



## The Importance Of Teaching

### *Icebreaker:*

Who was one of your favorite teachers growing up, and why did you like them?

### *The Study:*

In the Great Commission, Jesus tells us after we “*make disciples*” and welcome new believers into the family through baptism, we’re to “*teach them to obey everything Jesus commanded*” (Matthew 28:20). It’s far from a trivial point.

A healthy, growing church provides a rich banquet of biblical instruction for its people. And a healthy, growing believer humbles himself to receive that teaching. This study explores two key questions about teaching.



### *Why do we need to be taught?*

- Because we all enter the kingdom of God as babies.

1. Read 1 Peter 2:2. If a person accepts Christ at the age of 30 or 40, isn’t it a bit unfair (and undignified) to describe them as spiritual babies? Why or why not?

2. How do you know you’re a spiritual baby or not?

- It’s not by age or how long you’ve been a Christian.

*Read Psalm 119:99-100.* How could he say this?

- Spiritual infancy is shown by lack of biblical *knowledge*.

*Read Hebrews 5:12-14.*

Do you think you should be further along in the faith than you are?

What are some tangible things you can do to up your game?

- Spiritual infancy is shown by lack of biblical *behavior*.

*Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-4.*

What marked off the Corinthians as childish?

What are some childish behaviors you think the Lord wants you to start surrendering to him? Be specific.

- Ummmm...how else are you going to grow?

3. So you’re standing outside your Egyptian home the morning after the first Passover. You can hear the wails of your Egyptian neighbors whose firstborn children are dead. You reach up and touch the dried lamb’s blood that you painted above your door the night before.

So you’re standing on the beach after crossing the Red Sea. The water has just swallowed up the Egyptians. Mud is still caked on your sandals. You look ahead into the desert...you are free.

*How will your descendants come to know what you are experiencing right now? And what it means for you? Discuss your thoughts, then read Psalm 78:4-7.*

- The Spirit of God uses the Word of God to transform us into the Children of God.

4. Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17. Write out ten specific observations about the Word of God from these verses. (Each observation should be short and to the point.)

5. The Bible calls itself the “sword of the Spirit” (Eph.6:17). As a sword it can protect us from evil that’s outside of us. Jesus used Bible verses he had memorized to ward off Satan’s temptations.

a. What does Psalm 119:11 say?

b. Have I made a habit of memorizing Scripture? If not, why not?

6. As a sword, the Bible protects us from evil that’s *inside* of us. Pastor Bear shared a story of how reading the Bible one day exposed bitterness against a friend that he had been harboring (bitterness he wasn’t even aware was there.)

*Read Hebrews 4:12, then discuss what the verse is saying.  
Have you ever experienced this?*

## *Where do I receive this teaching?*

- In the home from my parents.

*Read 2 Timothy 3:14-15 & 2 Timothy 1:5.*

7. Parents must teach their children *early* and *often*. What are some good spiritual habits to develop in our homes? Write down at least a half-dozen ideas that come to mind. Underline those that you are presently practicing. Circle those that you think would be good ones to start doing.

8. Isn’t it “brainwashing” to shove too much Jesus down our kids’ throats. Shouldn’t religion be something they decide for themselves?

- In the church from God’s people.

*Read 2 Timothy 3:10-11.*

9. What did Timothy learn from Paul?

10. Should this teaching be all on the pastor? And should it be all on Sunday? *Read Colossians 3:16.*

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