

*Jesus tells His disciples 2 essentials of effectiveness: Hearing and preaching.*

## **I. THE ESSENCE OF PREACHING**

### **A. The essence of preaching is hearing from God**

1. **V27** *What I tell you in the dark... What you hear in the ear...*

- a. Not human opinions/personal preferences – a word from God!
- b. Not borrowed from someone else – what YOU hear!

### **B. Jesus tells us how we hear from God: Seek Him/listen to Him**

1. *Tell in the dark...* this is personal; Seeking God on your own – away from people

- a. Praying (seeking a word from God) and studying (finding a word from God)

2. *Hear in the ear...* Receiving impressions from God

- a. There are times a word/phrase/a scripture will pop into my mind –

1. I will act on that impression: Go and search that out/preach what is in there

### **C. Jesus is telling His disciples how they can have the most impact in their labors**

1. If you will declare what is personally revealed to you – it will have power/more impact

- a. The temptation is to borrow from better preachers/more experienced

1. *Many times I'm amazed at what God does through a sermon I wasn't excited about: BUT IT WAS MINE!!*

## **II. THE FEAR FACTOR**

### **A. Jesus tells us one hindrance to preaching is fear**

1. **V28** *do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul ...*

- a. Not people in general: Connected to hearing from God/preaching what God says

### **B. The problem is that some people will not appreciate some messages!**

1. **1 Kings 22:8** *So the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is still one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may inquire of the LORD; but I hate him, because he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil."*

- a. Sinful will not appreciate conviction

- b. Religious will not appreciate the supernatural/commitment

- c. Greedy will not appreciate money sermons

### **C. They will let you know: By their attitude/words/withholding**

1. **Titus 1:9** *Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.*

- a. **Gainsayers:** *To oppose oneself/decline to obey him, declare oneself against him, refuse to have anything to do with him*

2. This involves pressure: Not content to simply disagree internally

- a. They will try and pressure you to change your mind – change your actions

1. Faces 2. Words 3. Withholding \$

3. Try and intimidate you into not saying that

- a. Fear: You will displease/you won't make it financially/they will ruin the church/get you into trouble

1. Get you to go along with them – become like them!

## **III. OUR TRUE AUDIENCE**

### **A. What will help us stay on track is recognizing our true audience**

1. The most important person who hears us is God: An audience of one

2. People can only do so much to/for us – in a limited time frame

- a. But God has your life/ministry/church/your soul in His hand

1. **V28** But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

3. We preach to please Him!

a. **1 Peter 5:2-4** *Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; <sup>3</sup> Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. <sup>4</sup> And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*