

WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

How Are You Being Taught

Study Guide

New Testament Studies

John Weaver

Weaver Bible College

A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

Date

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Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the September 30, 2026 edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

Pastor John Weaver - How Are You Being Taught

Part One of Three

December 29, 2016

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-22.

Major Themes

The Necessity and Neglect of Teaching

Teaching is essential for spiritual growth, yet many Christians ignore it due to willful ignorance and a preference for amusement.

Lecture support: Teaching is needed by everyone, and yet it is ignored by most individuals, including the majority of Christians. (00:01:08-00:01:43)

Willful Ignorance Condemned

Scripture condemns those who are willingly ignorant, such as the watchmen of Israel and the apostates described in 2 Peter.

Lecture support: For this they are willingly ignorant of... (2 Peter 3:5) (00:03:37-00:04:41)

Receiving God's Word as Mark of a True Christian

The singular mark of a true Christian is receiving God's Word, as seen in Deuteronomy 33:3 and John 17.

Lecture support: Everyone sits at his feet and receives his word. (Deuteronomy 33:3) (00:09:53-00:10:08)

Pride and Rebellion as Barriers to Learning

Many Christians are proud of their ignorance and rebel against teaching, thinking they need only simple knowledge.

Lecture support: The reason most Christians are ignorant is because most Christians cannot be taught. In order to be taught, you must have a teachable spirit. (00:22:50-00:23:37)

God Teaches in the Way He Chooses

Psalm 25:12 promises that God will teach those who fear Him in the way He chooses, which may be easy or difficult.

Lecture support: Him shall He, God, teach in the way that he shall choose. (Psalm 25:12) (00:35:13-00:35:48)

Learning by Example

God teaches through positive and negative examples in Scripture, and believers are to learn from them and be examples themselves.

Lecture support: Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things... (1 Corinthians 10:6) (00:48:01-00:48:52)

Key Arguments

Willful ignorance is sin and leads to destruction.

The Bible condemns those who are willingly ignorant, such as the watchmen of Israel and the Jews who rejected Christ.

Lecture support: They were willfully blind, and not only were they willfully blind, but they gladly and willingly and with great deliberation plotted the betrayal, rejection, and crucifixion of Jesus Christ. (00:03:37-00:04:41)

Not all professing Christians are truly saved.

Many in churches are ignorant because they were never genuinely converted; there is a distinction between profession and possession.

Lecture support: They are not all Israel which are of Israel. (Romans 9:6) (00:13:54-00:14:34)

Pride causes Christians to reject teaching.

Many Christians are proud of their ignorance, claiming they only need to know 'Jesus saves,' but this is a misunderstanding of Paul's intent.

Lecture support: The reason most Christians are ignorant is because most Christians cannot be taught. (00:22:50-00:23:37)

Increased knowledge brings increased responsibility.

Some avoid teaching out of fear of responsibility, but willful ignorance is itself a sin that compounds guilt.

Lecture support: We understand that increased knowledge carries with it increased responsibility. (00:28:07-00:28:58)

God measures truth according to our measure of study and obedience.

Mark 4:24-25 teaches that the measure we give in study and obedience determines the truth we receive.

Lecture support: With what measure you mete, it shall be measured to you. (Mark 4:24) (00:31:15-00:31:45)

Scriptural examples are given for our learning.

Both positive and negative examples in the Bible are intended to teach us how to live and what to avoid.

Lecture support: Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition. (1 Corinthians 10:11) (00:48:53-00:49:27)

Every believer is an example to others.

We are either a positive or negative example, and we have a responsibility to be godly examples in all areas of life.

Lecture support: Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. (1 Timothy 4:12) (00:56:15-00:57:06)

Scripture References

Psalms 25:12

The foundational verse for the series: God teaches those who fear Him in the way He chooses.

Isaiah 56:10

Watchmen are blind and ignorant because they love to slumber, illustrating willful ignorance.

Romans 10:3

The Jews were ignorant of God's righteousness and established their own, showing willful blindness.

2 Peter 3:5

Apostates are willingly ignorant of creation, demonstrating willful ignorance.

1 Corinthians 14:38

If a man will be ignorant, let him be ignorant still; a warning against refusing to learn.

Jeremiah 10:23

The way of man is not in himself; no one has innate wisdom to direct his steps.

Psalms 37:23

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, showing God's guidance through teaching.

Psalms 25:5

David prays for God to lead and teach him, acknowledging dependence on divine instruction.

Psalms 25:9

The meek will He guide in judgment and teach His way, linking meekness to teachability.

Psalms 32:8

God promises to instruct and teach us in the way we should go.

Deuteronomy 33:1-3

All saints sit at God's feet and receive His words, marking true believers.

John 17:5-8

Jesus says His disciples received the words given to Him, paralleling Deuteronomy 33:3.

Romans 9:6-8

Not all Israel are true Israel; there is an election within election, illustrating false profession.

1 Corinthians 2:14

The natural man cannot receive spiritual things, explaining why the unconverted are ignorant.

1 Corinthians 2:2

Paul determined to know only Christ crucified, but this is often misused to justify ignorance.

Philippians 3:10

Paul desired to know Christ deeply, contradicting the idea of being a 'simple' Christian.

Colossians 1:28

Preaching, warning, and teaching are necessary for maturity in Christ.

Mark 4:24-25

The measure you give in study and obedience determines the truth you receive.

1 Peter 2:21-23

Christ is our example in suffering and humility, leaving us a pattern to follow.

1 Corinthians 10:5-12

Israel's failures are negative examples for us, warning against lust, idolatry, and murmuring.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think many Christians today neglect serious teaching and prefer entertainment?

Consider: The message opens with the observation that teaching is ignored by most, even in churches.

2. How can we distinguish between willful ignorance and ignorance due to lack of opportunity?

Consider: Weaver distinguishes between ignorance from inopportunity and willful ignorance.

3. What does it practically mean to 'receive the Word of God' as a mark of a true Christian?

Consider: Deuteronomy 33:3 and John 17 are used to show that true believers receive God's words.

4. In what ways does pride manifest itself in our attitude toward learning Scripture?

Consider: Pride is identified as a major reason Christians remain ignorant.

5. How does the principle of 'measure for measure' in Mark 4:24-25 challenge your current study habits?

Consider: The measure we give in study determines the truth we receive.

6. What positive biblical example has most influenced your walk with Christ, and why?

Consider: Positive examples like Christ, Abraham, and the prophets are given for our learning.

7. How can we effectively learn from negative examples without becoming judgmental or self-righteous?

Consider: Negative examples are warnings, but we must take heed lest we fall (1 Corinthians 10:12).

8. In what areas of your life are you consciously aware that you are an example to others?

Consider: Every believer is an example, either for good or bad.

Applications

Cultivate a teachable spirit

Recognize your need for teaching and be willing to listen and learn, rejecting pride and willful ignorance.

Lecture support: In order to be taught, you must have a teachable spirit. (00:22:50-00:23:37)

Be faithful in attending teaching

Commit to regular study and church attendance, understanding that teaching requires time and energy.

Lecture support: It's your responsibility to be faithful to the teaching and preaching of the Word of God so that you may be taught. (00:24:36-00:25:07)

Obey the truth you already know

Apply what you have learned, because God gives more truth to those who obey what they have.

Lecture support: If you want more truth, here's what God says, you must obey the truth that you already have. (00:31:46-00:32:35)

Learn from biblical examples

Study both positive and negative examples in Scripture to know what to follow and what to avoid.

Lecture support: Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition. (00:48:53-00:49:27)

Be a godly example to others

Live in such a way that others can follow your example of faith, purity, and love.

Lecture support: Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. (00:56:15-00:57:06)

Heed warnings from wicked examples

When you see the consequences of sin in others' lives, take warning and do not follow their path.

Lecture support: Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil. (Exodus 23:2) (00:57:06-00:58:06)

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 2

How Are You Being Taught

Part Two of Three

December 29, 2016

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 23-38.

Major Themes

God's Sovereign Choice in Teaching Methods

God chooses the most effective way to teach each believer, whether by example or instruction, according to His will.

Lecture support: Psalm 25:12: 'Him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.'

The Necessity of a Teachable Spirit

Pride, rebellion, and lack of desire prevent many from being taught; meekness and submission are required to receive instruction.

Lecture support: Psalm 25:9: 'The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.'

The Primacy of Scripture in Instruction

True instruction must be based on the Word of God, expounded, explained, and applied, leading to doctrinal maturity.

Lecture support: Nehemiah 8:8: 'So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.'

The Role of Pastor-Teachers

God gives pastor-teachers to equip the saints for ministry and build them up doctrinally, protecting them from false teaching.

Lecture support: Ephesians 4:11-14: 'And he gave some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints...'

The Cost of Learning: Time and Effort

Understanding God's Word requires diligent study, meditation, and consistent exposure to teaching; it cannot be gained passively.

Lecture support: 2 Timothy 2:15: 'Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed.'

Key Arguments

Many professing Christians remain untaught due to spiritual condition or attitude.

Weaver argues that lack of teaching often stems from being unsaved, pride, fear of responsibility, or rebellion.

Lecture support: Review of four reasons: unsaved, pride, fear of responsibility, rebellion.

God's instruction is gentle and progressive, not overwhelming.

Using the imagery of rain and dew, Weaver contends that God's teaching comes in small, digestible portions suited to the learner's capacity.

Lecture support: Deuteronomy 32:2: 'My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew.'

Creation itself can instruct believers in wisdom.

Weaver points to Job 12:7-8 and Proverbs 6:6 to show that God uses animals and insects to teach lessons about diligence and dependence.

Lecture support: Job 12:7-8: 'But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee.'

Pastor-teachers are God's primary instruments for doctrinal instruction today.

With apostles and prophets ceasing, pastor-teachers remain to expound Scripture and mature the church.

Lecture support: Ephesians 4:11-12: 'And he gave some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints.'

Real preaching involves exposition, explanation, and application.

Weaver defines biblical preaching as reading distinctly, giving the sense, and causing understanding, contrasting it with entertainment.

Lecture support: Nehemiah 8:8: 'So they read in the book... distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand.'

Consistent attendance and personal study are non-negotiable for growth.

Weaver insists that missing teaching cannot be made up and that believers must be faithful stewards of learning opportunities.

Lecture support: 1 Corinthians 4:2: 'Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.'

Meekness is the prerequisite for divine guidance and teaching.

A meek spirit accepts God's dealings without resistance, enabling Him to teach and guide effectively.

Lecture support: Psalm 25:9: 'The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.'

Scripture References

Psalm 25:12

God teaches those who fear Him in the way He chooses.

Psalm 32:8

God promises to instruct and teach us in the way we should go.

Psalm 25:5

David prays for God to lead him in truth and teach him.

Psalm 25:9

The meek will He guide in judgment and teach His way.

Deuteronomy 32:1-4

God's doctrine drops as rain and distills as dew, gently instructing.

Job 12:7-8

Beasts, fowls, and the earth can teach us.

Proverbs 6:6-9

Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways and be wise.

Romans 1:18-20

Creation reveals God's invisible attributes, leaving men without excuse.

Proverbs 21:12

The righteous man wisely considers the house of the wicked.

Deuteronomy 17:11

The people were to follow the teaching of the priests and Levites.

Deuteronomy 33:10

The Levites shall teach Jacob thy judgments and Israel thy law.

Ephesians 4:11-15

God gave pastor-teachers for the perfecting of the saints and doctrinal maturity.

Isaiah 28:9-10

Precept upon precept, line upon line; here a little, there a little.

Mark 4:33

Jesus spoke the word as they were able to hear it.

Nehemiah 8:7-8

The Levites read distinctly, gave the sense, and caused understanding.

Proverbs 15:33

The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom.

Luke 11:49

Jesus refers to the Word of God as wisdom.

2 Timothy 2:2

Commit what you have heard to faithful men who will teach others.

1 Corinthians 4:2

It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful.

Proverbs 25:2

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing, but the honor of kings to search out a matter.

Discussion Questions

1. What are some reasons people remain untaught despite God's promise to teach?

Consider: Weaver listed four reasons: being unsaved, pride, fear of responsibility, and rebellion.

2. How does the imagery of rain and dew in Deuteronomy 32:2 shape our expectations of God's instruction?

Consider: God's teaching is gentle, progressive, and suited to our capacity.

3. In what ways can creation and observation instruct us spiritually?

Consider: Job 12:7-8 and Proverbs 6:6 show that animals and insects teach lessons about diligence and wisdom.

4. Why are pastor-teachers essential for the church's well-being according to Ephesians 4?

Consider: They equip the saints for ministry and build doctrinal maturity to prevent being tossed by false teaching.

5. What does Nehemiah 8:8 teach us about the nature of true preaching?

Consider: It involves reading distinctly (exposition), giving the sense (explanation), and causing understanding (application).

6. How does consistency in attending to teaching affect spiritual growth?

Consider: Weaver argues that missed teaching cannot be made up and that faithfulness is required.

7. What does it mean to be meek, and why is it necessary for being taught by God?

Consider: Meekness is a submissive, gentle spirit that accepts God's dealings without resistance.

Applications

Cultivate a teachable, meek spirit

Believers must develop a submissive disposition that accepts God's Word and dealings without resistance.

Lecture support: Psalm 25:9: 'The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.'

Prioritize consistent exposure to biblical teaching

Faithful attendance to the preaching and teaching of God's Word is essential for growth; missed opportunities cannot be recovered.

Lecture support: 1 Corinthians 4:2: 'Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.'

Engage actively with Scripture through study and meditation

Understanding requires diligent searching, note-taking, and application, not passive listening.

Lecture support: Proverbs 2:4-5: 'If thou seekest her as silver... then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD.'

Evaluate your use of time in light of spiritual priorities

Weaver challenges believers to compare time spent on entertainment versus time with God, urging realignment of priorities.

Lecture support: Psalm 25:5: 'Lead me in thy truth, and teach me... on thee do I wait all the day.'

Seek instruction from God's Word above all other sources

True wisdom and maturity come only through the expounded, explained, and applied Word of God.

Lecture support: Nehemiah 8:8: 'So they read in the book... distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand.'

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 3

How Are You Being Taught

Part Three of Three

December 29, 2016

Read Chapter 3 in the companion book, pages 39-56.

Major Themes

God's Progressive Methods of Teaching

God teaches His children through example, instruction, correction, and chastisement, each more severe if the previous is rejected.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'What if the children of God will not listen or learn by way of example and by way of instruction? Does God have other ways to teach us? And the answer is yes. So thirdly, God teaches us by correction.' and later 'What if a real, genuine, and true Christian refuses to be taught by example, by instruction, or by correction? What is left? How does God teach us then? And here it is, the fourth one: by chastisement.'

The Necessity of Obedience and Listening

Learning the easy way requires heeding God's voice; refusal leads to harder lessons.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Deuteronomy 15:5 and says, 'Only if we listen to Him, we're going to save ourselves an awful lot of heartache.'

Correction as an Act of Love

God's correction and chastisement are motivated by love and are for our profit, not His pleasure.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Proverbs 3:11-12 and Hebrews 12:5-11, emphasizing 'For whom the Lord loveth, He chasteneth.'

The Grievousness of Sin

Sin is the true evil; chastisement is merely the consequence. Believers should hate sin, not the rod.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Thomas Watson: 'There is more malignity in a drop of sin than in a sea of affliction.'

The Sovereignty of God in Teaching

God chooses the method of instruction, but our response can determine which method He uses.

Lecture support: Weaver explains Psalm 25:12: 'Is it God that chooses the way for instruction? Or is it we? ... it is God that chooses the method by which He instructs us. But in one sense of the word, we also choose the method by which we are instructed.'

Key Arguments

Correction is not always chastisement

Correction can be gentle and verbal, while chastisement involves painful discipline.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'One may be corrected without being chastened. ... correction and chastening are equated and then they are differentiated.'

Rebuke must be doctrinal, not personal

Biblical rebuke is based on Scripture, not personal preferences.

Lecture support: Weaver cites 2 Timothy 4:2: 'rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and doctrine.'

Public sin warrants public rebuke

Open sin should be addressed openly to serve as a warning to others.

Lecture support: Weaver references 1 Timothy 5:20 and Paul's public rebuke of Peter in Galatians 2.

Chastisement is for legitimate children only

Those without chastisement are not true sons of God.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Hebrews 12:8: 'But if you be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are you bastards and not sons.'

Rejection of all teaching leads to death

God may take a persistently rebellious believer home to prevent dishonor.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'If a man refuses to be taught either by example or by instruction or by correction or chastisement, the only thing left is death.'

Scripture References

Psalm 25:12

The foundational text for the series: God teaches those who fear Him in the way He chooses.

Deuteronomy 15:5

Illustrates the blessing of careful obedience and listening to God's voice.

Luke 12:27

Jesus teaches through the example of lilies, showing instruction from creation.

Ephesians 4:11-15

God gave pastor-teachers for the maturing of the saints and unity of faith.

Proverbs 22:15

The rod of correction drives foolishness from a child, equating correction with chastisement.

Proverbs 23:13

Withholding correction from a child; beating with the rod is not fatal.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Scripture is profitable for correction, among other things.

Psalm 39:11

God's rebuke of correction causes man's beauty to fade like a moth.

Psalm 6:1

David prays not to be rebuked in God's anger or hot displeasure.

Leviticus 19:11

Command to rebuke a neighbor and not suffer sin upon him.

Proverbs 27:5

Open rebuke is better than secret love.

Ecclesiastes 7:5

It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise than the song of fools.

1 Timothy 5:20

Those who sin are to be rebuked publicly so others may fear.

Titus 2:15

Speak, exhort, and rebuke with all authority; let no one despise you.

Revelation 3:19

Jesus rebukes and chastens those He loves; calls for zeal and repentance.

2 Timothy 4:2

Rebuke and exhort with longsuffering and doctrine.

Numbers 22:1-35

The story of Balaam and the talking donkey, an unusual rebuke.

2 Peter 2:15-16

The New Testament commentary on Balaam's rebuke by a dumb ass.

Galatians 2:11-16

Paul publicly rebukes Peter for hypocrisy.

Mark 8:31-33

Jesus rebukes Peter sharply, saying 'Get thee behind me, Satan.'

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. In what ways have you experienced God teaching you through examples, both positive and negative?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that learning from examples is one of the easiest ways to be taught.

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2. How can we distinguish between personal opinion and biblical doctrine when offering correction to others?

Consider: Weaver stresses that rebuke must be based on doctrine, not personal likes or dislikes.

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3. Why is it sometimes necessary to deliver a rebuke publicly, and what risks does that involve?

Consider: Paul's public rebuke of Peter and the command in 1 Timothy 5:20 are discussed.

4. How should we respond when we recognize that God is chastening us?

Consider: Hebrews 12 instructs us not to despise or faint under chastening.

5. What does the concept of a 'sin unto death' mean for believers today?

Consider: Weaver explains that persistent rebellion can lead to physical death as a final teaching method.

6. How can we cultivate a heart that learns the easy way rather than requiring chastisement?

Consider: The sermon urges self-examination on how we are being taught.

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Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

Lesson 1: Pastor John Weaver - How Are You Being Taught - Part One of Three

Lecture JW01462

[Open the formatted lecture online](#)



https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01462&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

Lesson 2: How Are You Being Taught - Part Two of Three

Lecture JW01463

[Open the formatted lecture online](#)



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Lesson 3: How Are You Being Taught - Part Three of Three

Lecture JW01464

[Open the formatted lecture online](#)



https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01464&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

Layout upgraded September 30, 2026. Original manuscripts, study-guide data, and previous PDFs have not been changed.