> Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.
> *— 1 Corinthians 15:1-2*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: Evangelism, faith, Salvation

Interpretation:
The gospel is the central message of the Christian faith. It is the good news of salvation through *Jesus Christ*. *The apostle Paul*, in his letter to the Corinthians, states that he preached the gospel to those he spoke to, and that they received it and abode in it. These verses challenge us to consider the significance of the gospel in our lives and our personal responsibility to persevere in it.

What is the gospel?

The term gospel means good news. In the Bible, it refers specifically to the message of salvation through Jesus Christ. The gospel teaches us that we are sinners and separated from God, but that by the grace of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, we can be saved and reconciled to Him.

Our personal responsibility

In the verses quoted, Paul emphasizes that his recipients received the gospel and abode in it. Perseverance is a personal responsibility in the Christian faith. Faith is not just a single act of belief, but an ongoing attitude of trust and obedience. As Christians, we must maintain our faith even in times of hardship and temptation.

How do we maintain the preached word?

One way to internalize the preached word is to study the Bible and meditate on its teachings. We can also listen to sermons and attend churches where the truth of the gospel is taught. Furthermore, we must apply what we learn in our daily lives and share the gospel with others to strengthen our faith and help others find salvation.

What does it mean to “believe in vain”?

The end of *1 Corinthians 15:2* speaks of *“faith in vain.”* This means believing the gospel without true faith or a full understanding of its meaning. Faith alone is not enough to save us. Therefore, we must not only maintain the preached word, but also believe it with sincerity and true faith.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.
>
> *— 1 Corinthians 2:2*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: Evangelism, Crucifixion, Jesus, mind

Interpretation:
This is a very important passage in the Bible that calls us to focus our lives on Jesus Christ and His sacrifice on the cross. The Apostle Paul wrote these words to the Corinthian Christians to emphasize the importance of putting Christ first in everything we do.

To better understand this verse, it helps to understand the context in which it was written. The Corinthians were a diverse and conflicted Christian community that was struggling with problems such as immorality, division, and selfishness. In his letter, Paul calls the Corinthians to live in unity and submit to the wisdom of God. He reminds them that human wisdom is not enough to understand the ways of God, but they need the power of the Holy Spirit to fully understand them.

When Paul says, *“For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified”* , he is referring to the centrality of Christ in the Christian life.

Christ is the symbol of God's love for humanity because through the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, God reconciled us to Himself. Therefore, we must focus on Christ's redemptive work on the cross as the center of our faith and as the basis of our hope for eternal life.

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> For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building.
> *— 1 Corinthians 3:9*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: Evangelism, Church, serving

Interpretation:
1 Corinthians 3:9 is one of the most beautiful expressions of God and man cooperating. *The Apostle Paul* uses this word to describe how God works with his followers in the world.

What does it mean to co-operate with God?

First, the term *“co-worker”* implies partnership or cooperation in the work of God. Paul says that they are not simply *“workers”* of God, but that they are actively involved with Him in building *His Kingdom*. This cooperation involves more than simply following God’s commands, but also conscious and creative participation in God’s work.

God’s plow

The verse also mentions that we are God’s *“farm,”* which has profound implications. Tilling the soil is the process of preparing the land for fruitfulness, requiring persistent and constant labor.

So we can take this verse as an invitation to the work of preparing our souls, an inner work we do to prepare our hearts for God’s purposes. *The Holy Spirit* is at work in us, preparing us to bear fruit in love, peace, patience, and humility.

God’s building

Finally, the verse mentions that we are *“God’s building.”* This term refers to the church, the community of believers. The church, in turn, is the place where we gather to serve God and grow together as children of God.

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> As for you, see that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.
> *— 1 John 2:24*

Book: New Testament / 1 John
Topics: Evangelism, Father, Jesus, listening

Interpretation:
In *1 John 2:24, the apostle John* encourages us to abide in what we have heard from the beginning. This is an important exhortation that is still relevant today. In this passage, John tells us to be rooted *in the Word of God*, for only through it can we abide in fellowship with *the Son and the Father*.

Remain in the Word

The term *"remain"* in this verse is a translation of the Greek word *"meno,"* which means to dwell or to be present. So John is encouraging us to abide in the Word of God. To paraphrase the verse, John is telling us, *"What you have heard from the beginning remains in you."*

The idea behind this is that the Word of God should not only be present in our minds, but it should be rooted in our hearts and be an integral part of our lives.

The importance of abiding in the Word

The Word of God is God's way of communicating with us. In it we find the truth, wisdom, and guidance we need to live a full and satisfying life. Abiding in the Word means we develop our relationship with God, listen to His voice, and follow His will.

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> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.
> *— 1 Peter 2:9*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter

Topics: Evangelism, Holiness, Light, Salvation

Interpretation:
1 Peter 2:9 is a reminder of the role each of us plays in God's divine mission. The verse emphasizes that all of us, as believers *in Christ*, are chosen by God to be part *of Christ's* royal priesthood. This means that we were created to serve God and that we are charged with proclaiming His greatness, mercy, goodness, and love.

Moreover, the verse tells us that as believers, we have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light. That is, God has brought us out of the darkness of sin and given us His divine light so that we can live in truth and righteousness. As believers, we play a vital role in society. *1 Peter 2:9* reminds us that we are called to be a "holy nation" and "God's special possession." This means that through our faith, we are to work for the good of society and strive to create a more just and loving community for all.

Moreover, as priests, we must bring God's love and grace to society. This means taking action against poverty, discrimination, cruelty and hatred. We must love our neighbors as ourselves, offering help and hope to those in need.

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> But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.
> *— 1 Peter 3:15*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter
Topics: Evangelism, hope, Jesus

Interpretation:
The book of 1 Peter was written by the apostle *Peter* to comfort and exhort Christians who were exiled to Asia Minor. In this passage, Peter calls believers to be prepared to defend their faith. At that time, Christianity was illegal, and Christians were persecuted by the Roman and Jewish authorities. Peter wanted to make sure that believers could cope with these situations and remain faithful to God.

Sanctify God in our hearts

Before talking about defending the faith, Peter calls believers to sanctify God in their hearts. This means that we must have a pure heart that is dedicated to God. Sanctification involves turning away from sin and worldly temptations and drawing closer to God. When our hearts are dedicated to God, we are better able to effectively and faithfully defend our faith.

Preparing to defend the faith

Peter tells us that we must be prepared to present a defense of our faith to anyone who asks us the reason for our hope *in Christ*. This means that we must be prepared to answer questions and challenges regarding our faith. This preparation is important because in an increasingly secularized world, Christians often find themselves in situations where their faith is challenged.

Preparing to defend our faith requires a solid understanding of Scripture. We must know the Bible and be in harmony with the teachings of the Church. This will enable us to respond effectively and wisely to the challenges that come our way. It is also important to be open *to the Holy Spirit* and allow Him to guide us in our responses.

The right attitude

Peter tells us that we are to present our defense with meekness and reverence. Meekness refers to the humility and gentleness of our hearts. We are to be gentle when presenting our defense, without arrogance or selfishness. It is important to have the right attitude when we present our defense of our faith. We should not attack or ridicule those who challenge our faith. Instead, we should be respectful and loving, remembering that our job is to share the gospel of love and hope.

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> Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great: He appeared in the flesh, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.
>
> *— 1 Timothy 3:16*

Book: New Testament / 1 Timothy
Topics: Evangelism, Angels, Ascension, faith, Jesus, Spirit

Interpretation:
The Bible verse *1 Timothy 3:16* speaks of the mystery of godliness, that is, the fulfillment of God's plan for the salvation of mankind through the manifestation of God in the flesh. This mystery cannot be understood instantly; it takes time to understand its importance and significance in the life of a Christian.

God was manifest in the flesh

The first part of the verse, "He appeared in the flesh," refers to the incarnation of *Jesus*. *Jesus Christ, the Son of God*, took on human form and lived a sinless life on earth. This is one of the most fundamental beliefs of the Christian faith, and the incarnation *of Christ* is considered the most important event in human history. The fact that God came to earth and dwelt among us is evidence of God's love and grace toward us.

Justified in the Spirit

The fact that Jesus was "was vindicated by the Spirit" implies that His death on the cross and resurrection were the confirmation of God's plan for the redemption of mankind. Jesus' death was a just and necessary work that allowed *the Holy Spirit* to work more powerfully in the lives of believers.

Showed Himself to the Angels

The part of the verse that says "was seen by angels" emphasizes that God's work in the incarnation was not only important for mankind, but was also witnessed and understood by the angels in heaven. This suggests that Jesus' incarnation was a powerful and significant manifestation of God's plan for mankind.

Was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world

The image of Jesus being preached to the Gentiles and being believed in by the world speaks of the spread of the gospel. The church of Jesus Christ has been spreading throughout the world for over two thousand years, and the fact that so many people have believed in Him is a testament to the impact and truth of His message.

Ascended in Glory

The last part of the verse, "was taken up in glory," speaks of Jesus Christ's victory over death and His ascension to heaven. The fact that God received Jesus in glory is a sign that His work on the cross was accepted and approved by God. This victory over death is a source of hope and comfort for all believers.

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> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.
> *— 2 Corinthians 5:18*

Book: New Testament / 2 Corinthians
Topics: Evangelism, reconciliation

Interpretation:
2 Corinthians 5:18 tells us about reconciliation with God through *Jesus Christ* and how this process allows us to become part of the ministry of reconciliation.

Reconciling with God

As Christians, we all long for a close and meaningful relationship with our *Creator*. However, because of our sins, we have become distant from God. But through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we can be reconciled to God. *2 Corinthians 5:18* reminds us that all of this is an expression of God's love and grace toward us.

The work of Christ

Jesus Christ is the means by which we are reconciled to God. He took our sins to the cross and paid for them, allowing us to approach *the Father* without fear. As the verse says, it is through Christ that God reconciled us to Himself.

The importance of reconciliation

Once we are reconciled to God, He makes us ministers of reconciliation. This means that we must share the message of salvation with those who have not yet accepted *Jesus as their Savior*. Our job is to bring reconciliation to others so that they too can enjoy a full relationship with God.

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> He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
> *— 2 Thessalonians 2:14*

Book: New Testament / 2 Thessalonians
Topics: Evangelism, calling

Interpretation:
2 Thessalonians 2:14 tells us that God has called us through the gospel so that we might receive the glory of our *Lord Jesus Christ*. This means that our faith in Jesus and His word is the gate to heaven.

This verse helps us understand the importance of the gospel in our lives and the need to follow Jesus' word. It also encourages us to share this message with others so that they can experience the same salvation that we have.

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> Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.
> *— 2 Timothy 4:2*

Book: New Testament / 2 Timothy
Topics: Evangelism, patience, punishment

Interpretation:
The verse in *2 Timothy 4:2* tells us about the importance of preaching *the Word of God* at all times, no matter the circumstances. The word *"persuade"* in the Greek means *"to urge"* and this tells us that preaching the Word of God is not optional, but a task that we must persevere in, even in difficult times.

Preach the Word and be ready to do It

The call to preach the Word of God should be a constant part of our lives. We should not wait for the perfect moment or the perfect conditions to do it, but be ready to do it at any moment so that we can take advantage of every opportunity that presents itself.

It is important to understand that preaching the Word of God can often be uncomfortable or difficult, especially when it comes to potentially controversial topics. However, the verse calls us to do so with patience and teaching, which means that we must be ready to explain and support our arguments based on the Word of God.

Rebuke and exhort

In addition to preaching the Word of God, we are also called to rebuke, and exhort. These terms refer to convincing, correcting, and encouraging listeners, respectively. It is not only about imparting knowledge, but also about getting people to change their way of thinking and live according to God's commandments.

It is true that this type of work can be difficult and stressful, especially when it involves correcting someone or calling for change. However, as Christians, we must recognize that this work is necessary to help people find the right path and live according to God's will.

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> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.
> — *Acts 1:8*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: Evangelism, Holy Spirit, pentecost, Spirit, strength

Interpretation:
Acts 1:8 tells us about the power of the *Holy Spirit* and that we, as believers, are to be witnesses of *Jesus* everywhere.

Receiving the power of the Holy Spirit

Verse 8 begins with the words, *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you."* Here the writer shows us that in order to be witnesses of Jesus, we must first receive the power of the Holy Spirit. The power of the Holy Spirit helps us to better understand God's Word and act according to His will in our lives.

Receiving the power of the Holy Spirit is a gift we receive when we accept Jesus as our personal Savior. The Holy Spirit dwells within us to help us grow in faith and live according to God's commandments. It also helps us better understand God's Word and gives us strength to overcome the trials and difficulties of life.

Witnesses of Jesus

Acts 1:8 also shows us that as believers, we are called to be witnesses of Jesus everywhere. We are to share our testimony with others and show them God's love through our actions and words. The moment we receive the Holy Spirit, we are given the responsibility to be witnesses for Jesus. This is not an option, but a responsibility that we have as Christians.

Wherever we are and whatever we do, we must be faithful to our calling to be witnesses for Jesus. This can be difficult at times, and there are times when we feel intimidated or alienated. But this verse reminds us that we have the power of the Holy Spirit within us, empowering us to share our faith with others.

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> Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right."
>
> — *Acts 10:34-35*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: Evangelism, obedience, righteousness

Interpretation:
To understand the meaning of *Acts 10:34-35*, we need to have a historical and religious context. This passage is about a Roman official named *Cornelius* who was a righteous and godly man. Although he was a Gentile, meaning he was not Jewish, he believed in God and did good works.

At that time, the Jews considered Gentiles unclean and unworthy of being part of the religious community. However, God showed *Peter* in a vision that he should not call unclean what He had sanctified. Peter then visited Cornelius and preached *the gospel of Jesus Christ*.

What does it mean that God does not show favoritism?

People often have preconceived notions about religion and believe that only certain groups of people are worthy of salvation. However, *Acts 10:34* teaches us that this is not the case. God does not show favoritism or choose certain people based on their ethnicity, wealth, nationality, or any other characteristic.

In fact, God is available to everyone, regardless of their background, race, gender, or social status. In fact, this idea is not new in the Bible; we can find it in other passages, such as *Romans 2:11*, which says, *"For God does not show favoritism."*

The meaning of the phrase "God does not show favoritism"

The principle that *"God does not show favoritism"* has important implications. First of all, it means that everyone is equal before God. No one is more worthy of His love, grace, and mercy than another. Furthermore, it means that everyone has the right to find *salvation in Christ* and to be accepted as *God's children*.

This principle also means that Christians should refrain from judging others based on their gender, race, or background. All Christians should strive to be inclusive and accepting of all people, regardless of their background or personality.

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> For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."
> *— Acts 13:47*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: Evangelism, Light, Salvation

Interpretation:
Acts 13:47 reminds us that our mission as Christians is to be light bearers to the world, especially to those who have not yet received the *gospel*. This message is not just for a few nations or countries, but *"to the ends of the earth."*

The light of the Gospel

In the Bible, light is a symbol of knowledge and truth. This verse tells us that *Jesus Christ* has commissioned us to be the light of the Gentiles, that is, those who are not part of God's chosen people. In other words, our job is to bring the message of salvation to those who have not yet heard it. This is a great responsibility and honor for each of us as Christians.

Be light bearers

Being light bearers means that we must live our faith sincerely and make it visible to others. As Christians, we must reflect the love and truth of Christ in every aspect of our lives.

This does not mean that we have to be perfect, but we must be willing to admit our weaknesses and ask for forgiveness when we make mistakes. Being a light bearer also means being an example to others, showing them the way to God and salvation.

Helping others

Acts 13:47 also reminds us that our mission as Christians is to help others find salvation. We are to be attentive to the needs of those around us and be willing to offer our help and support when needed.

This may mean sharing our experiences and knowledge, as well as our material and spiritual blessings. We are to do everything we can to help others understand God's love and His plan of salvation for their lives.

Reflection

Ultimately, the light we share with others is a manifestation of God's love for us. Our job as Christians is to live our faith in such a way that others can see God's love through us. By doing this, we will not only fulfill our mission as Christians, but we will also find true peace and purpose in our lives.

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> You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house.
>
> *— Acts 20:20*

Book: New Testament / Acts

Topics: Evangelism, learning

Interpretation:
Acts 20:20 is a statement by the *apostle Paul* about his ministry. This verse shows us that for Paul, his job as a minister of the *gospel* was not just to preach in churches, but to teach people in their homes. In other words, he did not limit himself to just one type of audience, but used different channels to communicate God's message.

The first part of the verse says, *"You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful."* This demonstrates Paul's commitment to the gospel. He was not ashamed of the teachings he preached, but he saw them as extremely beneficial to the people. Paul clearly understood the importance of God's truth in the lives of believers, and he was willing to share that truth without restraint or fear.

The second part of the verse says, *"have taught you publicly and from house to house."* This shows us how Paul spread the gospel message. He did not focus solely on preaching, but he also visited people's homes to teach them about God. This tactic proved to be very effective in getting the message to a wider audience.

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> However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace.
> *— Acts 20:24*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: Evangelism, grace, life, selfishness, valuable, work

Interpretation:
In the book of Acts, the author Luke presents various key moments in the life of the *apostle Paul*. *Acts 20* tells of one of Paul's last meetings with the leaders of the church in Ephesus. Paul had been ministering in Ephesus for three years and had built a strong, vibrant church that was growing rapidly.

At this meeting, Paul spoke about his ministry, his commitment to the gospel, and his future. He knew that his time on earth was coming to an end and that his martyrdom was imminent. Despite this, the

apostle insists that he never considered his life more valuable than his devotion to Christ.

In verse 24, Paul makes his position on life and his ministry clear. He says that nothing is more important than fulfilling God's calling on your life, even if it means giving your life. For Paul, the gospel was always more valuable than the comfort, safety, or survival of his body.

This may seem extreme, but it is important to understand that God's call to each person will be different, and that we can only fulfill that call if we are willing to sacrifice everything for Christ. He calls us to give ourselves completely to His work, and that may mean enduring hardships and trials.

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> But God has helped me to this very day; so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen— that the Messiah would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would bring the message of light to his own people and to the Gentiles.
>
> *— Acts 26:22-23*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: Evangelism, Light, Messiah, Resurrection, Savior, suffering

Interpretation:
The book of *Acts* introduces us to the early church and the apostles after the ascension of *Jesus*. *Chapter 26* tells of *Paul's* defense before *King Agrippa*, who accused him of several things, including preaching a new religion.

In this passage, Paul responds to the accusations by telling of his own experience and encounter with Christ. He then mentions the words Jesus spoke to him that time in: *Acts 26:16-18*.

God's help

Paul acknowledges that he was able to persevere in his ministry only because of God's help. He knew he could do nothing on his own, but he needed divine strength and direction to continue to testify to the truths he had learned. This is an important message for us, as we also need to rely on God to

accomplish our tasks and goals.

It’s easy to feel overwhelmed or discouraged by the task ahead, but remembering that we have God’s help gives us confidence and strength to keep going. He is the one who gives us wisdom, patience, and love to face any situation we may face.

Witnessing

In this verse, Paul also mentions that he witnessed to both the small and the great. He did not limit his ministry to a specific group of people, but sought to bring the message of salvation to everyone who was willing to listen.

This reminds us that we too are to be *witnesses for Christ* in every area of ??our lives and to all the people we meet. It doesn’t matter if we are young or old, if we have many skills or few, *we can all be agents of change in the world*. The witness we give can be one of the most effective ways to spread the gospel.

Saying nothing except what the prophets and Moses said

Finally, Paul points out that he did not preach anything that went beyond what the prophets and Moses said. He was not trying to create a new religion or teaching, but was simply sharing what God had revealed through the history of the people of Israel.

This is a warning to us because we often allow ourselves to be confused by teachings that are not supported by the Word of God. We must also seek biblical support for everything we say and do in our Christian lives. We must always remember what the prophets and Moses said, because they laid the foundation for our faith.

The suffering and resurrection of Jesus Christ

Acts 26:23 begins with the words, *“that the Messiah would suffer.”* This refers to the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. However, the passage goes on to say that Jesus Christ will be *“the first to rise from the dead.”* This means that Jesus Christ will be the first to rise from the dead, and others will follow.

Finally, the passage says that the resurrection of Jesus Christ was for the purpose of *“bring the message of light to his own people and to the Gentiles.”* This means that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is good news for everyone: both Jews and Gentiles.

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> Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.
> — *Acts 5:42*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: Evangelism, learning, Messiah

Interpretation:
Acts 5:42 gives us a wonderful example of the commitment and dedication of the early Christians. These men and women dedicated themselves to sharing the word of God every day in the temple and in their homes. This practice not only allowed the Christian community to grow, but it also laid the foundation for modern evangelism.

The Teaching and Preaching of Jesus Christ

The teaching and preaching of Jesus Christ are two fundamental aspects of Christianity. Teaching involves imparting knowledge and truths about the Christian faith, while preaching focuses on proclaiming the gospel and inviting others to follow Christ.

The Bible repeatedly shows us how teaching and preaching are vital to the spiritual growth of believers and the expansion of God's kingdom. For example, in *Matthew 28:19-20*, Jesus commands His disciples to *"go and make disciples of all nations, teaching them everything He has commanded."* Likewise, in *1 Corinthians 1:18*, the apostle Paul declares that *"the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to those who are being saved it is the power of God."*

The Example of the Early Christians

The dedication of the early Christians to teaching and preaching Jesus Christ is an inspiring example for believers today. These Christians lived in a society hostile to Christianity and were persecuted and martyred because of their faith. Yet, they did not lose heart and continued to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ even in the most difficult of times.

This example should inspire us to continue to teach and preach Jesus Christ in our daily lives, whether at home, at work, at school, or wherever we find ourselves. We must ensure that our lifestyle reflects God's love and grace and be prepared to give an account of our faith when the opportunity arises.

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> To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.
> — *Colossians 1:27*

Book: New Testament / Colossians
Topics: Evangelism, hope, Jesus

Interpretation:
The book of Colossians was written by the apostle *Paul* while he was in prison. The letter was addressed to the church in Colossae, a city located in the Roman province of Asia. In chapter 1, Paul begins his letter with thanksgiving and prayer for the Colossians, then reminds them of the sufficiency *of Christ* and His atonement. *Verse 27* speaks of the mystery revealed to the Gentiles.

The mystery revealed

The mystery mentioned in verse 27 is God's plan that had been hidden for centuries but has now been revealed *in the person of Christ*. This plan includes salvation not only for the Jews, but also for the Gentiles, those who were not God's people. Paul states that God wanted to reveal this mystery to the Gentiles.

The apostle emphasizes that this mystery is now Christ to the Gentiles, the hope of glory. Christ abides in those who believe in Him, regardless of their ethnic or social background. The glory that the pagans look forward to is not only a future reward, but also the presence of Christ in their lives here and now.

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> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

> — *Ephesians 6:14-16*

Book: New Testament / Ephesians
Topics: Evangelism, evil, faith, peace, righteousness, truth

Interpretation:
Ephesians 6:14-16 encourages us to stand firm and remain steadfast in our convictions and values. When we stand firm in our convictions, we do not allow difficult situations to derail us.

What is truth?

Truth is one of the key words in these verses. Truth is a virtue that has to do with honesty, consistency, and sincerity in all our actions. When we tell the truth, we are being honest with ourselves and with others.

Truth is a powerful tool that allows us to discern between good and evil. When we follow the truth, we live a life that is consistent with our values ??and principles.

What is the breastplate of righteousness?

In these verses, *the apostle Paul* talks about the breastplate of righteousness. The breastplate is the part of the armor that protects the torso of a soldier. This part of the armor is associated with justice.

Justice is a virtue that motivates us to do good and avoid evil. When we act justly, we make right and fair decisions in all our actions. The breastplate of righteousness is a protection against all temptations and evil influences that could lead us astray.

Zeal in preaching the Gospel of Peace

The Apostle Paul calls us to *“put on shoes”* of zeal for the preaching of the gospel of peace. What exactly does this mean? Zeal is a strong desire or passion for something, and in this case, it refers to spreading the message of salvation through *Jesus Christ*. As Christians, we should be motivated by a deep love for God and our neighbors, and we should feel a responsibility to share the gospel with those in need.

Furthermore, Paul says that the gospel is a message of peace. This refers to the reconciliation offered through *Christ*. Before we knew *Jesus*, we were at enmity with God, but through Him we can be reconciled and have peace with God. The gospel also brings peace into our lives by giving us assurance of our salvation and the promise of eternal life.

What does the shield of faith mean?

At the time of the book of Ephesians, a shield was a key element in the protection of soldiers during battles. In the same way, faith acts as a shield that protects us from the attacks of the enemy. Moreover, the shield not only serves a protective function, but is also a weapon of war, allowing soldiers to move forward with greater confidence and confront the enemy.

In this sense, we can understand that the shield of faith is our protection from the temptations and attacks of the enemy, both in everyday situations and in times of spiritual crisis. Moreover, faith not only protects us, but also allows us to move forward in our Christian lives, confidently and boldly facing any obstacles that may arise along the way.

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> And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the Lord.
> *— Ezekiel 38:23*

Book: Old Testament / Ezekiel
Topics: Evangelism, God, Holiness

Interpretation:
The Bible verse *Ezekiel 38:23* is part of a prophetic speech *by Ezekiel*, who speaks on behalf of God about God's plans for Israel and the surrounding nations. In this speech, Ezekiel speaks of the coming battle of Gog and Magog, the final battle between good and evil, in which God will intervene to save His people.

In this context, *Ezekiel 38:23* speaks of how God will be exalted and sanctified during and after the battle. This implies that God will be honored and recognized as the only true God in the eyes of the nations of the world. God's victory over His enemies demonstrates His power and authority.

This verse reminds us that God is the only true God and that He will be exalted and sanctified throughout the world. As Christians, we can apply this message to our lives by focusing on glorifying God in all things. We must remember that God is in control of all things and that we can trust that He will be the one to win.

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from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> In that day you will say: “Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted.”
>
> — *Isaiah 12:4*

Book: Old Testament / Isaiah
Topics: Evangelism, praise, speaking, worship

Interpretation:
Isaiah 12:4 calls us to remember the importance of praising and worshiping God. In this verse, the prophet *Isaiah* reminds us of the need to acknowledge God's works and continually glorify His name.

The call to "sing to the Lord" in this verse is a call to praise God with our voices and hearts. Conversely, glorifying His name encourages us to acknowledge God's sovereignty and power over our lives and the universe as a whole.

Celebrating divine deeds

The second part of the verse calls us to "declare His works among the nations." That is, we should share the wonders and goodness God has wrought in our lives and in the world. Praise and gratitude to God should be shared with society to strengthen faith and love for Him.

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> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”
>
> — *Isaiah 6:8*

Book: Old Testament / Isaiah
Topics: Evangelism, prophecy, speaking

Interpretation:
Isaiah 6:8 is God's call to one of His servants to volunteer as His messenger. Seeing God seated on the heavenly throne, *Isaiah* was overcome by his own wickedness, but then he heard God's voice asking who would agree to carry His message to the world.

Isaiah quickly responded, "Here am I! Send me." This verse is powerful in its simplicity and offers several ideas for how we can respond to God's call in our lives.

God calls us to be His messengers

One of the most important lessons we can learn from *Isaiah 6:8* is that God calls us all to be His messengers. While not all of us possess prophetic abilities like Isaiah, each of us can play a role in God's mission.

Whether we are church leaders, social workers, Sunday school teachers, parents, or simply churchgoers, we can all carry God's message to our world.

Accepting God's call isn't always easy

Unfortunately, accepting God's call isn't always easy, especially if we feel unfit for the task. Isaiah was overwhelmed by his own impurity and needed purification before he could accept God's call.

Similarly, many of us feel overwhelmed by our own shortcomings and imperfections. However, God loves us just as we are and will provide us with everything we need for His work.

The Importance of Obedience

Isaiah responded to God's call with the words, "Send me." His response demonstrates the importance of obedience to God's will. When God calls us, we must not resist or make excuses, but must be willing to voluntarily dedicate ourselves to His work. Obedience isn't always easy, but if we want to be faithful servants of God, we must be willing to do His will.

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> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.
> *— John 13:35*

Book: New Testament / John

Topics: Evangelism, following, love

Interpretation:
John 13:35 is a powerful statement from *Jesus* to His disciples. In this text, Jesus tells them that love is the defining characteristic of those who follow Him. But what does this verse really mean?

Love as a christian identity

First of all, it is important to understand that love is not just a superficial feeling that fades over time. The *Bible* understands love as an action, a commitment, and a conscious choice to seek the well-being of another. Jesus calls us to love not only those who are easy or pleasant for us, but everyone, even our enemies.

The Importance of love in the christian community

The *Christian church* is a diverse community made up of people of different backgrounds, cultures, and views. Conflicts and disagreements can often arise within the community, which makes it even more important to practice love and humility.

When we show genuine love and support to others in our Christian community, we demonstrate the truth of the *gospel of Christ* in action. In fact, the way we love and treat others may be the only expression of God's love that some people experience in their lives.

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> This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.
> *— John 15:8*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: Evangelism, Father, following, Fruitfulness

Interpretation:
The *book of John* is one of the four Gospels of the New Testament and focuses on the life, ministry, and teachings of *Jesus Christ. Chapter 15* is one of the most important parts of John’s Gospel because it describes Jesus’ relationship with his disciples and the church, and how faith and

fruitfulness are essential to maintaining that relationship.

In *verse 8, Jesus* tells his disciples about the importance of bearing much fruit and how this glorifies God. The fruit he is talking about is not necessarily the material things we can produce, but rather our actions and behavior as followers of Jesus and members of the church. It means being a good person, helping others, being compassionate, forgiving, and loving others as ourselves.

By bearing much fruit, we show that we are following Jesus' commands and living according to Christian values. It is a way of expressing our gratitude for all that God has done for us. Furthermore, by bearing much fruit, we help others come to know Jesus and have a relationship with Him.

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> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."
>
> — *John 20:21*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: Evangelism, Father, Jesus, peace

Interpretation:
John 20:21 is one of the most significant verses in the Bible, as *Jesus* communicates to His disciples a key message for believers: *peace*. In this sense, reference is made to the mission that the Father entrusted to Jesus, which He in turn passed on to His followers.

The importance of peace in the Bible

Peace is one of the fundamental teachings of the Bible and, therefore, of Christianity. Thus, peace is one of the main blessings that God bestows upon His followers, and one of the main goals that believers must achieve. In this sense, it is associated with the idea of ??harmony, tranquility, emotional and spiritual well-being.

The message and mission of the disciples

In *John 20:21, Jesus* communicates to His disciples the importance of His teaching and His example, which implies a very important mission in the lives of believers. As representatives of Jesus, believers

have the task of conveying the message of God and spreading His Word, which is a very important task in the Christian religion.

It is therefore implied that the mission of the disciples should be centered on the principles taught to them by Jesus, which includes an attitude of service to others, total devotion, and a constant commitment to the values ??that come from the Bible itself.

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> Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’
> *— Luke 10:9*

Book: New Testament / Luke
Topics: Evangelism, healing, Kingdom, nearness, sickness

Interpretation:
Luke 10:9 is a call to *Jesus'* disciples to heal the sick and proclaim the coming *of the Kingdom of God*.

Healing and hope

In this Bible passage, *Jesus* gives His disciples a task that goes beyond simply healing the sick. He asks them to bring hope and relief to those suffering from illness and disease. Healing the body is important, but so is healing the spirit and mind, and that is what the coming of the Kingdom of God brings. Healing can be not only physical, but also emotional and spiritual.

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> The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free.

> — *Luke 4:18*

Book: New Testament / Luke
Topics: Evangelism, freedom, healing, poverty, slavery, Spirit

Interpretation:
In *Luke 4:18*, *Jesus* speaks *of the Spirit of the Lord*, which is the presence of God in His life and in the lives of those who believe in Him. *The Holy Spirit* guides and directs our lives, giving us the strength to face the challenges of the world. Jesus is an example for all of us because He did God’s will despite all the trials and tribulations He faced.

The fact that the Spirit of the Lord is upon Jesus is an acknowledgment that *He is the Messiah*, the chosen one of God. The anointing is a sign of authority and that He is chosen by God to carry out His plan of salvation.

The mission of Jesus

Jesus says that He was sent to bring good news to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, and to proclaim liberty to the captives. He came into the world to help people come out of darkness and into the light. His message is one of hope and love, and His mission is to bring salvation to all who receive Him.

Jesus fulfilled His mission through His earthly ministry. He traveled everywhere, proclaiming God's message and modeling love and compassion. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and set captives free. His ministry was a manifestation of God's love for humanity and a lesson in how we should live.

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> “Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.”
> — *Mark 10:29-30*

Book: New Testament / Mark
Topics: Evangelism, blessing, Eternal life, persecution

Interpretation:
In Mark 10:29-30, we find *Jesus* responding to *Peter* and assuring him that those who have left everything to follow Him will receive much more. The teaching of this verse is clear and direct: *we must be willing to leave everything for the love of God*. But what does this really mean? Do we have to give up our possessions to become followers of Jesus?

Jesus is saying here that we must be willing to sacrifice everything, even our closest relationships and most prized possessions, if that is what it takes to follow Him. Of course, this does not mean that we must literally give up everything we have, but we must be willing to do so if the call arises. Jesus is teaching that our devotion to Him must be our top priority, even if it means facing opposition or persecution from friends and family.

It is important to note that the sacrifice Jesus asks for is not in vain. He promises great rewards to those who follow Him with all their hearts. The reward for following Jesus is greater than anything we could ever give up. He promises us eternal life and an intimate relationship with Him. What's more, when we follow Jesus, we join His body, the church, where we can experience love and fellowship with other believers.

These verses also remind us that when we follow Jesus, our identity is not tied to our possessions or personal relationships. Instead, our identity is *in Christ*, and our priority should be to do His will. We must be willing to let go of anything that hinders us from following Jesus with our whole being.

So how can we apply these verses to our daily lives?

First, as followers of Christ, we must be willing to make sacrifices for Him. This may mean giving up certain friendships or even giving up personal comforts. We must be willing to trust Him completely and know that He will always provide what we need.

Second, we must remember that our identity is in Christ, not in material things. This means that our possessions and relationships must be subordinated to the will of God, not to our own selfish desires. We must be willing to share our resources and help those in need.

Finally, we must remember Jesus' promise: those who forsake all for Him and the gospel will receive much more. We cannot buy our happiness or satisfaction in life with material things. Only Christ can fully meet our needs.

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translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.”
> — *Mark 16:15*

Book: New Testament / Mark
Topics: Evangelism, Jesus, obedience, world

Interpretation:
Mark 16:15 states that every believer *in Christ* has a responsibility to preach the gospel to others throughout the world. The mission of spreading the message of love and salvation must be fully accomplished; there will be no more excuses for ignoring this vital task.

This verse is found in the last chapters of Mark’s Gospel, in a section known as *“The Great Commission.”* Here *Jesus* addresses the disciples after His resurrection and commissions them to take the good news of the gospel to all the world. This commission was given not only to the disciples, but to all Christians in the world.

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> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.
> — *Mark 8:35*

Book: New Testament / Mark
Topics: Evangelism, life, Salvation

Interpretation:
In *Mark 8:35*, *Jesus* gives one of His most famous teachings. This verse raises an important thought about life and salvation, and the role of Jesus and the gospel in it.

What does this verse mean?

In this passage, *Jesus* is talking about the importance of not clinging to our lives, but giving them up to follow Him. He calls us to give our lives *“for His sake and the gospel,”* which means living a life centered on Christ and His message. And in this process, we will find “salvation.”

“Salvation” here means not only eternal life, but also a full and meaningful life in this world. If we cling to our own lives, we miss out on the opportunity to live fully *in Christ* and experience the victory that comes with such self-giving.

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> And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.
> *— Matthew 24:14*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: Evangelism, Kingdom, world, end times

Interpretation:
Matthew 24:14 is one of the most important verses in the Bible. It describes the ultimate purpose of teaching and preaching the gospel in the world. The gospel of the kingdom is the good news of the coming *of the kingdom of God* to earth and the key role *of Jesus Christ* in it.

The fact that it is preached throughout the world as a witness to all nations is significant because it means that all people must know the truth before the final *coming of our Savior*.

In-depth analysis

The purpose of preaching the gospel throughout the world as a witness to all nations is clear: to enable people to receive the gift of eternal life. In other words, it is a clear indication that God does not want anyone to perish, but that all will come to the knowledge of His truth and be saved.

This verse points to what is called the Great Commission, which calls Christians to go into the world and preach the gospel to all people. This applies not only to pastors and preachers, but to each of us, since every Christian is an ambassador of the kingdom. We must bring the gospel message to people not only through words, but also through behavior, attitude and deeds.

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> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.
> — *Matthew 28:19-20*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: Evangelism, baptism, Holy Spirit, learning

Interpretation:
Matthew 28:19-20 is part *of the Great Commission*. The resurrected *Jesus* stands before His disciples and commands them to go and make disciples of all nations. The purpose of this command is, of course, salvation and the spread *of the Kingdom of God* throughout the world. But Jesus not only commands them to make disciples, but He also teaches them to obey everything He has taught them and promises to always be with them.

What does it mean to be a disciple?

In the biblical context, a disciple is someone who follows Jesus and learns from Him. So discipleship is not just about attracting someone to church, but about accompanying them on their journey to spiritual maturity and helping them transform their lives into the image *of Christ*. Discipleship is a task that takes time, effort, and love for others.

How can we fulfill the Great Commission?

Fulfilling the Great Commission is not just for religious leaders or missionaries. This is a task for all believers, and it can be done at many levels. Here are some ways to make disciples:

1. *Share the Gospel*. All people need to hear the good news of the Gospel in order to be saved. Sharing the Gospel with friends, neighbors, co-workers, and strangers is a powerful way to make disciples. It is important to remember that the Gospel is not just for those who do not know Christ, but for those who already believe, and they should be reminded of this often.

2. *Teaching*. Teaching is an important way to make disciples on a deeper level. It involves sharing your experience and understanding of God's Word with others. Teaching can take the form of small group classes, conversations, and sermons in churches and communities, as well as in everyday life.
3. *Modeling*. The way we live directly impacts others. Sharing advice and stories of your experiences and mistakes is a valuable tool. You can personally help someone in need, and they can also learn from your life.

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> From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."
> — *Matthew 4:17*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: Evangelism, conversion, heaven, Jesus, Kingdom, repentance

Interpretation:
The verse *Matthew 4:17* is a call to repentance and a promise that the kingdom of heaven has already arrived. In this context, **Jesus** begins his public ministry. He is speaking to the people after being baptized by **John the Baptist** and tempted by Satan in the wilderness.

Repenting means acknowledging and confessing sin, feeling regret and pain for having committed it, and committing not to do it again. In the life of Jesus, we see that repentance was a recurring theme. The message of repentance is an invitation to return to God and his plan for our lives.

The kingdom of heaven is where **God** reigns supreme and has absolute power. It is the place where those people who have accepted **Jesus as their Savior** will receive their eternal reward. It is a kingdom of love, justice, and peace.

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> “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”
> *— Matthew 4:19*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: Evangelism, following, Jesus

Interpretation:
The context of this verse is crucial to understanding its meaning. **Jesus** is walking on the Sea of ?? Galilee when he sees **Peter and Andrew** casting their nets into the sea. He says to them, **“Follow me, and I will send you out to fish for people.”** In this simple yet profound statement, Jesus is inviting these two men to become His disciples and join Him in His mission to spread the message of the Kingdom of God.

The theme of discipleship is central to this verse. Jesus is calling His followers to leave behind their old lives and commit themselves to following Him. By using the *metaphor* of fishing, Jesus draws on Peter and Andrew’s familiar activity to convey the idea of ??gathering people into the Kingdom of God. Fishing requires *patience, skill, and persistence*, and Jesus indicates that these qualities will be needed in the task of sharing the good news with others.

The symbolism of fishing in this verse is rich and carries many layers of meaning. In the *Old Testament*, the imagery of fish and fishing is often used to symbolize the gathering and salvation of God’s people. For example, in the book of Jeremiah, God promises to send fishermen to gather His people from all corners of the earth. By using this metaphor, Jesus signals His intention to gather people from all walks of life into His kingdom, regardless of their background or circumstances.

Furthermore, the concept of **“fishers of people”** suggests a transformation in the lives of the disciples. Just as they will learn new skills and embrace a new calling as fishers of men, they will also undergo a spiritual transformation as they follow Jesus. Their lives will be devoted to the task of bringing others into a relationship with God, and this will require a deep commitment and willingness to embrace a new way of life.

The phrase **“follow me”** in this verse is also significant. Not only is Jesus calling Peter and Andrew to physically follow Him, but He is also calling them to follow His teachings and example. This call to discipleship is a call to a life of learning, obedience, and service. It is an invitation to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and to embody His values ??and mission in the world.

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translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.
> — *Matthew 4:23*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: Evangelism, healing, Jesus, Kingdom, learning, sickness

Interpretation:
One of the most notable aspects *of Jesus'* ministry on earth was His ability to teach and heal. *Matthew 4:23* details how He went around Galilee, teaching in the synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom. But not only that, as the second part of the verse shows, Jesus also dedicated himself to healing and relieving the ailments of the people.

Jesus' teaching

One of the things that makes Jesus' teaching unique is that it went beyond what was considered traditional in Judaism. He often challenged the cultural beliefs and expectations of his day, offering a fresh and revolutionary perspective. He emphasized the importance of love, humility, compassion, and forgiveness.

Jesus' teachings had a profoundly transformative impact on the lives of those who heard Him. His words offered practical wisdom for living and overcoming the challenges of everyday life. Even today, we can find guidance and wisdom in His teachings for living our values.

The healing of Jesus

Jesus was also dedicated to healing and relieving the suffering of those who were sick and needed His help. He healed physical ailments, but He also healed broken hearts and eased emotional pain. This compassion for human suffering allowed Him to give hope to the hopeless and miserable.

In *Matthew 9:35*, we see a description similar to *Matthew 4:23*, which gives us a more complete picture of Jesus' healing mission. The text says, *"Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness."* Clearly, healing was an integral part of Jesus' ministry.

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> You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.
>
> *— Matthew 5:13*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: Evangelism, addiction, obedience, sin

Interpretation:
Matthew 5:13 is a well-known Bible verse in which Jesus compares his disciples (all Christians) to salt. You may have wondered what this comparison means and how we can apply it to our daily lives.

Salt as a Seasoning

Salt has been used as a seasoning for centuries. A pinch of salt can completely change the taste of a dish. In the same way, we as Christians have the opportunity to impact the world and change our society for the better.

It’s not about doing big things to make a big difference, but about small actions that can impact those around us. We can be kind and compassionate, respectful and fair, treating everyone with dignity and love.

Salt as a Preservative

In addition to being a seasoning, salt is also known for its ability to preserve food and prevent it from spoiling. Likewise, as Christians, we have a responsibility to preserve the values ??and principles we have been taught (from corruption, from the decay of society).

This means fighting corruption and injustice, standing up for the disadvantaged, and fighting for justice and equality in our society. We must strive to share Christian truth and values ??with those around us to create a more just and equal world.

Salt Losing Its Smell

The verse also talks about salt losing its flavor and being useless if this happens. Likewise, if we as Christians lose our faith and commitment to God and his teachings, we will be useless to society and to the Kingdom of God.

Furthermore, if we as Christians display a bad attitude, we can alienate people from God and His love. We must maintain faith and be concerned about our actions and attitudes so that we can be a light in our surroundings.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.
> *— Matthew 5:14*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: Evangelism, life, Light, righteousness

Interpretation:
This verse *Matthew 5:14* reminds us that as *followers of Christ*, we are called to be a light in the world. However, it is important to understand what these words mean and how we can apply them to our daily lives.

Being a *“light of the world”* means being a person who reflects *the light of Christ*. If we think of light as something that illuminates the way, we can see that the idea of ??being a *“light of the world”* is a call to be a guide for those around us. When we are a light in a dark world, we can help others find their *way to Christ*.

So how can we be light in our daily lives? We can start by showing love and compassion to those around us. Let’s be kind to others, even to those who have hurt us. Just as a city on a hill is visible to all, so too should we be visible and always demonstrate our faith.

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> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.
>
> — *Matthew 5:15-16*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: Evangelism, goodness, Light, worship

Interpretation:
Matthew 5:15-16 is part of the famous Sermon on the Mount, which *Jesus* preached to His disciples and followers on a hill by the Sea of ??Galilee. In this sermon, Jesus teaches about right living and relationships with God and others.

In the religious context of that time, light was very important, especially in Judaism. Light was a symbol of God's presence and guidance. Thus, the image of light became a powerful metaphor for illustrating God's work in the world and the mission of Jesus' disciples.

What does "your light" mean?

In these verses, Jesus talks about "your light." Jesus is talking about the light that shines within each of us, the light that comes from God and allows us to see truth and love. This light can be compared to the wisdom, knowledge, and grace that God gives us when we follow His teachings.

Why should we shine before others?

Jesus tells us to shine before others so that they can see our good works. Why is this important? First, our good deeds are a tangible way to show our love for others. By doing good to others, we help make the world a better place.

Moreover, the light that shines within us comes from God, and when we share this light with others, we also glorify *our Father in Heaven*. By doing good deeds, we show that we follow the teachings of Jesus and love our neighbors as ourselves.

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> Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.
>
> — *Psalm 105:1*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: Evangelism, praise, speaking, worship

Interpretation:
Psalm 105 is a hymn of thanksgiving that traces the history of God's dealings with His people from the time of Abraham to Israel's arrival in the Promised Land. This psalm is one of many passages in the Bible that encourage us to praise God and bear witness to His works.

Give praise to the Lord

Psalm 105:1 begins with these simple yet powerful words: *"Praise the Lord."* Praise is an important part of the Christian life because it helps us always remember the God who is good and faithful. When we praise God, we thank Him for what He has done in our lives and remind ourselves that He is in control.

Proclaim His name

In addition to praising God, *Psalm 105:1* encourages us to call on His name. To call on God's name is to cry out to Him for help, guidance, or protection. When we face life's challenges, we can trust that God is with us and that we can call on His name to guide us.

Make known among the nations what He has done

Finally, *Psalm 105:1* encourages us to share the works of God with others. Testifying about how God has worked in our lives can be very powerful for those who are searching for an answer or need a little hope in their lives. By sharing our stories, we can inspire others to seek God and know His love and power.

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> For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.
>
> — *Romans 1:16*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: Evangelism, faith, Salvation

Interpretation:
The Bible verse *Romans 1:16* is one of the most inspiring verses we can find. In this passage, the *apostle Paul* expresses his confidence in the power of the *gospel* to save all people who believe in it, regardless of their ethnic background.

The power of God

The verse begins by affirming the importance of the gospel. In the culture of the Roman Empire, preaching the gospel of *Jesus Christ* was seen as foolish and deceitful. However, Paul was not afraid to call himself a Christian and a preacher of the gospel.

To him, the gospel was not just a theory or an idea, but the power of God to save people. Instead of being ashamed of his faith, Paul was proud to preach the gospel and what God had done in his life.

What is the gospel?

The term gospel means *"good news."* For Christians, the gospel is the message that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son to die for the sins of mankind. Through faith in Jesus, people can receive forgiveness of their sins and gain eternal salvation.

No ethnicity

Romans 1:16 also emphasizes that the power of the gospel is available to all people, regardless of their ethnicity. In the ancient world, there were clear boundaries between Jews and Gentiles (people who were not Jews), and many Jews believed that the gospel message was only for them.

But Paul rejected this position, declaring that the gospel is for everyone, regardless of race or nationality. Salvation is available to both Jews and Gentiles.

Unity in diversity

This statement is one of the greatest strengths of Christianity, as the message of the Bible promotes unity in diversity. Christians believe that although we are all different in race, gender, or culture, we are all equal in our need for salvation.

Regardless of where we come from, our worth before God is not based on what we do or where we come from, but on our faith in Him. As a result, Christians are called to treat everyone with love and respect, regardless of their nationality or ethnicity.

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> Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.
>
> *— Romans 10:17*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: Evangelism, faith, listening

Interpretation:
Quoting Isaiah, Paul notes that the faith spoken of in the prophecy had to be born on the basis of what was heard, and this, in turn, came from God's word about the Messiah. Thus, the apostle comes to the conclusion that faith comes from hearing, and hearing from the word of God. Faith comes to a person when he hears the news about the Lord Jesus Christ, which, of course, is based on the written Word of God.

But ordinary hearing in itself is not enough. To hear God's word, it is necessary to listen not only with the ears, but also with an open heart and mind. If there is a desire to know God's truth, then the Word will ring the bell of truth, asserting its own authority. Then it cannot be disbelieved. And, of course, the hearing spoken of here does not necessarily have to be physical hearing; it can, for example, be reading. That is, *"to hear"* means to receive the Word in any way.

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> You, however, must teach what is appropriate to sound doctrine.
> — *Titus 2:1*

Book: New Testament / Titus
Topics: Evangelism, learning, speaking

Interpretation:
Before we dive into the verse itself, it's important to understand what *"sound doctrine"* is. Sound doctrine refers to a set of biblical beliefs and teachings that are *true and helpful for Christian living*. In other words, it's a set of biblical truths that allow us to know God and live life to the fullest.

Speaking sound doctrine is important for several reasons. First of all, speaking sound doctrine allows us to know and experience the truth of God. The Bible gives us clear teachings about who God is, what He has done for us, and how we can live in fellowship with Him. Speaking sound doctrine is the surest way to know and experience the truth of God.

Second, speaking sound doctrine protects us from false teachings and people who try to deceive us. Satan is the great deceiver, and he has always tried to distort the truth of God. Speaking with sound doctrine allows us to discern between truth and error and avoid falling into satan's traps.

Finally, speaking with sound doctrine allows us to be a light in the world and to bring the gospel to others. When we speak with biblical truth, we can bring the message of salvation to others.

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