



TEACHER

EXPLORING THE FIVEFOLD MINISTRIES



WHAT A TEACHER BRINGS

Teachers understand, explain and communicate God's truth and wisdom, making it accessible to everyone. They help others apply God's truth to their lives.

In decisions they help others with guidance by enabling them to remain rooted in Scripture and thus faithful to God. They create stability in change.

They help the church pass on wisdom as a foundation to the next generation. They are excited and motivated by truth.

At their best they extend knowledge in a way that empowers others and creates conversation. They are hands-on in their training.

Without teachers people are less motivated to change or to live out discipleship. There can be more confusion as things that are untrue are not dissected and challenged. People have less of a hunger to know the Scriptures.

They have a big responsibility. "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF TEACHERS

Teaching was fundamental to the early church and Paul's ministry. He "taught considerable numbers" at Antioch (Acts 11:26) and was "appointed a teacher" (2 Timothy 1:11).

Apollos "was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures..(who)...spoke with great fervour and taught about Jesus accurately." (Acts 18: 24-25)

JESUS THE TEACHER

Jesus was often referred to as Teacher or Rabbi. "You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. (John 13:13). He taught the Sermon on the Mount. "They were amazed at his teaching, because his message had authority." (Luke 4:32) He commissioned His disciples to make disciples, "... teaching them to observe all that I commanded you" (Matthew 28:19)

FUNCTION / CALLING:
TEACHING / TEACHER

Theological Roots (APEST in the doctrine of God)	Archetypes and Heroes (APEST patterns laced in and throughout creation)	Reconstituted APEST (Redeemed and exemplified in Jesus)	APEST Functions (Implicit) (Given to and coded into <i>ecclesia</i>)	APEST Callings (Explicit) (Practitioners)
Omniscient, Prescient, Truth, Beauty, Wisdom, Logos (Reason)	Sages, Thinkers, Observers, Philosophers, Guides, Scientists Examples: Coaches, Instructors, Investigators, Information workers, Professors, Educationalists, Mentors, Disciplers, Theoreticians, Debaters, Engineers, Researchers, Theologians, Accountants, Forensics, Legal workers	Rabbi, Logos, The truth, The way, Light of the world, Our teacher/guide, The Word made flesh, God's wise judge, The fulfillment of the Torah, The riches of knowledge and wisdom	Foster learning culture, Develop resources for learning, Articulate the theology-ideology for the group, Provide instruction in the Way	Instructors, Theologians, Philosophers, Guides, Writers, Thinkers, Truth-tellers

TAKEN FROM 5Q BY ALAN HIRSCH

THE DISCIPLESHIP OF A TEACHER

Teachers value wisdom in their relationship with God. Because they value wisdom in many areas, they are likely to be enriched by engaging with diverse experiences and perspectives. They have a sense of being life-long learners.

WHAT A TEACHER NEEDS TO BE CAREFUL OF

Being patient with those who cannot understand what is obvious to them.

Being too abstract and focussed on right thinking more than right living. Intellectualism and the realm of ideas becoming more important than personal transformation or missional ministry.

Making knowledge about God and Scripture the end-point, rather than knowledge of God.

Dealing with criticism or challenge well.

Relying on their own skills to impress others, rather than trusting in the work of God's Spirit. Getting their authority from the fruit of their lives, rather than the way people view their intellect.

QUESTIONS FOR AN TEACHER TO REFLECT ON:

Am I helping people to have a desire for the Scriptures and to apply it to their lives?
Am I spreading the truth of God's word?
Do I empower others and make complex things clearer?
How am I responding to the challenges being a teacher can bring?
Where do I see the need for the teaching ministry in my church or workplace?
What is God saying and how might I respond?

