

HOW TO PREPARE LESSONS FROM THE BIBLE
Example: Showing Modern Man That Jesus Is God And Messiah
(Mark 8:22-25)

I. **Introduction**

- A. It edifies to sit under good Bible teaching, but it is better to know how to feed ourselves. As the saying goes, "Catch a man a fish -- you feed him for a meal; **teach** a man to *fish* -- you feed him for a **lifetime**."
- B. This lesson intends to show one how to feed himself and others God's Word, and thus do so for a lifetime.

II. **How To Prepare Lessons From The Bible.**

- A. One must have **spiritual** qualifications to prepare a lesson from the Bible as follows:
 - 1. Scripture has spiritually discernible truths the Spirit clarifies to the godly, 1 Cor. 2:9-13; Jn. 14:26. It is imperative that the teacher be saved (John 3:16) and have his sins as a **believer** confessed up (1 Jn. 1:9) and obey God in all areas of his life (1 Jn. 2:3) to be led of the Holy Spirit to interpret His Word.
 - 2. Also, one must have some degree of accurate theological knowledge to be able to get his bearings in properly interpreting a Bible passage. This takes sitting under sound teaching for a while, 2 Tim. 3:14.
 - 3. Third, God has supplied **some** believers with a supernatural gift of teaching, 1 Cor. 12:4-5, 29. Though any believer can understand Scripture's truths (1 Jn. 2:27), only those supernaturally gifted by God as teachers can **present** its truths *well*. This means one must evaluate from his experience, desire and "feedback" from other Christians IF he has a spiritual teaching gift prior to teaching the Word!
 - 4. God **assigns** a believer to a **ministry** of teaching under organized local church leadership, cf. Col. 4:17 et al. He should hence **teach in direct response to GOD'S assignment** to experience God's blessing!
- B. Now, **IF** these things are in order, here is how to prepare a lesson: (We will use Mk. 8:22-25 as *practice*.)
 - 1. We first **submit** our *minds* to what Mark 8:22-25 **actually SAYS** to avoid spiritual darkness, Isa. 8:20.
 - 2. We also commit to teaching **precisely what** that text **says** in accord with 2 Tim. 4:1-2; 1 Pet. 4:10-11.
 - 3. Then, as we **read** the Mark 8:22-25 text to be taught, we note **it says** Jesus healed the man in **stages**: the blind man first saw men as trees and later as real men when Jesus made a **second** healing effort.
 - 4. Well, from basic theology we know that the Gospels intend to show Jesus is God's promised Messiah, and that Christ's healing the blind proves He is that Messiah, cf. Is. 35:4-5 (Mtt. 11:2-6). Hence, as it affects Christ's proof of Messiahship, we need to learn **why** this healing event occurred in **two stages**!
 - 5. Seeking clarification, we view the cultural, historical, literary and grammatical **contexts** involved:
 - a. We find no other Scripture passage explains the reason for these healing **stages** for the blind man.
 - b. However, Ken Ham's "Answers From Genesis" magazine, Creation Ex Nihilo, Sep.-Nov. 1999, p. 54-55 tells us of a **two-stage healing** via cataract therapy of a man named Virgil. After getting new lenses, he could see, but only in a blur. This condition, known as **agnosia** has the mind not being able to **interpret** what signals it receives from the eyeball. Only in time can such medically "healed" people **interpret** what their eyes send to their brains and so **comprehend** what they "see"!
 - c. Thus, **Jesus'** Mark 8 healing in stages proves to us in **our day** what medically unaware onlookers in Jesus' day **could not** have known: also, in light of Mark 8:23, 26 where Jesus healed **away from** many onlookers, and in view of His awareness of our exposure to Mark's Gospel as Jesus stated in John 17:20, He undoubtedly performed this two-staged healing with **modern men** in mind!
 - d. Mark 8:22-25 thus **strikingly** reaches out to **us** with **medical** insight in **our** day to show Jesus was truly God and Messiah in fulfillment of Isaiah 35:4-5: He **really** healed a blind man **independent** of the Gospel writer's capacity to manipulate his account of the event due to his own false motives!
 - 6. Having done this "homework," we can now organize the material into a lesson form as follows:
 - a. We write out the main truth to be taught **near** the **bottom** of the page so we know where to **end up** in constructing the lesson. Hence, we write: "Lesson: Jesus proved to modern men that He was Scripture's promised God and Messiah by healing a blind man in a way that . . ."
 - b. Then, we write an introduction **near** the top of the page as follows: "Need: How can we know today with any certainty that Jesus was Scripture's promised God and Messiah?"
 - c. We then organize our thoughts in **consecutive** order to tell how the "Need" question at the top of the page ties in with the "Lesson" statement at the bottom (see the example on the next page).
 - d. Next, we form an application **under** the lesson statement (see the example on the next page).
 - e. We then supply the lesson title and write the passage for the **very top** of the page (see next page).
 - f. Finally, we check the lesson's **flow** of **thought** by reading first only the major points (I, II & III), then the major and secondary (A, B, C etc.) points, and finally all the points (incl. minor 1, 2, 3 etc.). If at any stage of this check the lesson does not flow smoothly, make corrections until it does.