

10. Christ spoke sustaining words

Isaiah 50:4 - The Lord God has given Me the tongue of disciples, that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word....

Matthew 11:28-29 - "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Give an example from scripture when Christ spoke sustaining, supportive, nourishing, hope-bearing, life-giving words to someone who was weary.

When has Christ done that for you?

To which weary person have you spoken a sustaining word in the last week?

Lord, thank You for Your sustaining words. Show me those in my path today who are weary. Please give me sustaining, supportive, nourishing, hope-bearing, life-giving words from scripture to speak to them.

11. Christ spoke encouraging words

Matthew 14:26-27 - When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

How did Christ's words encourage the disciples?

How have Christ's words encouraged you at a time when you were fearful, discouraged, or disillusioned?

What encouraging words have you spoken in the last 24 hours?

Lord, thank You for Your words of encouragement. Show me those in path today who are fearful, discouraged, or disillusioned. Please give me encouraging words from scripture to speak to them.

12. Christ spoke challenging words

Matthew 14:30-31 - *But seeing the wind, he [Peter] became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him, and said to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"*

How did Christ's words challenge Peter in this passage?

In what ways has your faith been challenged to grow as you study Scripture?

How can you challenge others to grow in their faith?

Lord, thank You for Your challenging words that help me to grow in my faith. Show me those in my path today who need to grow in their faith. Please give me challenging words from scripture to speak to them that will prompt them to grow and mature.

13. Christ spoke words of rebuke

Matthew 15:7-9 - *"You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you: 'This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me. But in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.'"*

Notice that Christ's rebuke did not involve personal opinions or preferences. Rather it involved accurately teaching scripture and worshiping God with hearts that are close to God.

When has Christ rebuked you for not having a right heart when teaching or worshiping?
How can we prepare our hearts for teaching and worshiping?

Are you keeping your heart close to God so that your worship and teaching are not in vain?

Lord, thank You for words of rebuke that keep me close to You. Please keep me from expressing personal opinions or preferences. Let any words of correction to others be only about accurately teaching scripture and worshiping You with hearts that are close to God.

14. Christ spoke words of warning

Matthew 24:42-44 - "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will."

What is the warning contained in these verses?

How can we be ready for Christ's coming?

What are you doing to prepare for His coming?

Lord, thank You for Your words of warning that are meant to prepare me for Your coming. Help me as I prepare. Help me to encourage others to prepare and be ready.