

## **20160410 Discover series: The gift of Teaching**

We are in our Discover series emphasizing spiritual gifts in our church because we believe that every Christian's life should be used by God for kingdom purposes. God's plan is that his people, first of all, take on his character and likeness, and then be a part of the divine conspiracy — the transformation of the world by overcoming evil with good. And the way that is done is by being a disciple and making disciples of Jesus Christ. This is how we change the world. Making disciples involves the very important gift of teaching.

The gift of teaching is a gift to the world and to the upcoming generation. It is used by God in very important ways. Teachers of spiritual truth share kingdom skills. They are passing on skills that they have learned in life, and equipping people with essentials which they will need in life and in their walk with God.

**I.First: Teaching unwraps truth.** Nothing is more important than truth, and yet there are many people today who do not believe in truth.

What we need today are people who will stop apologizing for the truth.

We need people who are not afraid of the truth — people who will seek the truth, know the truth, take a stand for the truth and impart that truth to others. And we need people of conviction. No one is going to accept your teaching if they think you are not convinced that what you are saying is important. Teaching is useless unless we believe that what we are teaching contains the truth. (1 Peter 4:11).

Here is the result of teaching: God is praised and glorified.

But in order to teach the truth, you have to be a seeker of the truth. You have to read the word of God and study it. You can't talk about it without knowing it.

Teaching the truth changes lives, but it has to change your life first.

Teaching may happen in the context of parenting in the home, teaching a Sunday School class, leading a Bible study or discipling another person one on one over a cup of tea or coffee. We are all different in our gifting in this area. (1 Corinthians 12:4).

**II.The second thing that we need to understand when it comes to the gift of teaching is: Truth results in maturity.** Truth transforms. The truth changes more than minds, it changes lives. (1 Peter 2:2).

(John 17:17 (John 8:31-32

When we begin to believe the truth of the word of God, then the things we do and the lives we lead will transform the world. (Romans 10:17) (Isaiah 55:1-2).

(Ephesians 4:15). Those who teach impart important spiritual truth, and it is that truth that helps others to grow up in Christ.

**III. The third thing we see is: Maturity energizes usefulness.** What is more important than having our lives used by God? Our lives should not be used for ourselves and our own selfish purposes. Our lives should be lived for kingdom purposes. The people that you teach will one day teach others. Those whom you disciple will disciple others. (John 17:18). He has sent us into this world for a purpose. He wants our lives to be useful. (Psalm 119:103-105).

The real gift of teaching is the gift of loving people. Loving them into the kingdom. Loving them into the truth. It transforms them into being different people. This is something in which all of us can be involved in some way. It is a gift in which all of us should seek to grow.