



THE GENUINE'S LIFE EVIDENCES OUR LORD JESUS

Throw Out What's Unbiblical And Outdated!

A Holy Spirit-guided/empowered way of life is promised in the New



For the best spiritual benefit, please prayerfully discuss this Nugget with those with you on your faith pilgrimage.

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

This email is a brief expansion of our previous email because the topic is so important for your own spiritual growth as a loving and obedient disciple of our Lord Jesus. Here's something we've addressed previously which may have not sunk in before: The **CONTEXT** in which content is taught is most often how that content will be used. In other words, the way in which you learn something is the way you'll use it. For example, if you learn a new skill on the job, then you're likely to remember that particular skill and use it. If you have questions about it, you ask, and the person instructing you has the answers so you'll apply that skill effectively. And then having used that skill yourself, you're able to instruct a fellow worker who'll need that skill too.

But what if someone teaches you from a lectern as you sit silently listening? You're a spectator like the other spectators around you, having no interaction or opportunity to discuss or seek clarification about what's being spoken. How likely are you to actually put into practice what's being said, especially if it really doesn't seem to apply to your own life? That's the essence of **pedagogy**—lecturing to a classroom of silent students who *have* to listen to the speaker!

Pedagogy is the teaching style which results in hearers only: **Lecture produces listening without any application.** In contrast, **andragogy** is the process in which **dialogue produces dialogue which leads to life application.** We strongly oppose the pedagogical method for instructing the genuinely born again because it's not only unbiblical; it also hinders the learner from participating in the dialogue that's so vital for **Christ-like maturity** and the **mutual application of God's Word**.

So, how does this distinction in instruction affect your own faith community? **IF** your clergy are to serve the interests of our Lord Jesus, **they must stop preaching at their hearers.** It's time for them to start dialoguing, allowing for questions and answers so that those who are hearing can internalize and apply what's being discussed. **Andragogy** is the biblical way of instructing adults (along with role modeling), something you should be insisting on in your faith community!



Some ancient history to learn from: In the strong, tight-knit relationships which marked past agrarian cultures, 'everyone knew everyone', and dialoguing was a natural part of society. Exchange of information and of what worked and what didn't work was part of the societal fabric. However, illiteracy was generally the norm, and only the educated clergy had access to the Bible, especially during the 1100 years of Roman Catholic religious domination. But with the invention of the printing press, more people were able to be educated and could access the Bible's truth for themselves. This meant that the lecture format of pedagogy sermons was no longer needed with adults. But the **Nicolaitan** clergy system had no intention of yielding their position and control through allowing dialogue—even though **dialogue** was the very method of teaching which our Lord Jesus and the Newer Testament writers used.

Keep in mind that pulpit lecturing at doesn't find its origin in the Bible. This method was adapted from **Greek oratory** and has been maintained throughout most of Christianity by men who liked control over a congregation, a Sunday school, a Bible study, or even a house church. We've observed over the years that these men enjoy the sense of personal power and esteem they get from lecturing about Scripture. But as many have admitted, they've never experienced the miracles, demonic deliverances, and divine interactions and timings to which God's Word bears witness. Since their own awareness of God is limited to what they've read in Scripture, they can't role model through the Spirit what they teach nor can they dialogue about how the commands in Scripture have been made real in their own lives. Sadly, the Bible is more like a history book to them than a resource for the Holy Spirit to use to bring to life the obedience that comes from a loving trust relationship with our Lord.



Please read **Spot 5** of our Spot On series, *Dialoguing vs Preaching: Who's Talking?* to discover what Scripture clearly reveals: *preaching* is for unbelievers; *dialoguing* is for believers, that is, the *genuinely* born again. In the Newer Testament, dialogue implies *interaction* between a hearer and a speaker. It assumes that the hearers will be verbally involved in what's spoken.



Our Lord Used Dialogue and Role Modeling. We today should rely on no less!
The context in which you learn the content is the context in which you will use the content.

Below are a sampling of the many verses in the Newer Testament which highlight role modeling:

 “Follow my example, as I also follow the example of Christ” (1Corinthians 11:1).

 “Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern” (Philippians 3:17).

 “The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you” (Philippians 4:9).

We're bringing this issue up for you again because it's important for your own faith journey with others in Christ. Whatever is instructed through dialogue leading to mutual application of God's Word is so necessary for the Value-based relationships of the *genuinely* born again to

flourish. This is especially true for •**Christ-like character development** and •**fulfilling Father's will to His glory**. Are these biblical goals touching *your* heart? Then please pray about this and put it into action. Don't keep taking part in the pedagogical method as a silent listener who forgets what you've heard by the time you get home. Recognize that the lecture format insidiously caters to you hiding behind your sin nature because there's no expectation that you're going to be changed by sitting silently through yet another sermon or Bible Study. It's all too easy for you to keep on sinning in your unChristlike attitudes or actions when what you've heard is just "words" to you.

We have labored by the grace of our Lord Jesus for many years to be true to what our heavenly Father has recruited us to share. And we're so thankful that His Spirit has kept transforming us over these years to live these truths so that when we instruct others, we've already gone through our own sifting of putting them into practice. Our interactive way of life with our heavenly Father and our Lord Jesus which the indwelling Holy Spirit has made possible fans hearts of grateful love that's beyond words to express. We pray that as you read and discuss this email, you will turn to the indwelling Spirit and to God's Word to confirm what we share.

Mike & Sue

PS: Remember, pedagogy is for *children* and andragogy is for adults! If you'd like to learn more about the value of dialogue for you in learning and applying God's Word to your life especially because of Who breathed it out to you, please read:

A Follow-up To *The Gospel of the Covenant Is the Pilgrimage to Salvation*:

- **De-Hellenizing Mental Muck: Lesson 4**;
- **De-Hellenizing Mental Muck: Lesson 5**