

Teachers Will Change the World
II Kings 3:3-7

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Ohio CM Conference 04/06/2024

If you are never scared, embarrassed or hurt, it means you never take chances.

~Julia Soul

Every successful person had a teacher!

Moses was successful because his mother taught him: You are not an Egyptian.

The hands that rock the cradle rule the world.

Bumper sticker: If you can read this, thank a teacher.

Hank Aaron once said, "My motto was always to keep swinging. Whether I was in a slump or feeling badly or having trouble off the field, the only thing to do was keep swinging!"

Great churches are made of great teachers.

In the race for a child's heart, the first one there wins. George Barna

The word preacher is mentioned 11 times in the Bible. 7 of those were mentioned in Ecclesiastes, speaking about Solomon.

The word teacher or teachers is mentioned 19 times in the Bible. Teaching is mentioned 25 times in the Bible.

The growth of the Church is in the hands of the teachers!

Jesus was called a 'Teacher sent from God' by Nicodemus in John 3:2.

SS Teachers have a privilege to positively influence children! This officially makes you an 'Assistant to the Pastor', without all the duties that others have!

Ephesians 4:11-12 “And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:”

Apostles: thumb (Establishing doctrine. Actually, saw Jesus)

Prophets: index finger (These point the way or predict future)

Evangelists: longest finger (The greatest reach of all ministry)

Pastors: ring finger (There is a vein in this finger that goes directly to the heart.

Pastors job is to keep you married to Christ!)

Teachers: Little finger (This finger is the balance of hand. Without it, you are out of balance.) Teachers handle discipline.

The story of the four lepers in II Kings 3:3-7

The outcasts became the teachers!

B. This story has always amazed me!

C. There is a great famine in the land.

1. The Syrians were at war against Samaria

2. Benhadad, the King of Syria, had besieged Samaria

3. They had surrounded it and cut off supplies.

4. Times were tough and getting tougher.

5. The story heard within the gates was about a family who had boiled their son and they were eating the neighbors son tomorrow.

6. Why didn't they boil an adult? Children are usually first to suffer in a family.

D. A Donkey's head was sold for 80 pieces of silver

E. One fourth of a dove was sold for 5 pieces of silver.

V. Elisha prophesied in the midst of this tough time!

A. Tomorrow about this time, flour and barley would be plentiful.

B. This is why I love preaching! In the midst of negative reports comes positive preaching!

C. The Lord on whom the King leaned (An advisor or accomplished politician) replied, "If God opened the windows of heaven, it would not happen."

D. Elisha replied that he would see it, but not taste it! The preacher gave birth to teachers!

VI. Now look at the Teachers!

A. The reporter or camera man or woman turns the attention from an unbeliever to the unapproachable lepers.

B. The story turns to four leprous men.

C. Leprous men were placed outside of the city walls.

D. Their skin disease was crippling and contagious.

E. Leprosy is first a disease of the flesh, then the clothes and finally all who touch them!

People sin and then it shows up in their clothes.

F. Whenever people came near, they were required to proclaim unclean.

1. My question today, “Why would God use leprous men?”

2. Where were the religious society leaders?

3. Where were the royalty?

4. Where were the mighty warriors?

5. The answer was simple: They were afraid!

6. Fear paralyzes people. It can cause you to stand still.

VII. Look at the four leprous men. They were teachers!

A. They had no credentials. / They had no clout.

B. They had no experience. / They had no charisma.

C. They were not chosen from the most likely to succeed.

D. They we're not chosen from the wealthiest class, nor the highly educated in the area.

E. Looking from the outside; they were the least likely to be called upon or used to give deliverance from Syria.

F. Their strategy was, we got a problem! Great people recognize problems, but they develop a plan!

G. If we stay here, we are going to die!

H. If we go back into the city, we shall die there!

I. If we go toward the Syrians, they may kill us!

J. But if we go toward the Syrians and they capture us, they will always feed their prisoners!

VIII. They were in a complex situation, but they found HOPE!

A. Why did God get excited about four leprous men?

B. Everybody in the city were praying and making petitions!

C. Negativity was running rampant inside the city walls! Multitudes were challenging God's plan.

D. But the leprous men, started positioning themselves!

E. It is okay to pray, but God gets excited with movement!

F. When you draw nigh to God, you position yourself!

James 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.

IX. Notice what happened to them as they moved.

A. With no prior knowledge they arose at the best time!

1. The twilight - Hebrew Neh-shef means the dawning of something new. The greatest time was the time they chose! Now is your best time!

2. It was right before daybreak! The enemy should have been fresh! Most of us don't realize that Sunday is one of the best times to find God!

B. With every step they took, God got excited!

C. As they walked, they made some noise!

1. We have no chariots - God made them sound like chariots.
2. We have no spears - God made them sound like they had them.
3. We are just 4 lepers - God made them sound like a great host!
4. We have no horses - God made them sound like horses!

The end of this story

The lepers find food & eat it.

They began to share with Israel.

Their efforts proved two points: Israel was fed and the prophecy by Elisha was fulfilled. And the enemy was sent fleeing by four lepers.

From your classroom, you can change your world!

My teacher at age 10.

Indy 500 for Bible, chapters, inviting guests and attendance.

Notes:

