



The Life Core

The Source of Life & The Life Core

Bridging the Gap

- Western education focuses on knowledge
- Greater goal: releasing the power of God's Word in people's lives

A close-up image of several wooden planks of varying lengths and widths, some overlapping, creating a sense of a bridge or a path. The text "Bridging the Gap" is overlaid in a large, white, serif font.

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Why the failure?

- Dare we ask if our students are ready for life and ministry?
- Humanism believes mankind will excel with knowledge – wrong
- Spiritual training is often equated with theological training.
- Half of all seminarians leave ministry after five years.

"When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road. ...22 And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. 23 And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit, and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty" (Mat 13:19-23).

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Lack of faith

- One of my OT professor said, "This might be the only time you read the OT in your life."
- What was he teaching?
 - The Old Testament is not important.
 - The Old Testament will not be relevant to your lives.
 - You will not want to read the Old Testament anymore after reading it once.

Whenever a preacher preaches a sermon without faith, without understanding its life-giving qualities, it goes out without the Spirit.

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An abounding faith

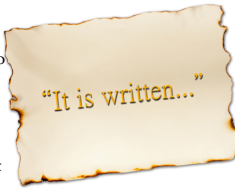
- Jesus lived out the Old Testament
- When tempted, He quoted the OT.
- His mission was defined by the OT

"And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry. And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God'" (Matthew 4:2-4).

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Importance of reevaluating our methods

- The teacher must go beyond the content to the actual faith needed to implement the lesson.
- Ignorance of this has caused a lack of growth.
- Isn't our expectation that we would live like Jesus?
- What would it be like if our people grew to full maturity?



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Our Lessons

- The trust in knowledge confuses our goals of training, both in formal and informal training.
- A teacher's faith influences a student's learning and faith, for both good and bad.
- Only by recommitting ourselves to believe God's Word like Jesus will our teaching become relevant, dynamic, healing and helpful.

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Application

- Take any two Bible related classes, recent or in the past, and state what the objectives of the classes were. (Think of seminary, Sunday School, etc.)
- What kind of faith did the teachers possess with regards to this topic?
- How did these classes help or hurt you?