

Why is Jesus the greatest master?

John 3:16-17

For the last few weeks, we have been comparing the life of Jeremiah and Jesus. Last week Pastor Ginger spoke on Hard Questions. The week before Ross spoke about how Love supersedes the law.

- Hard questions challenges you to look inside, then responded.
- Love supersedes law, shows that love sees true value.
- Both of these messages circle around God's unconditional love for us.

Today we will answer the question, Why is Jesus the greatest master? When I first started thinking about a great master, kung fu masters came to mind. They are patient, strategic, and slow to respond. These are the skills that take the masters through tests and new challenges. Even Jesus had to master a few things in His life as well as being patient, standing alone, and pointing people in the direction of God. By the time I finish this sermon, you will know, Why Jesus is the greatest master! As we compare Jeremiah to Jesus, the first thing I would like to point out about Jesus is:

He is patient (waiting for the *relationship to develop*)

1. Jesus and Jeremiah (*Isreal was about to be taken captive 13:17*) wept over Jerusalem (*saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Luke 19:41-44*)
2. Both stood aside and watch Jerusalem be ruled by sin, over, and over. It seems some people have to learn the hard way. How easy is it to stand by and watch a society destroy itself, knowing you are the one sent to save them from destruction?
3. You must have a level of patience to wait and allow people to turn from their ways. He gives them a chance to repent because you can't force people to genuinely change. Love will allow you to change because love is patient, love is kind. There are times when God allows things to get rough, just to see if you will turn to Him.

Think:

Some people wonder why they don't have a business, why they are not married, nor do they have a new car or the house. Because God is waiting for you to turn to Him, He doesn't trust you with it. He is not the God of stuff, He's the God of love and He has all the time in the world to wait for you to change. You will run out of time before He does, but you will not have your way, it's got to be God's way or no way at all. He is resisting you until you develop a healthy, committed relationship with Him, then He will make you prosperous.

He can stand alone

1. Jeremiah (26:8-9) and Jesus both hated by their own people. The bible gives insight to the people picking darkness over light, their wisdom over God's wisdom. God's law versus man's law, who is right, who is wrong?
2. John 7:14-17 (**16** *Jesus answered them by saying, "My teaching is not My own, but His who sent Me. 17 If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know whether the teaching is of God or whether I speak on My own accord and by My own authority).*

It pays to believe what you speak. People will hate you for what you know or who you are, but don't shrink back or think small-minded as they do. A master must be strong because he is different and He believes the purpose God gave Him. Purpose gives life, hope, strength to continue, even if you have to do it by yourself. If you believe every word God gave you is true, then it gives you power. This is why they couldn't understand where Jesus's authority came from. How can He speak so boldly with no education? Because He believed every word He spoke or He would not speak at all.

Story: Last month I ministered to about 10 people wanting to get, has gotten or is in the middle of a divorce. All were disappointed because the spouse didn't act or react the way they were expected to. Husbands complain the wife won't cook or act like his mother (waiting on him hand and foot) and the wife is upset because the husband is trying to make all the decisions and is not communicating with her. Why do we hate in our own households? When are we going to see people for who God made them to be and not try to make them fit an expectation of our own? Women show their love the best way they can, through correction, hugs, kisses, compliments, but most men can't recognize it, because it's not their expectation. So the woman stands alone in the situation. Husbands show love by working extra hard, try to correct a problem before it happens, Mr. Fix it, but most women feel alone and it leads to separation. We must stand up and speak boldly in our marriages, speak Godly things about our spouse. It takes someone who will stand alone and be bold before God.

Closing Point:

Israel hated what was different, they couldn't recognize their Redeemer, because He was different. They couldn't master how to stand alone and become the people God needed, so they ended up captive to sin and it caused them to separate from God. But God so loved the world, He sent/gave His only son so we may be reconnected to Him, even as sinners.

He points to God

In every situation, Jeremiah and Jesus always pointed back to God

1. Jeremiah challenged the people to repent and turn back to God. Jesus challenged the religious leaders to listen to His teaching that was of the Father.
2. Jesus is the light to the path that leads back to God. He is the light that brings illumination back to the Father.

It is easy for us to lose focus of God and take other paths since there are so many options these days. We have drugs, internet, and other quick solutions that make God seem very invisible. Anytime we complain and focus on the problems we give power and life to those issues. Jesus came that we may have life and have life in abundance. We will never find what that means until we renew our relationship with God. Wake up in the morning and say thank you. Read scripture and meditate on it, give the spirit a chance to give you understanding.

John 5:19:

So Jesus explained, "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does.

Closing Point:

Jesus was trying to get us to see how lost we are without God. Even Jesus had to keep in close communication with God to stay in His plan. When we stop focusing on God we get off course and wander into the dark and Christ is the light to get us back on track. Jesus is the path that leads back to God, He is the Word that leads back to God, He is the way back to God, He is the door that opens to God (John 10:9).

Close:

For God so loved the world, He did not want to destroy what He created, so He gave His son, His only son to die on the cross that we may be saved and given a chance to receive eternal life. The wind didn't sin, the trees didn't sin, but man sinned and Jesus paid the price. Jesus pointed to God, but the world hated Him and chose darkness. They could not see that Jesus's purpose was about creation, not destruction. He created a way back to God because of love. For God so loved everything He created, He sent His son, Jesus. So, Why is Jesus the greatest master? Because everything He did and went through had to do with Love. I was love given from heaven to earth, love that nailed Him to the cross, love to choose creation over destruction.

