

Taking a Closer Look

What does the Bible say?

During his life on earth Jesus was widely viewed as a spiritual teacher. Even those who disagreed with what he taught recognized this.

Though many held Jesus as 'a teacher', only a few saw him as 'the teacher' – *their* teacher. In this study we will examine who Jesus is by looking into his life as a teacher.

The Teacher

In Mark 6.34 Jesus meets a great crowd of people. The Bible says they were "like sheep without a shepherd". What three things did Jesus do when he went ashore?

"When Jesus went ashore, He _____ a large crowd, and He _____ for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to _____ them many things."

Jesus saw people's true spiritual condition, he cared about them, and so he taught them many things.

- Does Jesus see your life now?
- Do you believe he cares about you?
- Do you believe he wants to teach you "many things"?
- How does Jesus' teaching us many things show that he cares for us?

John 13 records events that happened on the last night of Jesus' life. The setting is a small, upper room where Jesus ate his last supper with the 12 disciples. Take a look at John 13.13.

- By what two titles did Jesus' disciples call him?
- What was the difference between the way Jesus taught the crowds and the way he taught his disciples? Which group had the advantage, the crowds or the disciples? Why? (Matthew 13.1-12)

Thinking it Through

What does the Bible mean?

Consider the Source

Take a look at John 7.14-17.

- Jesus was untrained as a teacher. Where did he get his messages?
- How can you truly know the teaching of Jesus? (verse 17)

Read John 15.14-15.

- What did Jesus teach his disciples? (verse 15)
- What did this make them? (verse 15)
- Based on these verses, would Jesus call you his friend? Why or why not?

Check out Luke 6.40.

- What is the goal of a student according to Jesus?
- What does this mean for you as a student of Jesus?

Check out Matthew 28.18-20.

- What are Jesus' disciples supposed to do with all the things they have been taught?

Making it Count

How do I live what I've learned?

- How does Jesus being a teacher affect the way you relate to him? Which would you consider him: 'a teacher' or 'your teacher'?
- How does Jesus teach his disciples today? (John 14.21)
- What impact does Jesus as a teacher have on your being his disciple? His friend?