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# THE PLUMBLINE

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## PREACHING AND TEACHING ARE MINISTRIES OF DISCIPLESHIP

a continuing study of NT words for preaching and teaching

D. Bruce Barnes

Those privileged to preach and teach the Scriptures seek to find serious followers to whom these truths can be imparted. The presentation may come through various approaches; however, the goal is to make disciples, followers of Christ.

The Greek word *mathateuo* means to make disciples, to apprentice. The concept is that of directing one's mind to something meaningful. Consequently, the learner "designated is engaged in learning, that his education consists in appropriation or adoption of specific knowledge or conduct, and that it proceeds deliberately and according to a set plan" (*Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*; 416). A set plan of instruction is undoubtedly part of biblical teaching. It should by no means be absent from one's preaching. Teaching and preaching both work for a similar goal.

An example passage using *mathateuo* is Matthew 28:19, "Go ye therefore, and **teach** all nations..." [emphasis mine]. The purpose of this Great Commission is to disciple others, and that is to cause "all nations" to become pupils of the gospel. And such can only be accomplished by sharing the gospel truth itself and applying that truth to all areas of life. Therefore, the Christian is a discipler in gospel instruction.

In preaching, one presents the gospel to those who will hear it, and the objective is for the hearers to accept and apply it to life. Similarly, a teacher shares aspects of the gospel truth for specific life application, not mere accumulation of knowledge.

There is a Christian responsibility to go everywhere in the world making disciples. Through multiple approaches to gospel presentation—preaching, teaching, witnessing, etc., the same goal is within view: discipleship. And discipleship is a plan of instructive presentation to accomplish the intended purpose of teaching the ways of the Lord.



# GOD'S MAN

April 22-23  
2022

Building Men, Restoring Homes, Honoring God



## Conference Schedule:

### **Friday Night**

- 6:30pm ..... Scott Coghill  
7:45pm ..... Jim McComas

### **Saturday Morning**

- 9:00am ..... Brent Patrick  
10:15am ..... Split Session  
11:30am ..... Jim McComas

**GOD'S MAN CONFERENCE  
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

**Cost: \$20**

## **Conference speakers:**

Rev. Jim McComas, Rev. Scott Coghill,  
and Rev. Brent Patrick



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