

Men's Training Camp

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"Teaching Is Following"

1. The Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20)
 - The apostles weren't to teach "just anything they wanted to."
 - Christ commanded them to teach certain things.
 - That was a true test of being a follower of Christ or not.
 - If they would teach what Christ taught, then they would have the full power of the Universe—Christ's power and authority—backing them up.
2. The Great Commission today
 - That commission continues today.
 - It's not a commission to come up with our own ideas but to teach what we've been taught. If we do that, we have Christ's authority behind us.
 - Paul taught Timothy and told Timothy to teach others what he had learned (2 Tim. 2:1).
 - Each generation follows the previous, in accepting and obeying the Truth and passing it on.
3. Two ways of looking at teaching
 - 1) We are source of knowledge, like a "spring" or source of water.
 - Modern, post-religious, secular way of looking
 - Idea that you are the source of truth and don't need religion, the Bible, or God.
 - Idea to look inside yourself for real answers.
 - 2) We are a conduit—a pipeline—through which knowledge is passed.
 - When we are in a teaching role, we are not the "spring"—we are the pipeline.
 - (John 7:37) Jesus Christ is the Spring—the Source of knowledge.
 - We drink of the Living Water and feed on Him. It doesn't stagnate. We are supposed to let God's Spirit flow out of us.
 - Teaching, in whatever role we have, is a reflection of letting His Spirit empower and teach us what to pass on.
4. Teaching roles
 - 1) Giving sermonettes
 - Convey what you've been taught as true to the Source as possible—no pollutants, obstructions, toxic attitudes infused
 - So recipients get clean, refreshing, nourishing water—Truth.
 - 2) Teaching role on the job
 - Instructing others, presenting, etc.
 - In secular jobs can still teach Christian, Biblical principles.
 - 3) Teaching at home
 - Husbands—Be an example, someone who's wife can follow to the Kingdom.
 - Husbands—Be able to answer spiritual questions.

- Fathers—(Deut. 6) teaching children doesn't have to be just family Bible studies, but it should be a part of everyday life, such as at mealtimes. Talk and listen and ask children what they learn.

5. The church in Corinth

- (1 Cor. 1:4-8, 10, 26, 29) Some were gifted in speaking and had learned from Paul and the Church, but they were influenced by the surrounding culture and were not speaking the same thing within the congregation.
- They had a crisis in leadership that began in a crisis in followership.
- (1 Cor. 2:1) They were forgetting to look to Christ as the Source instead of looking to their own opinions.
- (1 Cor. 4:1-2,6-7) Everything we have, we received. The Corinthians had forgotten where they learned the truth and from whom they learned the truth.
- None of us received directly from Jesus; the Holy Spirit opens our eyes, but it comes through a speaker, evangelist, or minister. We have a multitude of counsel and senior ministers with decades of experience.
- (1 Cor. 4:14-16) Sometimes people think they are coming up with something new and unique, but they often found it in a commentary, a book, online, on the radio, on TV, etc. We produce fruit based on what we feed on.
- (Eccl. 1:9-11) A lot of the so called new ideas in the mainstream church today are actually very old.

6. We as leaders

- We are given the responsibility in different ways to be leaders.
- Our success as leaders hinges largely on how successful we are as followers.
- (Rom. 6:16-17) We're all following somebody.
- Mr. Weston often explains to campers that every teen wants to be unique and different—but oftentimes their desire to be unique and different leads them to follow trends so they can be like everyone else!
- (John 10:1-6) When a person thinks their teaching is uniquely their own, they are really on Satan's wavelength.
- We're called to follow the Shepherd.
- (Rev. 3:17-18) The more we can accurately teach what we've been taught, the more we're going to show that we are a true and real follower of Christ.
- We're to strengthen, nourish, and feed those who come after us, and to ensure we are tapping into the real Source of power and truth—Jesus Christ.