

Lest I Should Build Upon Another Man's Foundation

I. Introduction: Teaching someone the Gospel often comes with many challenges.

A. Even when Jesus was the teacher... (**Matthew 13:13-17**).

1. Things like timing of certain lessons (**Mark 4:33-34**).
2. Things like capability of bearing information (**John 16:12**).
3. Things like overcoming traditionalism (**Mark 7:8; 7:13**).
4. Things like teaching through speculation (**Luke 9:18-20**).
5. Things like working with various soils (**Luke 8:11-15**).

B. Having said those things, and knowing more could be said, the Gospel works in those that believe (**Romans 1:16-17**).

1. The Gospel will bring forth fruit in said individuals (**Colossians 1:5-6**).
2. Delivery is not wherein the power of conversion exists (**I Corinthians 2:1-5**), understanding what foundation of knowledge we are working with is very important.

II. Body: **Romans 15:20**

A. First, we are not going to find a place wherein Christ is not named today (**Jeremiah 31:31-34** and **Hebrews 8:7-13**).

1. We will not find a place on earth where the Gospel has never been preached or Christ is unknown (**Colossians 1:23**).
2. We will find places wherein Christ is not properly named (**II Timothy 2:19**).

B. So, for our application of this, we need to think about how we build on whatever foundation is in place (**I Corinthians 3:9-11**).

1. Sometimes the understanding of the whole truth is flawed (**John 8:39-59**).
 - a. Think about how people's understanding of things like prayer are based upon their understanding of so-called "providence" and miracles.
 - b. Think about a person's carnal or spiritual mindset (**Romans 8:7-8**) affects teaching even in matters like the work of the local church (**Romans 14:17**).

2. There can be a "we" in the process of teaching (**II Corinthians 4:1-6** and **Colossians 1:28**).

3. In carefully following the pattern of teaching, we should be teaching the same things (**I Corinthians 15:1-11**).

C. Since we are focusing on foundations, consider how the right foundation is the key (**Luke 6:46-49**).

1. Think about someone must hold fast to what that person had been taught (**Colossians 2:4-8**, **II Thessalonians 2:15**, and **Titus 1:9**).

2. Therefore, we must teach that which people can hold fast to in a way which will stand up to scrutiny (**I Thessalonians 5:21**).

III. Conclusion: Lest we err, while we look for fresh soil, we can never miss the fact that there is only one foundation to be laid (**Ephesians 2:20-21**).