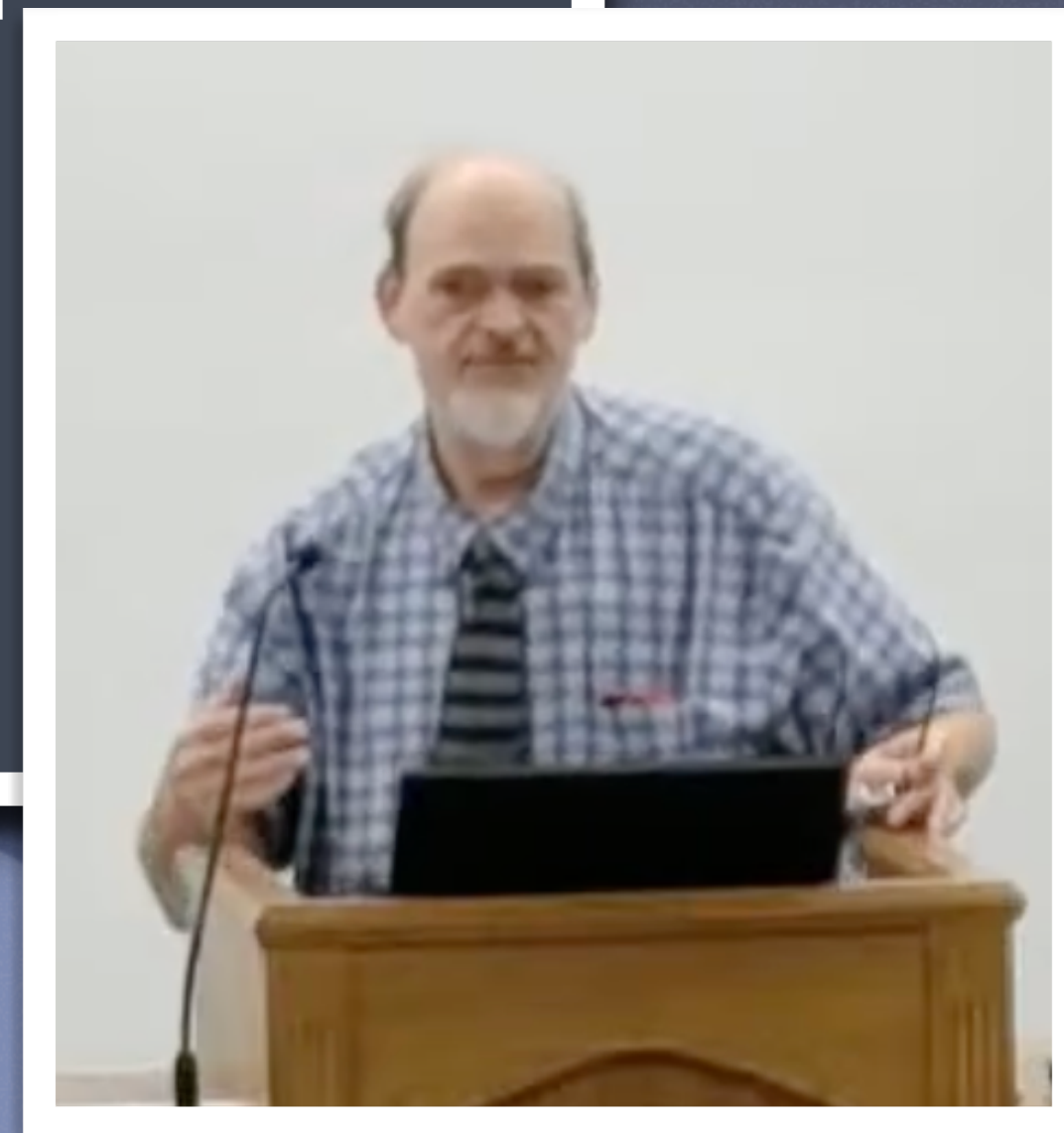


TODAY'S LESSON

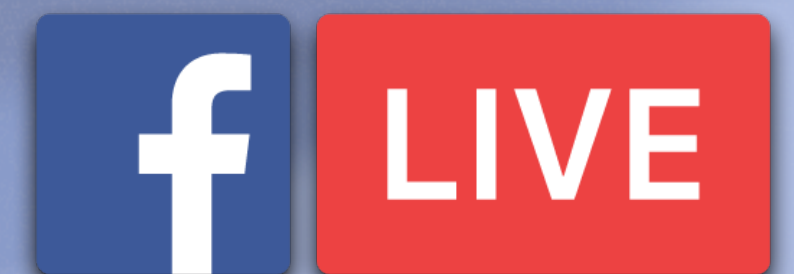
“INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN”

(Part 3) (Matthew 16:21-27)

By James Hamilton



*Sunday evening lesson live stream
4:00 PM ^{CDT} July 26, 2026*



INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Part 3

MATTHEW 15:32-16:28

The Training of the Twelve

Rejection of **Jesus** by **Nazareth** **13:53-58**

Execution of **John the Baptist** **14:1-12**

Disciples' first misunderstanding **14:13-36**

Feeding of the **5000** **14:13-21**

Walking on the **water** (**Peter's doubt**)
14:22-33

Reception in **Gennesaret** **14:34-36** (**Isaiah**
35:3-6; 42:6-7; 61:1-3; John 16:25)

Isaiah 35:3-6

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to the feart-hearted, "Be strong! Do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, the recompense of God; He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute shall sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

Isaiah 42:6-7

“O, the LORD, have called you in righteousness, and will hold your hand; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles, to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison house.”

Isaiah 60:1-3

Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth and deep darkness over the people; but the LORD will rise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

John 16:25

“These things **I have spoken to you in figurative language**, but **the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language**, but **I will tell you plainly about the Father.**”

The Training of the Twelve

Disciples' **second** misunderstanding **15:1-31**

Tradition of elders **dispute** **15:1-11**

Disciples' concern for **Pharisees** (Peter's request for explanation) **15:12-20**

Reception by a **foreigner** **15:21-31**

Disciples misunderstood **Jesus' reaction**

The Training of the Twelve

Disciples' **third** misunderstanding **15:32-16:12**

Feeding of the **4000** **15:32-39**

Challenge from the **Pharisees** **16:1-4**

Jesus' misunderstood warning **16:5-12**

Peter's **blessed words** **followed by** Peter's
foolish words **16:13-28**

The Training of the Twelve

Peter's privilege (Transfiguration of Christ)

17:1-13

Transfiguration 17:1-3

Peter's rash suggestion 17:4

God's response 17:5-9

Disciples' question about scribes' doctrine
about Elijah 17:10-13

The Training of the Twelve

Disciples' failure to cast out demon

17:14-23

Disciples' public failure 17:14-16

Jesus' success 17:17-18

Private explanation for failure 17:19-21

Jesus foretells His sacrifice 17:22-23

Peter's rash answer concerning the temple
tax 17:24-27

The Training of the Twelve

Disciples' **third** misunderstanding **15:32-16:12**

Feeding of the **4000** **15:32-39**

Challenge from the **Pharisees** **16:1-4**

Jesus' misunderstood warning **16:5-12**

Peter's **blessed words** **followed by** Peter's
foolish words **16:13-28**

Lessons from Matt. 15:32-16:28

Lessons need to be repeated until learned

15:32-39; 16:5-12

Use what you have and God will provide

what you need 14:14-21; 15:32-39; Phil. 4:20;
2 Cor. 8-9

You don't have to be men-pleasers in order

to please God 16:1-4; Galatians 1:10

You can't be men-pleasers and please God

Lessons from Matt. 15:32-16:28

Jesus often used figurative language 16:1-12

Literally interpreting figurative language will
prevent you from obeying the truth

16:1-5,12

Christ was misunderstood by many 16:13-14;

Galatians 1:10

Likewise, people misunderstand His church

16:18-19

Christ is the rock of the church 16:18; 1 Peter

2:4; Daniel 2:44

1 Peter 2:4-5

Coming to **Him** a **living stone**, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God, precious, you also, as **living stones**, are being built up a **spiritual house**, a **holy priesthood**, to offer up **spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ**.

Daniel 2:44-45a

And in the days of these kings **the God of heaven** will set up a **kingdom** which **shall never be destroyed**; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it **shall stand forever**... you saw that **the stone** was cut out of the mountain **without hands**

Lessons from **Matt. 15:32-16:28**

Jesus told the apostles not to tell others
that He is the Christ because the people
misunderstood what His purpose was as
the Christ **16:20-28; John 16:12**

Just as Jesus told the apostles not to tell
others that He was the Christ, we may be
short-circuiting the gospel by talking more
about the church of Christ than Christ
Himself **1 Cor. 2:1-5,8; 1:1-10,31**

1 Corinthians 2:1-5,8

And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except **Jesus Christ and Him crucified**. I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were **not with persuasive words of human wisdom**, but in **demonstration of the Spirit** and **of power**, that **your faith** should not be in the wisdom of men but **in the power of God**...they crucified **the Lord of glory**.

Lessons from Matt. 15:32-16:28

Let him who thinks he is standing watch
out lest he fall 16:17-23; 1 Cor. 10:12

Jesus had to die and rise to fulfill God's will
16:21-23

We must follow the same path to be His
disciple 16:24-27

We must deny self, live a crucified life, be
like Jesus to be where He is 16:24-27; Gal.
2:20; Rom. 6:3-4; John 14:1-3; Rev. 2:10

THANK YOU FOR BEING WITH US TODAY



100 CORNERSTONE ALEXANDER AR, 72002

You Are Welcome At Any
And All of Our Services!

MEETING TIMES:

Sunday A.M. Bible Study: 9:00

Sunday A.M. Assembly: 10:00

Sunday P.M. Assembly: 4:00

Wed. P.M. Bible Study: 7:00



ALEXANDERCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM