
SERMON NOTES June 14, 2020

Today's notes also available at CCPL.life/Connect

**James 3:1-2
Exemplary Teachers
Pastor Mike**

I. The nature of _____ applied toward _____

II. A warning to _____ teachers

a. We need to be _____ and _____

b. We need to _____ the Bible to _____ lives

III. Principles for choosing good _____

a. Their message must be a _____ of God's word

b. Their teaching _____ should match their teaching _____

We demonstrate our _____ in God's word by _____

c. They should model _____ dependence on _____

Closing challenge:

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. James 3:1 instructs us, *“Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.”* What is the Bible teaching here?
 - a. In the context of what James has been teaching in the verses before this (the call to *“be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves”* in 1:22, and the teaching that *“faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead”* in 2:17), how should we understand what James is saying? Why should we be slow to want to become a teacher?
 - b. In 1st Timothy 3:1 Paul teaches, *“If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task.”* What is Paul teaching here, and how should we understand this teaching in light of James 3:1?
2. James 3:1 warns us, *“not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.”* What does it mean that teachers will be judged more strictly? How will we be judged?
3. In his message, Pastor Mike said that the teaching of James 3:1 that *“not many of you should become teachers”* could be seen as a restatement of James 1:19, and the challenge *“let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.”*
 - a. What did he mean by that? What is the relationship between James 3:1 and James 1:19?
 - b. If it is right to see James 3:1 as a restatement of James 1:19, what is it calling you to do? How does God want you to be quick to hear and slow to speak? To what degree are you doing this in your life?
4. In Matthew 7:1-5 Jesus challenges our tendency to want to confront another person about their sin, while overlooking our own sin. He says, *“Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eyes, but you do not notice the log that is in your own eye.”*
 - a. We are often much more bothered by the sin in other people’s lives than we are by the sin in our own life. Do you agree that this is the root of the problem? Is it always the case? Why or why not?
 - b. Jesus said that the problem is we don’t even notice the log in our own eye. Often, we can be completely blind to our own sins? Why is this the case?
5. Our culture identifies the best teachers based on their knowledge of the subject and on their ability to communicate in an engaging and effective manner. But the Bible teaches that in the church, while these things are important, the most important thing should be the character of the person seeking to be a teacher.
 - a. Why is the character of a teacher or a pastor such an important issue?
 - b. Who are the people in your life who are living the example you want to follow, who you are seeking to learn from?
6. Christian leaders should have lives that are different, but they aren’t perfect. Philippians 3 teaches that Christian maturity isn’t a matter of self-control and/or Biblical knowledge, but Paul defines maturity as being aware of how sinful you are.
 - a. How does this compare with the definition of Christian maturity that you have heard in the past?
 - b. How does this definition of maturity impact your understanding of James instruction about people who would seek to be teachers in the church in James 3:1?