise person is hungry for knowledge,  
    while the fool feeds on trash.

1. **God is pleased when we gain knowledge and apply the truth we learn to our lives.**
   1. **Colossians 1:9-10 (NKJV)**

**9**For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; **10**that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him,* being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

1. **We live better, more productive, and more hopeful lives when we increase in knowledge.**
   1. **Proverbs 10:14 (NLT)**

**14**Wise people treasure knowledge,  
    but the babbling of a fool invites disaster.

* 1. **Proverbs 19:2 (NLT)**

**2**Enthusiasm without knowledge is no good;  
    haste makes mistakes.

* 1. **Proverbs 24:5 (NLT)**

**5**The wise are mightier than the strong,  
    and those with knowledge grow stronger and stronger.

* 1. **Proverbs 24:14 (NKJV)**

**14**So *shall* the knowledge of wisdom *be* to your soul;  
If you have found *it,* there is a prospect,  
And your hope will not be cut off.

## **Head Knowledge Versus Experiential Knowledge**

We need gifted people in the church to uphold truth and equip us with it—it’s the first part of the armor of God that holds us together.

However, truth cannot be taught for knowledge’s sake, teaching should always lead the teacher and the students to obedience.

Teachers must walk in what they teach or they will be teaching things they do not understand, true understanding requires a congruence of speech, experience, and action.

**The Bible is clear that the knowledge God wants us to pursue is first a mental knowledge of truth that leads to obedience which allows us to experience the truth that we learned.**

# **1 Timothy 1:5-7 (NKJV)**

**5**Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, *from* a good conscience, and *from* sincere faith, **6**from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk, **7**desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

Their teaching had turned to *idle talk*.

## **All of us are called to pursue knowledge and teach on our level**

**Knowledge is necessary for the renewing of the mind.**

We were not taught how to live Godly when we were in the world, so we must be taught by words and example how to live the way God wants us to live.

# **2 Peter 1:3-8 (NLT)**

**3**By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence. **4**And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world’s corruption caused by human desires.

**5**In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God’s promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, **6**and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, **7**and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.

**8**The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The whole body of Christ benefits when all of its members are taking responsibility to teach the younger Christians how to live according to sound doctrine.

**To be successful as a Christian, we must be taught; Christianity requires training.**

**God expects you to grow in your Christian knowledge so you can teach others what you have learned and applied to your life.**

# **Hebrews 5:12 (NLT)**

**12**You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God’s word.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+5:12&version=NKJV;NLT#fen-NLT-30003a)] You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food.

# **Titus 2 (NKJV)**

But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: **2**that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience; **3**the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things— **4**that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, **5***to be* discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

**6**Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, **7**in all things showing yourself *to be* a pattern of good works; in doctrine *showing* integrity, reverence, incorruptibility,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Titus+2&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-29916a)] **8**sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Titus+2&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-29917b)]

**9***Exhort* bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all *things,* not answering back, **10**not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.

**11**For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, **12**teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, **13**looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, **14**who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.

**15**Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

**All ministry will require you to teach on some level.**

* Evangelism
* Shepherding
* Prophetic
* Apostolic