BEDFORD STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST Teacher's Workshop



Theme:

"Teaching In Times Like These"

> Guest Speaker: Carlton Freeman

September 12, 2025

What is going on?

The Bible and the Telephone Game



A.D. 30/33

Book of Revelation 90 A.D.

Most scholars accept that there was a twenty-five-to-sixty-year gap between the events of Jesus' life and the writing of the Gospels.

Oral Culture verses Non-Oral Culture

- Oral tradition has very little in common with the telephone game. In the game:
 - the message is heard and passed along one person at a time,
 - there are no controls over the message,
 - there is no cost attached to reliable or unreliable transmission.

Oral Culture verses Non-Oral Culture

- All of this makes it fundamentally different from the oral transmission of the Gospels:
 - The biblical stories were relayed in communities (not one-to-one),
 - when the stories were shared in community, many people knew the stories and would correct mistakes relayed in the retelling,
 - the people retelling the stories had a strong personal interest in the truthfulness of what they were saying, especially when persecution of the church increased.

Looking at the Church over time (AD 33-Present)

The First Century Church

Second century to the 1500's

1600's to the 1800s 1900's to the 21st Century

Apostacy
(2 Thess. 2:3-7)
Departure from
the faith
(1 Tim. 4:1-4)
"damnable
heresies"
(2 Peter 2:1-2)

The Rise of
Catholicism
And it's
influences.
The Reformation
Movement

The Restoration Movement

Modernism
New Hermeneutic
Will-Worship
Denominationalism
Feminism

The Times We Live In...What's going on?

The authority of the Scriptures Leadership Choirs in the Worship Assembly Worldliness Role of women Denominationalism Atheism Drifting from The Faith Premillennialism Racial Postmodernism Sexual Identity New Hermeneutics Situation Ethics Prejudice

Note:

• 2 Tim 4:1-6

The Trifecta Of Teaching

REPROVE

reprove, convict, convicted, exposed, convicts, expose, rebuke 1. to confute, admonish Strong's Exhaustive Concordance convict, convince, tell a fault, rebuke, reprove. elégxō - properly, to convince with solid, compelling evidence, especially to expose (prove wrong, connect).

REBUKE

2008 *epitimáō* (from 1909 /epi, "suitably on," which intensifies 5091 / timáō, "esteem, place value") properly, assign value as is *fitting* the situation, building on (Gk epi) the situation to correct (redirect). 2008 / epitimáō ("to warn by instructing") can mean "rebuke" but its fundamental sense is "warning to prevent somet hing from going wrong".

EXHORT

From para and kaleo; to call near, i.e. Invite, invoke (by imploration, hortation or consolation) --3870 parakaléō (from 384 4 /pará, "from closebeside" and 2564 / kaléō, "to call") - properly, "make a call" from being "closeup and personal." 3870 / parakaléō ("personally make a call") refers to believers offering up evidence that stands up in God's court.

Note:

- 2 Tim 4:1-6
- 1 Tim 4:1ff
- 2 Tim 3:1ff
- In times like these, we need to fight the fight of faith (1 Timothy 6:12; Hebrews 6:11,12; 2 Kings. 4:8-37).
- In times like these, we need to be rooted in the Word of God. We must learn to draw comfort from the word of God in times of adversity (Psalm 119:50,143).

- In times times like these the church should teach a focus on Jesus Christ as the unchanging answer emphasizing hope and resilience love for one another and the importance of the Bible as a steadfast guide
- This involves applying biblical truths to difficult circumstances, demonstrating faith and courage, and actively serving others by building and restoring within the church community.
- Focusing on:
 - God and the scriptures
 - Jesus is the anchor
 - the Word of God
 - Biblical truths

BEDFORD STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST Teacher's Workshop



Theme:

"Teaching To Pass On The Faith"

2 Timothy 2:1-2

Guest Speaker: Carlton Freeman

September 13, 2025

PURPOSE

The purpose of teaching faith is to lead believers toward spiritual maturity, equip them to live out their faith effectively, and provide a firm foundation to withstand trials and challenges.



AIM

The aim of teaching faith is to lead believers toward spiritual maturity and having a faith that is based on the scriptural truths.



1 Peter 3:15

King James Version

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:"

Thinkers Can Be Believers

FAITH

Personal Faith

- 1 Corinthians 2:5
 "That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."
- Kinds of faith
- Faith statements
- Belief structure

Biblical Faith

- Jude 3 "...it was needful for me to write unto you and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for <u>the faith</u> which was once delivered unto the saints."
- 1 Peter 3:15
- Luke 1:1,2"Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, ² just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word."

Kinds of faith...

- **Saving:** Romans 10:9,10 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt **believe** in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved For with the heart man **believeth** unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."
- **Temporary**: Luke 8:13 "They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while **believe**, and in time of temptation fall away."
- Intellectual: James 2:19 "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble."
- **Dead:** James 2:17, 20 "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone...But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

Faith Statement

Confidence in the testimony of another.

What you believe is as important to why you believe it.

idence ends here **EVIDENCE**

Conclusion for which there is not adequate evidence

"FAITH"

FAITH

"LEAP INTO THE DARK" (that is, beyond the evidence)

True view of Christian faith (Romans 10:17)

False view of Christian faith

The Direction



Obedience

What it is...
(The definition)

What it does...
What it looks
like: manifest,
practice,
demonstration

A study of Romans 4:16-5:2

Patriarchal Mosaical Christian **FAITH** WORKS **ABRAHAM** The Law Gal.3:17 Exodus 20/Books of Moses, Books of the law, Psalms and 430 the Prophets years Romans 4 before The Example of The Faith Of Abraham



Thinkers Can Be Believers

What is Faith?

We use the equivalent expressions "I believe so-and-so" or "I have faith that so-and-so" in a variety of ways. Consider the following:

- (a) "I believe the Earth is flat."
- (b) "I believe the Jets will go to the Super Bowl."
- (c) "I believe you are wearing my jacket."
- (d) "I believe that Barack Obama was a lifelong Democrat."

- (e) "I believe that George Washington was our first president."
- (f) "I believe it is your turn to carry out the garbage."
- (g) "I believe in (name)."

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the <u>substance</u> of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Note: Hebrews 10:35-39

Rom. 8:24 "We are saved by hope..."

HOPE

DESIRE & EXPECTATION

Faith is...

CONVICTION/EVIDENCE

FAITH

SUBSTANCE/ASSURANCE

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Without moreover faith [it is] impossible to please [him] to believe indeed it behooves the one drawing near to God, that he exist and [that] to those seeking out him, a rewarder he becomes.

Acts 20:21

Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our LORD Jesus Christ.

"toward" 1519 eis (a preposition) – properly, into (unto) – literally, "motion into which" implying penetration ("unto," "union") to a particular purpose or result.

"It is not so much what you believe, but why do you believe it."

How To Recieve Faith

Galatians 3:2

Romans 10:17

-by-(Ek)
"out from and to"

GOD



<u>US</u>

"out from" (SOURCE)

-and-

"to" (OBJECT)

THE BIBLE

SPIRIT OF GOD INDWELLING IN US

RESULT: "FAITH BUILDING"

principle

- 1. A moral rule or belief that helps you know what is right and wrong and that influences your actions.
- 2. A basic truth or theory: an idea that forms the basis of something.
- 3. A law or fact of nature that explains how something works or why something happens.

Ephesians 3:1-4 Understand: (noeo) to perceive, think.

Noieo (from nous, "mind") properly, to apply mental effort needed to reach "bottom-line" conclusions.

Revelation

Mystery



PURPOSE:

That you might understand...

- 1. Knowing facts is not the same as understanding.
- 2. Understanding is knowing the why.

EXEMPLIFYING FAITH

HEBREWS 11

Objective:

To motivate us to "Trust and Obey"

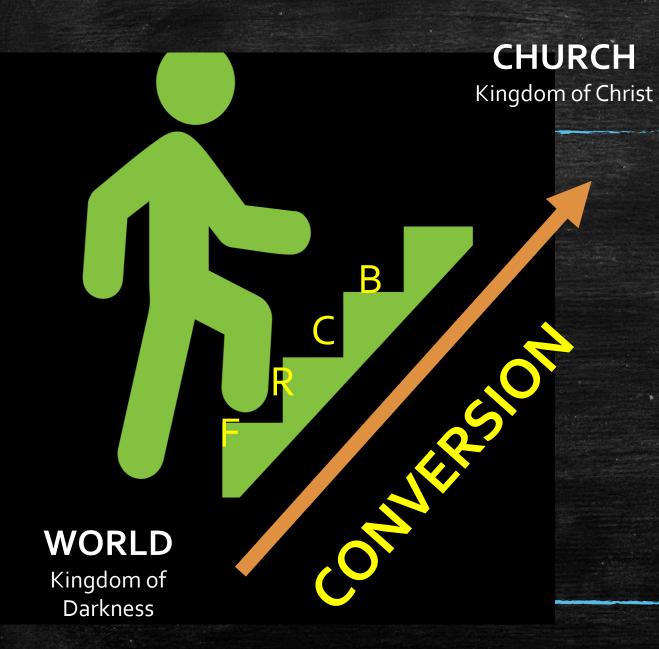
for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus.

Introduction: Why was the book of Hebrews written?

- Some of those that had been converted to Jesus were "drifting" (Hebrews 2:1), "disobeying" (Heb. 3:12ff), "disengaging" (Heb. 5:11-6:6), and becoming very "disrespectful" to our Lord (Heb. 10:26-29).
- They were doing so because they had become "DISCOURAGED" (Heb. 12:3-4, 11-13).
- Therefore, God inspired the writing of Hebrews as a "word of encouragement" (Heb. 13:22).
- Ot was penned to help Christians "hold fast) Heb. 3:6,14; 10:23) by reminding them that Christianity is "better" than any other way of life.

Introduction: Why was the book of Hebrews written?

- In fact, "better" is one of the book's key words (cf. Heb. 1:4; 6:9; 7:7,19,22; 8:6, 9:23;1034; 11:16,35,40; 12:24).
- Can you relate?
- We want to look at the "word of encouragement" that might help us remain "rooted and built up...and established in the faith...abounding in it with thanksgiving" (Col.2:7).



CONVERSION

The process which takes the sinner out of the kingdom of Satan and causes him to be translated into the kingdom of Christ, which is the church

The converted person is a changed individual, on turned to God.

Colossians 1:12-13

"Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:"

Acts 3:19 and Acts 11:26

Repentance (Change of mind because of the Word)

Convert (Change of ways... Note: You may have stopped what you were doing but not conformed [changed to] the image of Christ). Matt. 12:43-45

Disciple(ship) Conforming to the image of Christ. (Rom. 12:1-2)

Christian (as seen by the world... Acts

11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16)
Will be evident

Because

("were called" chrematisai means to be directed by God as by a divine oracle)

Romans 6:1-4

Jesus

Death

Resurrection

Old Life Burial

Died with Christ Raised to a New Life

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Theme:

"Teaching Is My Calling"

Guest Speaker: Carlton Freeman

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Teaching is my calling, is a statement based on one's personal relationship with God. It is realized through constant involvement in the process of teaching. To make a statement of this nature is a testimony of the grace of God as being displayed in the activity of the believer.

Those with a divine calling to teach exhibit...

- 1. a deep love for God's truth and His people,
- 2. a burden for spiritual maturity,
- 3. humility, patience, and a commitment to accurate, sound doctrine.

Key characteristics include...

- 1. A love for the people being taught.
- 2. A desire to share God's word.
- 3. A willingness to be mentored and to mentor others.
- 4. A Life that balances faith with good works and obedience.

The four-step plan of Christian Education

- Teaching to provide instruction
- Knowledge facts gained through instruction
- Understanding (female noun) -Proverbs 4:7 "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding." (Note: James 1:5 "upbraideth" fault finding, does not...)

The four-step plan of Christian Education

- <u>Understanding</u>: ("binah", from "bin") to discern, perceive, observe, pay attention to, to be intelligent, regard, deal sensible, prudent, discreet, skillful. The primary meaning is "insight". The word implies the concept of distinguishing between good and evil. <u>The word does not refer to the mere accumulation of data, but superior knowledge.</u> <u>One must know how to use the information wisely.</u> (Note: Proverb 3:5-6)
- Application Active and experientially in one's life.

What does it mean to be called to teach?

The Bible emphasizes that being called to teach is a significant spiritual responsibility.

Key points include:

Divine Call:

•The Bible states that teaching is a gift from God, as seen in Romans 12:6-7, where believers are encouraged to use their gifts, including teaching, to share God's Word.

Responsibility and Accountability:

•Teaching comes with a high standard, as highlighted in James 3:1, which warns that those who teach will be judged more strictly.

Preaching and Teaching:

•The Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) calls believers to make disciples and teach others to obey the commandments of Jesus.

(as you are going)

Matthew 28:18-20

(...of all ethnic groups)

Baptize --- to the possession (in the name of) the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Teach (continuously) all that I commanded you.

Character and Integrity:

•Effective teaching requires integrity and authenticity, as emphasized in 1 Timothy 2:7, where Paul states he was appointed a teacher of the Gentiles.

Impact on Life:

- •We are teaching to change lives.
- •Teaching is not just about imparting knowledge but also about nurturing faith and guiding others in their spiritual journey.

These teachings collectively underscore the importance and significance of being called to teach in the context of the Christian faith.

What is the difference between a gift and a calling?

In the Bible, a spiritual gift is an ability given by the Holy Spirit, while a calling is a broader, Godgiven purpose for a person's life that uses their gifts. Gifts are the tools, and a calling is the assignment.

Note:

"For the gifts and the calling of God are without repentance."

Key Characteristics of a Spiritually-Called Teacher

Deep Love for God and His Word:

- A profound love for God motivates a desire for His praise and glory, manifested as grateful obedience and love for biblical truth.
- They are humble and teachable?:
 - If someone can't receive teaching, they shouldn't teach. If they think they know it all or are not humble enough to take instruction, they should not be put in place to teach others.

A Shepherd's Heart:

- They possess a natural inclination to minister to God's people, guiding others in their faith and caring for their spiritual well-being.
- Faithfulness and Integrity:
 - A core aspect of the calling is faithfulness to God's message, not to create it, making the message clear and understandable while remaining true to its intent.

Humility and servanthood:

• Teachers with a spiritual calling are characterized by a humble approach to ministry and a commitment to serving others.

God-Given Joy:

• Fulfilling the role of a teacher brings inexplicable joy, a powerful confirmation of the divine calling.

Inner Conviction and Assurance:

• There is a strong, unshakable sense that God wants them to serve in this capacity, confirmed by the inner witness of the Holy Spirit.

Desire to Serve:

 A deep, God-given desire to serve in ministry is often a precursor to discerning a calling.

Ability to Make the Complex Simple:

- Those called to teach have the ability to take complex theological subjects and explain them in a way that is easy for others to understand.
- Boldness in Speaking Truth:
 - They are willing to speak biblical truth, even when it goes against cultural norms, and do so with grace, wisdom, and conviction.

Focus on Equipping Others:

- A teacher's aim is to equip others to grow in their faith, helping them to stand strong and live a life of joy.
- Romans 12:6-7 "6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;"