



SHARING SCRIPTURE

Discover • Jesus • Together

Jesus as the Master Teacher

For use: October 25 - 31

Texts: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2 Corinthians 4:1-6; John 1:14, 18, 14:1-14; Philippians 2:1-11; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Leadership has been at the forefront of both business and education news. Since spring, the status quo has changed and what was known to be effective practices had to be tweaked, if not totally overhauled. As in-person meetings changed to Zoom, relationship-building became more difficult for teachers and for business leaders.

In a recent article on educational leadership in *Edutopia Magazine*, George Farmer, a passionate New Jersey administrator, shares five leadership skills. First, a leader must have a **“360-degree” perspective**, the ability to look at all angles. Next, leadership means being proactive, **anticipating what might happen**. Then, **skilled communication** is imperative in order for everyone to understand what is going on. After communication comes **modeling**. Effective teachers and leaders show, rather than just tell. Finally, **an effective leader is compassionate**. Relationships take time and good teachers listen. These five traits show some of the best practices for effective educational leaders, for successful teachers.[1]

This week, we look at Jesus as the Master Teacher. When we compare how Jesus taught and led with what we consider best practices today, we can see that Jesus is the Standard. Rather than ascribing to a paradigm, Jesus *is* the paradigm. He is God Incarnate showing us both himself and God. Every interaction, each bit of instruction demonstrates this point.

In our lesson, we see background for the foundation of Jesus. As we read the words spoken by Him we can have definite faith in who Jesus is and who God is.

Effective leaders build relationships. We come to the Father through a relationship through Jesus. How does that compare to the effective leadership we examined earlier?

- Jesus gives us a view for eternity, not just for now. We are shown the present as it relates to eternity.
- Jesus anticipated what would happen and provided Himself as our sacrifice and advocate.
- Jesus longs for communication with us, and through the Holy Spirit, we communicate with God.
- Jesus, the Ultimate Teacher, showed us how to live. He modeled a life of love and service.
- Jesus leads us with compassion, with love, and with understanding because God is love.

Effective leaders delegate responsibility. Jesus Christ does exactly that when we are given the opportunity to be involved in “the work of sharing his message about peace. We were sent to speak for Christ. . .” 2 Corinthians 19-20.

Teachers and leaders often praise the mentors that taught them and patiently led them to be better than they could have ever dreamed of being on their own. We praise Jesus, our Master Teacher, who has taught us more than we knew was possible.

~Joy Veverka

[1] <https://www.edutopia.org/article/leading-uncertain-times-empowering-others>

For Reflection

Connecting: Think for a moment about someone who taught you who Jesus is. What about that person’s teaching revealed Jesus to you? Share your thoughts either in person or in the chat if you are in a Zoom or other online/text session.

Sharing: Read John 14:1-14. How does this passage reveal Jesus as a teacher?

1. The disciples’ best interest, as well as ours, is shown to be in the heart of Jesus by the reassurance given of a place being prepared.
2. God the Father is revealed to us through the person of Jesus, with mission and intent being the same.
3. The learner is brought to a point of accountability through the questions Jesus asked.
4. Jesus assures learners, or us, that by following his teachings we will be productive in the same way.
5. Jesus involves us as learners in mission, and reminds us of how available he is to us when we ask in Jesus’ name.
6. Other:

Applying: As we continue to navigate through the distancing and isolation of

the COVID-19 pandemic, it may seem difficult to find opportunities to be a teacher in sharing Jesus. Brainstorm ways you could reach out. You might consider reading stories via FaceTime or Zoom to a close friend or relative of any age. Families with young children might welcome the help while those who are isolated may welcome the friendship. Those who are older may feel connected when someone calls to chat or to read to them.

Valuing: Forgetting about past experiences, think about how you would like to have Jesus revealed through you. Ask God to make you aware of the opportunities presented to you to share Jesus, or teach about Jesus' love and forgiveness.

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