

Teacher Redemptive

Biblical

didasko (διδάσκω, 1321) is used (a) absolutely, "to give instruction," e.g., Matt. 4:23; 9:35; Rom. 12:7; 1 Cor. 4:17; 1 Tim. 2:12; 4:11; (b) transitively, with an object, whether persons, e.g., Matt. 5:2; 7:29, and frequently in the Gospels and Acts, or things "taught," e.g., Matt. 15:9; 22:16; Acts 15:35; 18:11; both persons and things, e.g., John 14:26; Rev. 2:14, 20¹

Characteristics:

- Needs to validate truth for himself. It is at the core of who he is.
- Loves knowledge
- Does not receive new things immediately. Looks at things from different angles
- Wants first-hand details
- Less likely of redemptive gifts to discern
- Values precision in sharing details.
- Sometimes overkill of details
- Processes and makes decisions slowly
- Can slow down impulsive people who jump to conclusions
- Is a very safe person emotionally and is sometimes confused with the gift of mercy
- The difference is the teacher tends to be led by their head and mercy to be led by their heart
- Has a deep commitment to family and tradition
- Seen as safe because he is patient with those in sin
- He is willing to lay out the whole picture and allow the other person to choose to do what is right and be reconciled
- Resists using personal stories and illustrations when speaking or preaching
- Prefers dealing with pure doctrine in a theological way
- Loves Greek and Hebrew
- Tends to be unwilling to begin a process until he can see the end of the process
- Can be immobilized by fear or risk. It can keep him from obeying God
- Has a wonderful sense of humor
- Tends to be the last one to speak in a group. He will listen and observe, seeing things from all angles, then summarize the whole picture
- Does not reject new ideas immediately
- Does not go forward as quickly as visionaries think he should
- Tends not to take the initiative to confront what is wrong

¹ Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). In [Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words](#) (Vol. 2, p. 619). T. Nelson.

Can be too tolerant of sin
Prefers the old, established, validated ways
Preserves history
Looks for more validation
Seeks out more credentials to attest to his competence
Tends to feed his mind, more than his spirit
There may be perceived dryness as he dispenses truth with intricate details
Tends toward selective responsibility
Can be extremely responsible and reliable in one area, but does not carry that same behavior over to other areas
Is unwilling to impose responsibility on others
Finds it difficult to compel someone to do what is right
His natural tendency is to explain, reason and put forth truth, expecting or hoping the other person will pick up the truth and act on it voluntarily
Is not easily swayed from the truth
Can keep the more impulsive gifts in check
Serves as an anchor
Wants to verify truth with his natural wisdom
Relies heavily on knowledge.
Thinks that knowledge is the inside track, and if he has knowledge, he has intimacy
Thinks the more he knows about God, the closer he is to God
Wants to live by sight, not by faith
Wants to know the end of a process before he begins
Intimacy and prayer may be a major battle for the teacher
Tends to pursue a doctrinal system rather than intimacy with his Father
Doesn't receive or reject new ideas or people right away
Safe person emotionally – can listen to brokenness and sin and not be rejecting
Makes new decisions slowly
Deep family loyalty
Tend to be poor at returning borrowed items
Difficult time returning phone calls
Typically late
Difficulty handling money
Unwillingness to begin a process until they can see the end of the process
Tends to be a fearful person
Usually the last to speak in a group
Tend not to overreact or jump the gun
A very patient person, slow tempered
Likes to save things
Great sense of humor

Major Weaknesses

Passive
Unwilling to impose responsibility on others



Can be soft on sin and too patient with people who are doing wrong
Struggles with issues of timeliness and responsibility in selective areas
Procrastinates on practical things
May lead to struggle with intellectual pride
Can have difficulty with emotions because of a desire to rationalize, explain, and systematize how he feels
Makes new decisions slowly

Biblical Examples of a Teacher

Apollos is an excellent example of the Motivational Gift of Teaching (Acts 18:24-28; 1 Cor 3:6):

1. Apollos as a “*waters*” (1 Cor 3:6) – that is, helps the Church (believers) to grow.
2. Apollos was “*an eloquent man*,” that is, gifted as a speaker.
3. Apollos was “*mighty in the*” **Teachers should base their instruction on the Scriptures**, including their examples or illustrations.
4. Apollos “*spoke and taught **accurately** the things of the Lord*.” Teachers are generally objective, and will thoroughly research a subject before speaking on it.
5. Apollos was ***instructed*** “*more accurately*” by Aquila and Scripture says that **teachers should also be**
6. Apollos “*greatly helped those who had believed through*” Teachers provide the substance (the foundational Scriptures) on which experience can be placed and made permanent.
Luke, Isaiah, Mary mother of Jesus, Samuel, Ezra



Principle: Responsibility

The teacher is to walk in responsibility in every area of their life. Their highest responsibility is to worship God. They must make worship a lifestyle, that they would anticipate and enjoy being with God. If the teacher is carnal, they will be selectively responsible and unwilling to impose responsibility on others. The teacher would rather work hard at persuading people to change rather than confront.

Teacher is Loyal

Samuel overly loyal

You have Samuel the prophet, who wrote a goodly portion of scripture. One of the teacher characteristics that is exemplified in Samuel is a profound loyalty. Even after King Saul had sinned grievously and Samuel was the one who had to tell him, not only was his dynasty removed but even his very kingship was removed from him, Samuel grieved for him. God Himself had to speak to Samuel and say, “Enough already, it’s over, quit grieving for Saul, let this thing go and go anoint the new king, David.”

Luke’s loyalty to Paul

We see the same thing in Luke. Luke was the last man recorded who was associated with the apostle Paul. Demos had forsaken him, loving this present world, Cretans was in one direction and someone else was in another direction. He sent everybody off in different directions and all he had with him was the faithful, loyal Dr. Luke at his side, caring for him, loving him at the end.

Mary not over-reacting

The greatest tribute, the greatest accolade God ever gave to the gift of teaching was when He selected Mary the mother of Jesus, a teacher, to carry that responsibility. The teacher has caused a great deal of irritation to the visionaries because they will not go forward as quickly as the visionaries think they ought. Yet the strength of the teacher is that they do not reject either, and the phrase that Luke records (a teacher) records of Mary—“she pondered all these things in her heart” displays this. It all didn’t make sense. To go from an angelic appearance, to a virgin birth, to a stable in Bethlehem doesn’t make sense. If God could send angels, could He not provide a room at the inn?

Discernment

