

Seeing My Grother For the Benefit of Others

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Introduction

Walking into a hotel with fruit basket, you bite into one and discover that it's plastic. What do you do with it?

Often our leaders give us a perception of authentic Christianity, but how do we know that it's real? Are they being authentic?

In today's society we wonder where are our security doors are, often appearing dramatic.

The Bible has many warnings about the teachers we follow. Often people are getting fed cotton candy, and breathing anthrax.

Protect your mind and your soul! Avoid places that would contaminate your mind and heart. Understand the importance of growing spiritually. Your growth isn't just for your benefit but also for the benefit of others. We shouldn't go for our own tastes but to grow and be fed.

Luke 6:39-45

How am I to grow in such a way that benefits others?

Choose your teachers wisely

Luke 6:39.

“Parable”

How do we know he's talking about teachers? (see v40).

“Blindness” in the OT and NT are often used as imagery of blindness. There is a danger in following wrong teachers.

A false teacher is like a pacifier. You can suck all day long on it and gain no nutritional value.

3 types of people

1. The “super-spiritual”. I don't like organized religion, I can worship God on a hillside, I don't need a teacher

2. The “maverick”. I am autonomous, and don’t bother me. You do what you like and I’ll do what I like, no one is smart enough to teach me. *1 Corinthians 1:11*. I just follow the celebrity. They are the “unteachable untouchables”. I speak to Christ directly, I don’t need anyone!
3. The “home Churches”. 2 or three families form the church. I am not going to trust others to be taught Christ but myself or a few others. *Ephesians 4:11-12* here we are clearly instructed that we were given specific people to teach! *2 Timothy 2:14*

Be careful about the imbalanced teachers! *2 Peter 3:1*

“But they love Jesus!” may be your argument. This is like a terrible brain surgeon who has good bedside manners.

A false teacher is not going to come along and say “hail Satan!”. 80% of the teaching he gives is correct, however the 20% lethal!

See Yourself as a teacher

Luke 6:40

If there was a sideline reporter that stood outside the church after your leaving and ask “How does your faith affect your impact on life”.

Your ability to teach is measured by the degree to which you are growing.

You’ve gone from being a learner to being a teacher can you prove this? Yes see *Hebrews 5:11-12*

“dull” nothros
slow, sluggish, lazy

There is no passion for the truth.

“ought” dei - it’s a good idea
“opheilo” - to owe (you ought to pay your taxes)

Romans 15:14

“admonish” nuthiteo
to put into one’s mind

One of the problems parents have is they want to take their kids to a church with OK teaching but a great youth program. This is like putting on the oxygen mask on your child first and then yourself.

If you aren’t taking in spiritual truth then your kids aren’t going to get it.

Anticipate the impact of your choices.

Luke 6:40

“like” hos
used with numbers, meaning somewhat
“become” eimi
come into being

1 Thessalonians 1:5

We mimic the leaders around us.

Have spiritual integrity

“Integrity is what you are when no one is looking”. Being consistent! One faced.
For every Christian there is a gap between what we know and what we do.
God’s mercy gap.

There is for some believers. There is a gap between what we know and what we obey.

Luke 6:42

Live with a clear conscience.

A conscience can be stained

Seared. *1 Timothy 4:2*

When you do this

Anticipate a more effective ministry

Hebrews 10:24-25

“stimulate” praxusmos
to stir, promote, to irritate

This doesn’t give you the right to become a spiritual tailor and measure everyone’s spirituality. You need accountability.

Application

Where is the road block in your life?