

THE BIBLE PROJECT 2.03

NT 5: Jesus the Teacher—The Gospels



The main objective of this lesson is to do a survey of the principle teaching passages of the Gospels to survey what subjects Jesus addresses and to see how he teaches.

Using these references, note in writing what makes Jesus' teaching different from the other teachers in his day (Sadducees, Scribes, Pharisees, lawyers, etc.): [Jn 3.31-35](#); [Matt 7.28](#); [Luke 4.32](#); [19.47-48](#).

To what extent are the nature, purpose and will of God revealed apart Jesus Christ? Base your thoughts on [John 14.8-11](#); [Hebrews 1. 1-2](#) and John 17. 1-26. The point to be made is that without the Person and Teaching of Jesus, the nature, purpose and will of God are far less clear. Jesus is the final Word.

General Theme: As a teacher Jesus of Nazareth highlights the major issues of Life and Death.

BIG IDEA 1: JESUS TEACHES WITH THE AUTHORITY OF THE AUTHOR/CREATOR

What God intends Jesus teaches—from the mind of God to the words of Jesus

Claim of Bible is that Jesus is God's very voice to reveal what he wants us to know for Kingdom life.

[Jn 14. 8-11](#): He who has seen me has seen the Father.

The word that I say to you, I do not speak on my own but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

Heb 1:1-2

in the last days God has spoken to us by a Son--he is the exact imprint of God's very being.

John 12. 49-50: I have not spoken on my own, but the father who sent me has himself given me a commandment about what to say and what to speak. ...I speak just as the Father has told me.

Jn 7.16: My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me.

Matt 10. 40, Lk 10.16, Jn 13.20 He who receives [hears] you receives [hears] me and the one who sent me.

Lk 10.22-24: All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the son is except the Father or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

JESUS TEACHES WITH AUTHENTICITY AND AUTHORITY

Jn 3.31-35 The one from above is above all, whereas those of earth speak of earthly things. He whom God has sent speaks the words of God.

Mt. 7.28f: He astonished them: he spoke, not as the scribes, but as one who had authority.

Lk 4.32 Astonished at his teaching -- spoke with authority

Lk 19.47f: Everyday he spoke in the temple, but the ones seeking to kill him were prevented from doing so because his teaching held the people spellbound.

Jn 7.46: Temple police sent to arrest Jesus: "Never has anyone spoken like this."

You have heard it said, but I say to you -- **Mt 5**

Jesus has come to show the truth about both this life and the next. What's on earth is not a mystery to him, and neither is what is in heaven. He teaching is meant to touch all areas of life and human aspiration. He is the consummate teacher. **Luke 16. 19-31** – IF THEY DON'T BELIEVE MOSES & THE PROPHETS....

BIG IDEA 2: JESUS PRESENTS THE CREATOR-FATHER AS THE ONE IN CHARGE OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

The Lord's prayer: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Please no pause between *earth* and *as it is in heaven*:

Earth is not exempt from God's will. God means his will be done wherever he is in charge. And by those of whom he is in charge.

THE NATURE OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

The Kingdom is not a place.

The Kingdom is where the King is in charge.

The Kingdom would be better translated—the RULE or Reign of God.

The “Kingdom” in the OT *When did the understanding of the Reign of God break down? Why?*

It broke down when the “Kingdom” became a land, a human government, and a goal.

Occurrences of the word “kingdom” in the Gospels.

1. Matthew (54)
2. Mark (19)
3. Luke (43)
4. John (3)

Matthew 7.21 Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the **kingdom** of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 12.28 But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the **kingdom** of God has come upon you.

One of the big debates with MILLENIALISTS is whether Jesus is announcing "KINGDOM" ethics for the future “Kingdom of God” to come at the millennium, or whether Jesus means for his disciples to live by those commands now. Scofield wrote that the Gospels’ teachings apply to a future dispensation. The concern was not to confuse the *teaching* of Jesus with *salvation by grace alone*. On the one hand liberals said the gospel is what Jesus *taught; so his followers were to be identified by their deeds*. On the other hand, the millennialists became so concerned to avoid salvation by works that they bracketed whole portions of the Bible, including the moral teaching of Jesus, and failed to take account of his LORDSHIP in the present. Millennialists like Schofield and Darby said Jesus was speaking to those who are saved after Jesus sets up the Kingdom at the end of time as if the teaching of Jesus about morality would lead to the belief that the law had been re-imposed. But, they fail to account for a different understanding of the “Kingdom of God” which was a *correction to Judaism*. And they failed to understand the graciousness of the Covenant of the OT which insisted on obedience as a consequence of grace, not a condition of grace. Why do you call me Lord, if you do not do what I ask?

Fairness requires that we acknowledge that the sovereignty of God over the affairs of earth is a confusing matter.

How can God be in charge of this mess?

1. The ultimate sovereignty of God may not be apparent to us -- Corrie Ten Boom liked to hold up her embroidery. On the underside is a confusing, knotted tangle of threads.
On the upper side is a beautiful design.
2. The will of God is prescriptive which requires the cooperative will of human responsiveness. One of the reasons for the confusion is the result of the tangle of wills. Following God's will in the first place reduces the confusion of having to figure it out from the position of a predicament that comes from ignoring God's will until we get into trouble.

BIG IDEA 3: JESUS TEACHES THE WILL AND PURPOSE OF GOD: JESUS REASSERTS GOD’S PROJECT

Do you remember GOD’S PROJECT? See below.

Matthew 1. 21 Name him Jesus because he will save his people *from their sins*. See also Luke 13. 1-3

Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices.²

Ken Bailey writes that the expected response from a “savior/Messiah” would have been to tear his garments and exclaim, “How long O Lord! When will you come to save your people from this brutal occupation?”

BUT ACTUALLY Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.

“In a situation of oppression, it takes enormous courage to tell the oppressed community that all are sinners and that all must repent, for everyone is in need of grace for salvation.” (*Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes*, p.50) *It’s like saying to the willfully derelict, get a job!*

First and foremost it is the will of God and his primary purpose that the lost sheep return to him that we might live in eternal communion with him.

God’s Project: **God’s project:** *To create a world where his will is done, all creatures live in joyous concert and all fellowship fully with their Creator.*

Parables of the lost coin, sheep, son and older brother.

Jn 6.40 This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

Lk 12. 32 Do not be afraid, it is the Father's will to give you the kingdom.

Lk 19.10 The son of man came to seek and the save the lost. Zacchaeus

Jn 3.16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son so that whoever believes in him might not perish, but have eternal life.

Luke 15:10 In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the **angels** of God over one sinner who repents.”

Mark 2:17 On hearing this, Jesus said to them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Jn 17; Jn 19.30 (It is finished)

BIG IDEA 4: JESUS REVEALS THE TRUE NATURE OF GOD

Imagine a return of Jesus to substitute in theology class:

Whom do you say that I am, he would ask.

Well taught theology students might answer:

"You are the eschatological, ground of being, the ontological essence of the tangential point of coincidence of the eternal still point in time and space."

Jesus would scratch his head and say: “Huh?”

We talk about God in Greek abstractions when we use our vocabulary to describe his omniscience, omnipotence, omnipresence, transcendence, immutability and his eternity.

Westminster shorter catechism is an example of that: God is a spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.

Jesus revealed God in the HEBREW MODE;

When he saw a leper, he was moved with pity. Mk 1. 41

He had compassion on people as sheep without a shepherd Mk 6.34

He fed the hungry --Mk 6

He forgave to heal -- Mk 2

He attacked bigotry, greed and hypocrisy Mt 23.13-36 [woes on Pharisees]; Mk 11: 15-17 Second cleansing of temple

He touched lepers,

he ate with Simon and let the sinful woman wash his feet.

he went home to dinner with Zacchaeus.

he took money from women -- Lk 8

he healed on the Sabbath

he healed the Gentiles -- legion, centurion's servant, Syrophenician's daughter, etc.

The parable of the Tax Collector and the Sinner at Temple Luke 18. 9-14

The first and last words from his lips included, FATHER.

Lk 2.49 & 23.16

He knew God as Abba. Lord's prayer & in the Garden: Mk 14.36

FATHER LOVES EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER of the family.

Mt 18.12-14 lost sheep: it is not the will of you Father in heaven that **one** of these little ones should be lost.

Mindful of the needs of the children: Mt 6. 31-33: heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

Ministers to these needs: LK 11.9-13: Ask and you shall receive... *If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!*

BIG IDEA 5: JESUS REVEALS TRUE HUMAN NATURE AND PURPOSE

A South African farmer in the mountains, found an eagle fallen out of its nest. He took it home and raised it with his chickens. This eagle walked like a chicken. It clucked like a chicken. But it finally grew to be a mature eagle physically, but had never flown. It had a 10 foot wing span. The farmer finally took this eagle back to the mountains—to the edge of a high cliff and threw it over the precipice. The eagle dropped and dropped but finally found its wings and soared away--because it always had the genes and the heart of an eagle.

So, too, humanity has lived too long amid the chickens, *not to mention, the turkeys.*

Jesus came to show us true human nature.

Henry Ford tried to run the first cars on kerosene. They did not run until he used gasoline in the engine.

Man shall not live by bread alone, Jesus taught. You can't put in the wrong fuel and expect to function. The word of God is as important to humanity as the four food groups. We wonder why humanity is so inhumane? Are we trying to run a gasoline engine on Kerosene?

The temptations of Jesus in Mt 4/ Luke 4 reveal his secret source of human strength -- God's explicit declaration of his will

Man shall not live by bread alone.

You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.

Jn 4 – my food is to do the will of him who sent me

BIG IDEA 5a: JESUS TEACHES THAT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IS THE BASIS OF FULLY HUMAN LIFE (ABUNDANT LIFE).

Subordinate God to human purpose?

That is the temptation that Jesus experiences, just as did Adam and Eve. Still today that is the temptation: we even sell religion on the basis of the good it will do you and the world.

But Jesus teaches and shows that the primary goal of life is to be God-related:

Love the Lord your God with all your heart Mt 22.36-40

Seek the Kingdom -- Mk 13.44-46

Hunger and thirst after righteousness Mt 5.6

Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect -- Mt 5.41

Choose the good portion -- like Mary listening to the word of Jesus -- Lk 10.38-42

Hear the word and keep it Jn 14.23 -- if you love me, you WILL keep my commandments.

Invest your gifts to the increase of the kingdom -- Mt 25.14ff, Lk 12. 47-48`12 -- from the one to whom much is given, much will be required.

BIG IDEA 5b: JESUS TURNS OVER FALSE VALUES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE TRUE LIFE.

Mt 16.26

Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Or what will a man give in return for their life?

Mk 8.36-38 Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Mt 6. 19-21: Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, you will know them by their fruits. Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven."

Lk 8.14-- don't be like the seed that fell among thorns which was choked out by the maze of weeds that spring up -- cares, and riches and pleasures of life.

Lk 12. 15-21 Take care, be on guard against all kinds of greed. for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things that he possesses. -- parable of the rich fool.

Jn 6. 27 Do not work for food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.

Jesus lived the truths he proclaimed: -- CLASS LOOK UP

Mk 14.36, 14.39; Not my will but yours be done; and again he prayed the same.

Jn 4.34

Jn 5.30

Jn 6.38

Jn 8.29 -- I always do what is pleasing to the one who sent me

Jn 10.36-38

BIG IDEA 6: JESUS IDENTIFIES THE OPPOSING “POWERS” THAT THREATEN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR FATHER.

Jesus knows the powers of darkness are real.

Mt 13. 18-22 Parable of the sower -- evil one comes. Only some seed grows.

Lk 8. 12 same -- the devil comes to snatch the good seed.

Jn 8.44 -- Abraham is our father -- NO you are from your father the devil, and you choose to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, because he is a liar and the father of lies.

Encourages us to seek a power to offset the weakness of the flesh:

Mt. 26.41 Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial -- the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.

Jn 6.63 The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

Lk 22. 40: Pray that you may not come to the time of trial

He warned against an unhealthy preoccupation with things of this life which may issue in death [Mt. 13.22 --thorns to seed; Lk 8.14]-- what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Mk 8.36

He challenges us to choose: Mt. 6.22-24

No one can serve both God and mammon.

BIG IDEA 7: JESUS DETAILS WHAT’S REQUIRED FOR A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FATHER AND THE CHILDREN

Marching orders

Constant evaluation of motives

Prayer and alms-giving—Mathew 6

Obedience to the moral demands, not just the traditions of men --as matter of the heart from which comes what defiles.

Concern beyond the ethnic distinctives of Jewishness

Mt. 5. 43-47 -- Love your enemy; For if you love only those who love you, what reward do you have?

Lk 14. 12-14 -- don't invite just your friends to dinner, invite instead the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind.

Lk 10: 25-37 -- Good Samaritan

A compassionate and forgiving spirit -- tolerant? Check out Matt 5.17-20, 48

Lk 17. 3-4 If another disciple sins you must rebuke the offender and if there is repentance, you must forgive. And if the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turn back to you seven times and says, "I repent," you must forgive."

Mt 6: 12,14 If you forgive, you will be forgiven

Mt 18. 21-22

ALSO MT 5.23ff-- when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you...

Willingness to

- put God's will first
- take up a cross
- play the role of a servant -- Mt 20.25-28, Mk 10.42-45, John 13
- to bring the message of the savior to all peoples [*ethne*]
- love one another
- Such are marks of those who would number themselves among the redeemed.

BIG IDEA 8: JESUS' OFFERS PROMISES, POWERS AND BLESSINGS TO HIS FOLLOWERS

Holy spirit who counsels, comforts, teaches and empowers

Jn 14. 26 greater things than these

Mk 13.11

Lk 12.11

Power over Satan

Lk 10.19 I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and power over the enemy; and nothing will hurt you.

Lk 21.15 I have given you words and wisdom that none of your enemies will be able to withstand or contradict.

The forgiveness of sins

Mk 11.25

Lk 5.20

Victory over death-- Jn 8.51; John 11

promise of eternal life -- Mt 25.46,

Mk 10.30

Jn 3.15

Jn 5.24

Jn 6.47

Jn 14.2 -- in my father's house

BIG IDEA 9 JESUS: FAITH APPROPRIATES GOD'S BEST WORK

Mt 9.20-22 Jesus heals the woman with the hemorrhage—your faith has healed you.

Mk 5.34

Mk 10.52

Mt 9./29

Mt 21.21

Mt 17.20 -- I tell you, if you have the faith of a grain of mustard seed.....nothing shall be impossible for you.

Mustard seed faith and moving Mountains. **See SLIDES**

He replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a **mustard seed**, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

Mark 11. 12-25 Jesus is on Mount of Olives

²² "Have faith in God," Jesus answered. ²³ "Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them."

Mk 9.23 All things can be done for him who believes.

Lk 7.50 Simon's house: He said to the woman -- Your faith has saved you, go in peace.

What is the primary subject of Jesus?

BIG IDEA RECAP:

BIG IDEA 1: JESUS TEACHES WITH THE AUTHORITY OF THE AUTHOR/CREATOR

BIG IDEA 2: JESUS PRESENTS THE CREATOR-FATHER AS THE ONE IN CHARGE OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

BIG IDEA 3: JESUS TEACHES THE WILL AND PURPOSE OF GOD: JESUS REASSERTS GOD'S PROJECT

BIG IDEA 4: JESUS REVEALS THE TRUE NATURE OF GOD

BIG IDEA 5: JESUS REVEALS TRUE HUMAN NATURE AND PURPOSE

BIG IDEA 5a: JESUS TEACHES THAT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IS THE BASIS OF FULLY HUMAN LIFE (ABUNDANT LIFE).

BIG IDEA 5b: JESUS TURNS OVER FALSE VALUES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE TRUE LIFE.

BIG IDEA 6: JESUS IDENTIFIES THE OPPOSING "POWERS" THAT THREATEN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR FATHER.

BIG IDEA 7: JESUS DETAILS WHAT'S REQUIRED FOR A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FATHER AND THE CHILDREN

BIG IDEA 8: JESUS OFFERS PROMISES, POWERS AND BLESSINGS TO HIS FOLLOWERS

BIG IDEA 9 JESUS TEACHES THAT FAITH APPROPRIATES GOD'S BEST WORK

The Bible Project 2.03

Consider the following if you choose to prepare for next class:

Next Class, Jesus corrects the misunderstanding of God's purposes.

READ Gospel of Matthew

Make written notations of the reactions of those whom Jesus charges with these errors:

- Distorted use of the Law
- Misunderstanding of "Exceptionalism"
- Improper emphasis on "traditions" for the sake of "tradition."

React to how disciples wanted to treat the woman in Matthew 15. 21-28. What were the factors?

Matt 5. 13-15; Luke 8. 16-21, 10.29-37, 14.34 need to be read in the context of false

Do some geography: extra credit ☺ if you plot these on the map.

You will be doing this in class—so preparation will help.

- When Jesus stills the storm on Galilee, where is he headed? /Matt 8. 23-28, Mark 4.35-5.20 & Luke 8. 22-39 across the sea to Gadarenes or Gerasenes.
- Where does Jesus feed the 5000 Matt 14 and parallels?
- When Jesus walks on water, to where is he headed? Matt 14.34-36
- Then what subject does Jesus address? Matt 15. 1-20; Mark 7
- Then where is Jesus when he is "pestered" by the Syrophoenician woman?
- Where does he go from the Syrophoenician Woman and what does he do? Matt. 15. 29-31 & Mark 7. 31-37
- Where does Jesus feed the 4000? Mark 8. 1-10
- Where does Jesus heal the blind man in Mark 8.22 f?
- Why does Jesus use the "sign of the prophet Jonah" at this time? Matt 16.4
- Where is Jesus when Peter makes his momentous Confession?
- Where is Jesus for the transfiguration? Matt 17.1-9, Mark 9. 2-10 and Luke 9. 28-36

What's the point?

MARKERS

Matt 9; Mark 5; Luke 8	Healing of hemorrhaging woman and Jairus' daughter.
Matt 12, Mark 2, Luke 6	Jesus and the Sabbath
Matt 12, Mark 3, Luke 11	Collusion with Satan & Sin against the Holy Spirit
Matt 13, Mark 4, Luke 8 & 15	Parables
Matt 14, Mark 6, Luke 9 & John 6	Feeding 5000



The physical map of modern Israel. Use this map to locate the events listed in the study sheet. The map on the reverse side may help you understand where those places are and in what political jurisdiction they are located.

