

THE MASTER OF MASTERS



Teaching is the process by which a person must learn to modify their knowledge, attitudes, skills, and general behavior. Jesus liked to teach and accepted the title of teacher, because he was.



“Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am” (John 13:13).

“And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught” (Mark 1:21).



“And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them” (John 8:2).



“Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing” (John 18:20).



Jesus, the Master of teachers, when on earth, reached people's hearts through lessons gained in the world around them and experiences of daily life. “In this way He associated natural things with spiritual, linking the things of nature and the life experience of His hearers with the sublime truths of the written word. And whenever afterward their eyes rested on the objects with which He has associated eternal truth, His lessons were repeated.” (Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students, 140).

Some recognized him as a Master:



The rich young ruler: “And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?” (Mark 10:17).



A Scribe: “And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest” (Matthew 8:19).



Peter: “nd Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias” (Mark 9:5).



The disciples: “And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm” (Luke 8:24).



The Herodians: “And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth...” (Matthew 22:16-17).



Some scribes and Pharisees: “Master, we would see a sign from thee.” (Matthew 12:38).



Judas: “Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said” (Matthew 26:25).



Ten lepers: “And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us” (Luke 17:12-13).

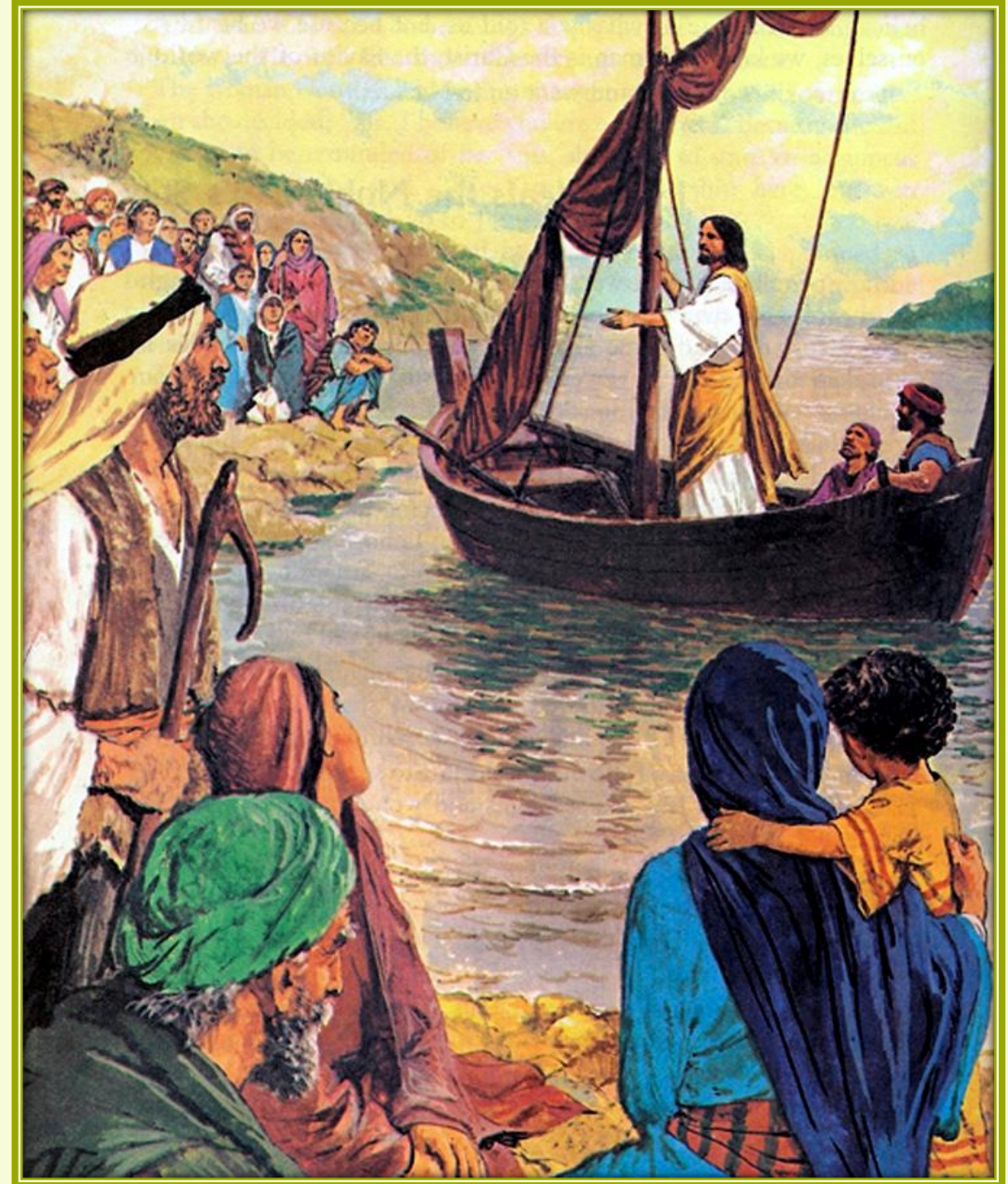
JESUS TAUGHT WITH AUTHORITY

“And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.” (Matthew 7:28-29).

“And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power” (Luke 4:32).

“Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.” (Matthew 5:43-45).

“Christ Taught With Authority—While His teaching was simple, He spoke as one having authority. This characteristic set His teaching in contrast with that of all others. The rabbis spoke with doubt and hesitancy, as if the Scriptures might be interpreted to mean one thing or exactly the opposite. The hearers were daily involved in greater uncertainty. But Jesus taught the Scriptures as of unquestionable authority. Whatever His subject, it was presented with power, as if His words could not be controverted.”—The Desire of Ages, 253 (1898). Ev 488.





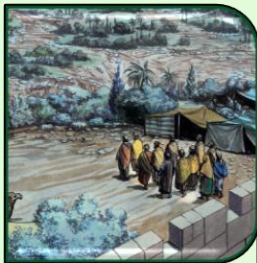
JESUS QUOTED THE SCRIPTURES



Jesus regularly taught in the synagogues and read the scriptures as he preached: “And he came to Nazareth, where he had been as a child, and he went, as his way was, into the Synagogue on the Sabbath, and got up to give a reading. And the book of the prophet Isaiah was given to him and, opening the book, he came on the place where it is said: The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because I am marked out by him to give good news to the poor; he has sent me to make well those who are broken-hearted; to say that the prisoners will be let go, and the blind will see, and to make the wounded free from their chains, To give knowledge that the year of the Lord's good pleasure is come”. (Luke 4:16-19)



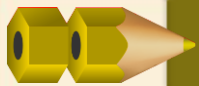
Also in the temptations he quoted the Scriptures: “And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread. And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.” (Luke 4:3-4; Deuteronomy 8:3).



He applied the scriptures to his life: “And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives. Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.” (Matthew 26:30-31; Zechariah 13:7).



He used the scriptures to answer a question: “The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. ” (Matthew 19:3-6; Genesis 2:24).



JESUS INSTRUCTED BY EXAMPLE

➡ “Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls” (Matthew 11:29).

➡ In the washing of feet: “For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you” (John 13:15).



➡ Jesus didn't just teach about prayer; He often withdrew to pray: “But he went away by himself to a waste place for prayer” (Luke 5:16).

➡ Jesús no solo enseñó sobre el perdón si no que perdonó: “And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed” (Luke 23:34).



➡ Jesus not only taught about forgiveness but forgave: “And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners? But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.” (Matthew 9:10-12).





JESUS DISCOVERED THE NEEDS OF HIS STUDENTS



Jesus spoke to Nicodemus making him understand what he needed (John 3:1-21).



Nicodemus: He came to Jesus by night and said to him, Rabbi, we are certain that you have come from God as a teacher, because no man would be able to do these signs which you do if God was not with him.



Jesus: Jesus said to him, Truly, I say to you, Without a new birth no man is able to see the kingdom of God.



Nicodemus: And Nicodemus said to him, How is it possible for these things to be?



Jesus: ... For God had such love for the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever has faith in him may not come to destruction but have eternal life.



Jesus saw the need of the Samaritan woman and led her to recognize him as the Messiah (John 4:4-42).



→ **Jesus:** Give me some water.

→ **The Samaritan:** Why do you, a Jew, make a request for water to me, a woman of Samaria?

→ **Jesus:** If you had knowledge of what God gives freely and who it is who says to you, Give me water, you would make your prayer to him, and he would give you living water.

→ **The Samaritan:** Sir, you have no vessel and the fountain is deep; from where will you get the living water?...

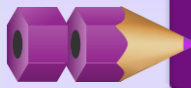
→ **Jesus:** Everyone who takes this water will be in need of it again: But whoever takes the water I give him will never be in need of drink again...

→ **The Samaritan:** Sir, give me this water...

→ **The Samaritan:** I am certain that the Messiah, who is named Christ, is coming; when he comes he will make all things clear to us.

→ **Jesus:** I that speak unto thee am he.

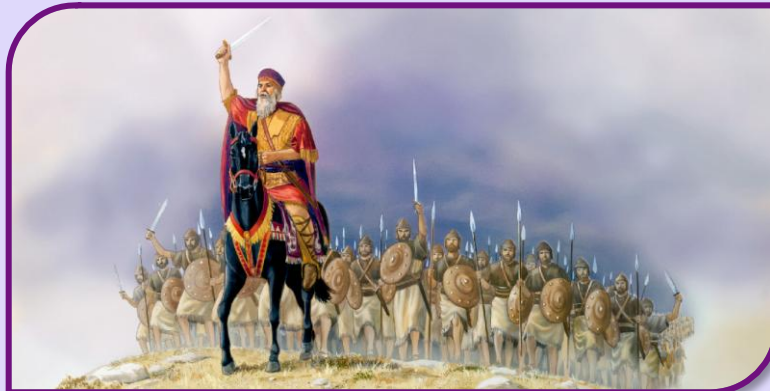




JESUS ENCOURAGED REFLECTION

Jesus wanted people to think for themselves. So I asked them questions. Some of them were:

- “Who do men say that the Son of man is?” (Mat. 16:13-16).
- “What went you out into the waste land to see? a tall stem moving in the wind?” (Mat. 11:7-9).
- “Or what king, going to war with another king, will not first take thought if he will be strong enough, with ten thousand men, to keep off him who comes against him with twenty thousand? Or while the other is still a great distance away, he sends representatives requesting conditions of peace. And so whoever is not ready to give up all he has may not be my disciple” (Lk. 14:31-33).



Every teacher is concerned with stimulating the thinking of his students, to create a favorable atmosphere for reflection before achieving changes in behavior. It is neither wise nor prudent to act on impulse, thoughtlessly.



Jesus asked questions to:

Fostering interest or establishing a point of contact:
Jn. 4:7; Lk. 8:45.

Initiate and stimulate thought: Lk. 9:25;
Mt. 6:27; Jn. 13:12.

Express or verbalize the reasoning process: Mr.
10:18; Mt. 20:22.

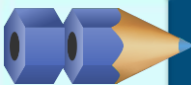
To test commitment as well as spiritual
understanding: Jn. 6:1-7.

Helping disciples apply the truth:
Lk. 10:36; Jn. 13:12.

Use dispute, argumentation and logic:
Lk. 14:5; 13:2; Jn. 8:46.

Rebuke or point out a spiritual failing:
Mar. 4:40; Lk. 6:46.

Introduce a teaching: Mt. 6:25; Lk. 6:39-41.



JESUS GAVE MODEL CLASSES

Jesus, in short sentences, taught profound lessons. This is especially seen in the Sermon on the Mount recorded in Matthew 5-7. “And seeing great masses of people he went up into the mountain; and when he was seated his disciples came to him. And with these words he gave them teaching, saying” (Mat. 5:1-2). The teacher dedicated more time and space to practice than to teaching, that is, I dedicate more time to reality than to theory. He trained his disciples more by what he did than by what he said.

“Jesus, the great Teacher, laid open in the simplest language, the great moral truths, clothing them with freshness and power”.—The Review and Herald, March 21, 1893. VSS 87



He referred to:

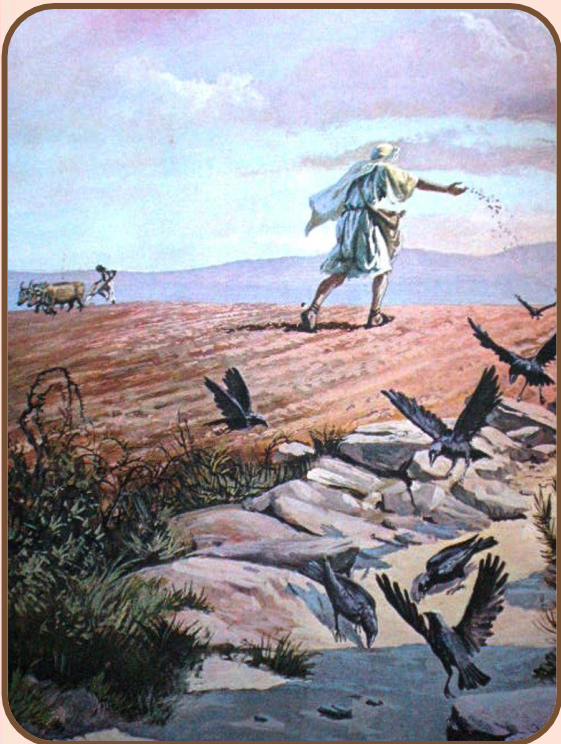
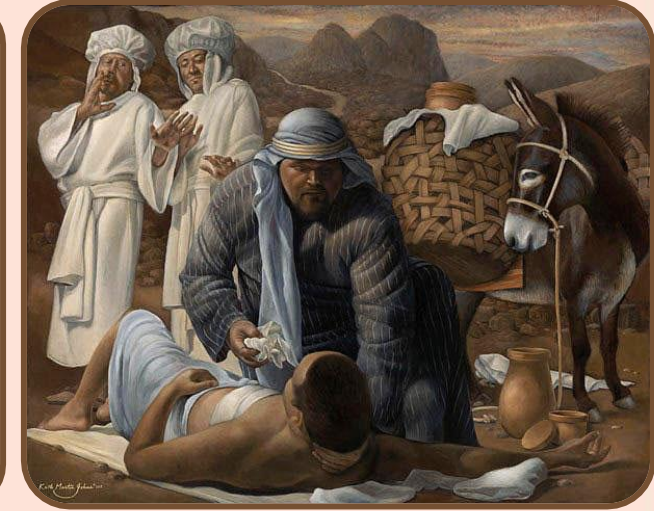
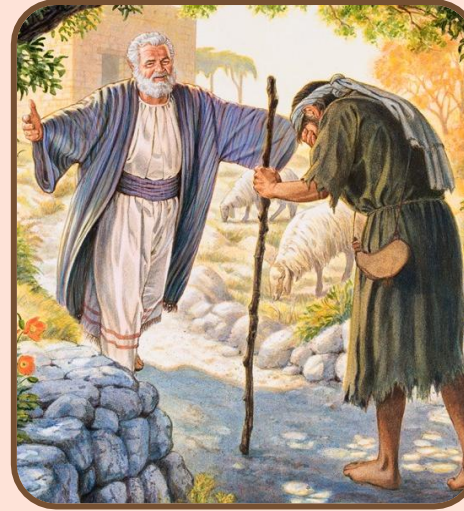
- The birds of the air (Mat. 6:25-26).
- Salt and light (Mar. 9:50; Mat. 5:13-16).
- The two gates and the two ways (Mat. 7:13-14).
- The building of the two houses (Mat. 7:24-27).
- The tree and its fruits (Mat. 7:15-20).
- Where to lay up treasures (Mat. 6:19-21).

How did Jesus teach? What teaching methods did he use to help people understand the kingdom of heaven?

JESUS TOLD STORIES

When one reads the Gospels, one is amazed at the way Jesus captivated people's hearts. The most beautiful of the master's teachings are his parables. Many of the parables Jesus told were real or fictional stories that taught a spiritual lesson.

“And with many such parables spake he the word unto them, as they were able to hear it. But without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples” (Mar. 4:33-34).



“In parables and comparisons He found the best method of communicating divine truth. In simple language, using figures and illustrations drawn from the natural world, He opened spiritual truth to His hearers, and gave expression to precious principles that would have passed from their minds, and left scarcely a trace, had He not connected His words with stirring scenes of life, experience, or nature. In this way He called forth their interest, aroused inquiry, and when He had fully secured their attention, He decidedly impressed upon them the testimony of truth. In this way He was able to make sufficient impression upon the heart so that afterward His hearers could look upon the thing with which He connected His lesson, and recall the words of the divine Teacher.”—Fundamentals of Christian Education, 236. VSS 107

JESUS USED STRIKING EXAMPLES

Jesus used outrageous examples, exaggerations, or shocking statements to get the attention of his listeners.

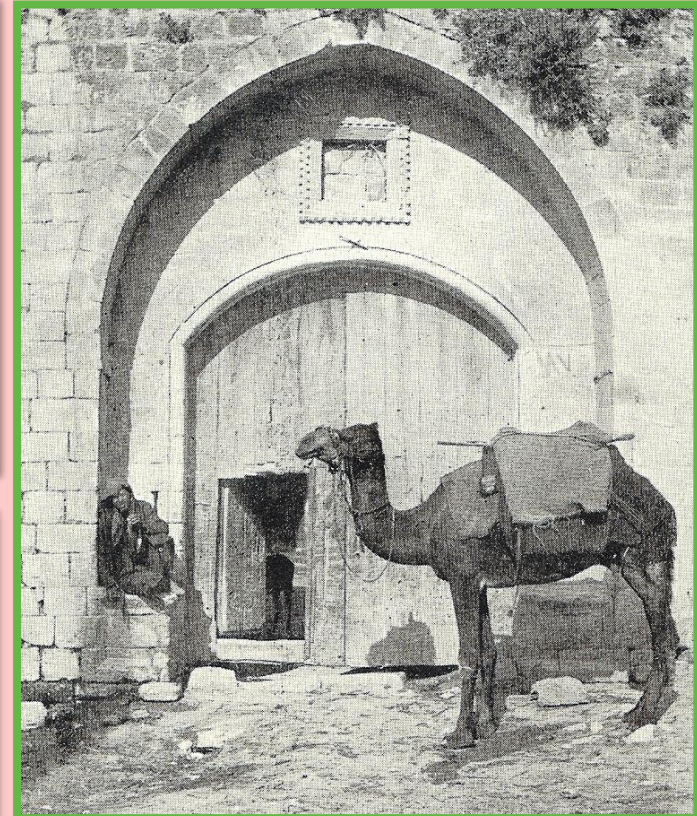
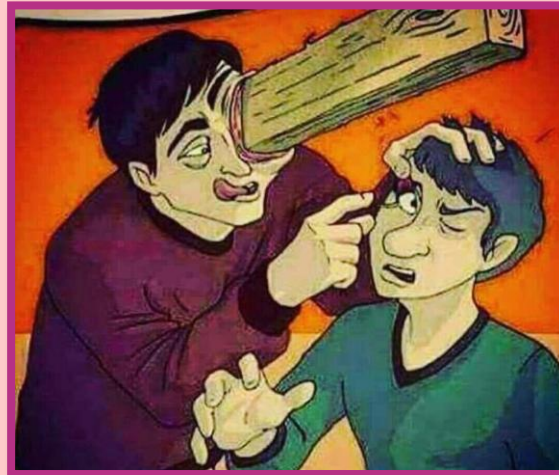


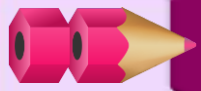
For example, Jesus didn't really mean that we have to gouge out our eyes for causing us to sin, or else all Christians would be blind. "And if your right eye is a cause of trouble to you, take it out and put it away from you; because it is better to undergo the loss of one part, than for all your body to go into hell" (Mat. 5:29-30).

"And why do you take note of the grain of dust in your brother's eye, but take no note of the bit of wood which is in your eye?" (Mat. 7:3-5).

"It is simpler for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a man of wealth to come into the kingdom of God" (Mar. 10:25).

"You blind guides, who take out a fly from your drink, but make no trouble over a camel" (Mat. 23:24).





JESUS SHOWED VISUAL ILLUSTRATIONS

Jesus often used object lessons to communicate a concrete truth to his listeners.

- He washed the disciples' feet to teach them servant leadership (Jn. 13:3-17).
- He called a boy to teach about humbling himself (Mat. 18:1-4).
- He taught about offerings after seeing a widow deposit two small coins into the temple offering chest (Mar. 12:41-44).





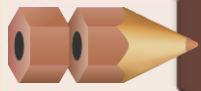
JESUS USED REPETITION

Jesus helped his listeners to understand and remember his teachings by frequent repetition. He taught the same main topics over and over again.

🔄 Jesus spoke of His death and resurrection over and over again: “And teaching them, he said that the Son of man would have to undergo much, and be hated by those in authority, and the chief priests, and the scribes, and be put to death, and after three days come back from the dead” (Mar. 8:31; 9:31; 10:33–34), and His disciples still did not understand it.

🔄 He repeated the need to watch: “Keep watch, then, because you are not certain of the day or of the hour” (Mat. 25:13). “Keep watch with prayer, so that you may not be put to the test; the spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is feeble.” (Mar. 14:38).



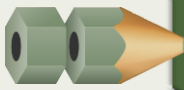


JESUS USED HIS IMAGINATION

The master captivated the heart through his imagination. The simplicity of his words, the candour, and the simplicity have such beauty and depth that we can exclaim: “Never man spake like this man” (John 7:46).

- Jesus used his imagination when speaking of the lilies and Solomon: “Give thought to the flowers: they do no work, they make no thread; and still I say to you, Even Solomon, in all his glory, was not clothed like one of these” (Luc. 12:27-28).
- Jesus imaginatively described the kingdom of heaven using different allegories taken from everyday life:
 - “And he gave them another story, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like a man who put good seed in his field: But while men were sleeping, one who had hate for him came and put evil seeds among the grain, and went away” (Mat. 13:24-25).
 - “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and put in his field” (Mat. 13:31).
 - “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took, and put in three measures of meal, till it was all leavened” (Mat. 13:33).
 - “The kingdom of heaven is like a secret store of wealth in a field, which a man came across and put back again; and in his joy he goes and gives all he has, to get that field” (Mat. 13:44).
 - “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net, which was put into the sea and took in every sort of fish” (Mat. 13:47).





JESUS SET PRACTICAL HOMEWORK

➡ After teaching his disciples, Jesus sent them out to practice (Luke 9:1-6). They were to give him a report when they were done. "When the apostles returned, they told him all that they had done" (Luke 9:10).

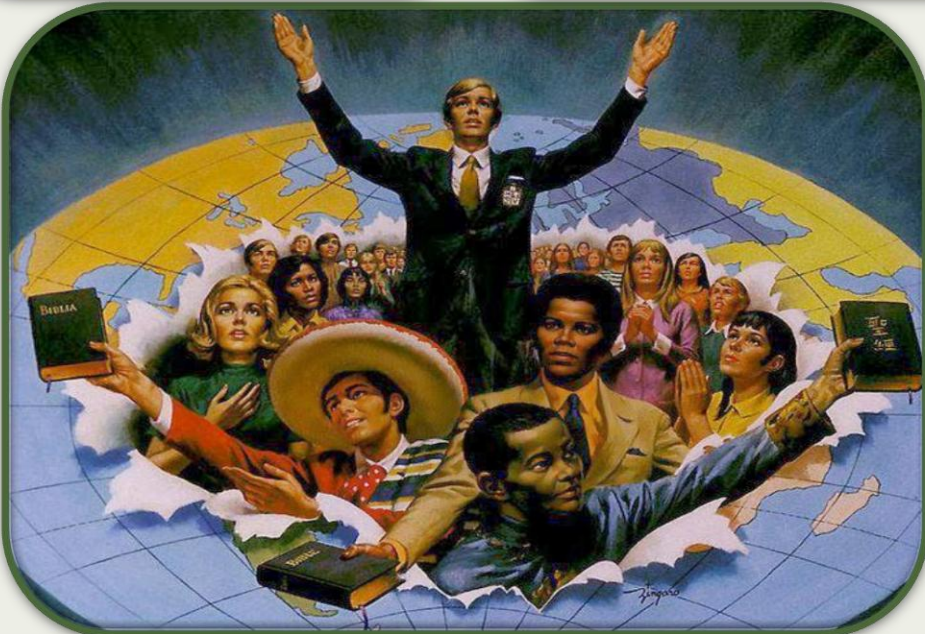


➡ The master, at the end of his three and a half years of training, spoke the famous words to his disciples: "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father,

and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (Mat. 28:18-20).

La orden implica que, lo que han aprendido, comprendido y reflexionado, deben aplicarlo a su vida y compartirlo con otros.

- "Go" implies movement and action. Christ prepared His students to be vibrant, energetic, self-sacrificing, and fervent.
- "Teach them" indicates that the preparation received must be shared with others.
- "Baptize them" commands them to prepare candidates to accept Jesus.



“How shall we follow Him to learn of Him who is our Teacher? We can search His word, and become acquainted with His life and works. His words we are to receive as bread for our souls. In every sphere where man shall be placed, the Lord Jesus has left us His footprints. We do well to follow Him. The Spirit by which He spake, we must cherish; we are to present the truth as it is in Jesus. We are to follow Him especially in heart purity, in love. Self must be hid with Christ in God; then when Christ, who is our life, shall appear, we also shall appear with Him in glory.—Special Testimonies to Ministers and Workers, Series A 9:58 (1897). TM 512



“We must look to Jesus, study His words, pray for His spirit. We should be more frequently alone with God in meditation and prayer. Let us pray more and talk less. We cannot trust to our own wisdom, our own experience, our own knowledge of the truth; we must be daily learners, looking to our heavenly Teacher for instruction... knowing that He is faithful who has called.” OHC 362



“Give to Jesus the heart's best and holiest affections. Treasure every ray of light. Cherish every desire of the soul after God. Give yourselves the culture of spiritual thoughts and holy communings. You have seen but the first rays of the early dawn of His glory. As you follow on to know the Lord, you will know that His going forth is prepared as the morning. “The path of the righteous is as the light of dawn, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.” Proverbs 4:18, R. V., margin. Having repented of our sins, confessed them, and found pardon, we are to continue to learn of Christ until we come into the full noontide of a perfect gospel faith.” 8TPI, 317