

“ARE YOU TEACHABLE?”

PASTOR TIMOTHY GREEN

Mark 12:28-34 One of the teachers of religious law was standing there listening to the discussion. He realized that Jesus had answered well, so he asked, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is the one and only Lord. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these." The teacher of religious law replied, "Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth by saying that there is only one God and no other. And I know it is important to love him with all my heart and all my understanding and all my strength, and to love my neighbors as myself. This is more important than to offer all of the burnt offerings and sacrifices required in the law." Realizing this man's understanding, Jesus said to him, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." And after that, no one dared to ask him any more questions. NLT

“One of the teachers of religious law was standing there listening to the discussion.”

I’ve observed that some “teachers” are no longer willing to listen. Some people reach a place where they think that they know all that there is to know. Because they have been following Jesus for a certain number of years, they seem to think that they have already arrived and have answers to all of life’s questions.

I don’t believe that is true for any of us. I think we all have more to learn. The question is, “Are we willing to be taught?” “Do we have a teachable spirit?”

I have been encouraged the past several days by several people coming up to me saying, “Pastor, I want to learn more.” “I want to be mentored.” “I want to know all that God desires to teach me.” God loves to find people with that kind of attitude and spirit. People that are hungry. People that are open and receptive to learning more truth.

Change isn’t easy. Believing something different than you have been taught your whole life is challenging. But people who are honest and willing to search the Scriptures are willing to accept the truth of God’s Word, even if it goes against everything that they have previously believed.

The Bible says, “Let God be true and every man a liar.” It doesn’t matter what man says, what matters is what God says.

Deut 31:11-12 Call them all together — men, women, children, and the foreigners living in your towns — so they may listen and learn to fear the LORD your God and carefully obey all the terms of this law. NLT

I want to listen. I want to learn. I want to always have a teachable spirit.