



Teach Me Your Way

Scope & Sequence

Teach Me Your Way is a study for youth on surrendering to Jesus in salvation, and submitting to His way in obedience. The evidence of a surrendered heart is obedience, and the mark of the obedient heart is reflected in the true righteousness of the person who has “put off the old self” and “put on the new self.” The curriculum uses the Sermon on the Mount to demonstrate the character of the true believer. For the believer, the Sermon on the Mount is a celebration of the identity of the kingdom, and for the unbeliever it is an invitation to surrender to Christ and become part of His kingdom. Spiritual discussion between parents and students is encouraged through the optional reading of several suggested books and At Home study in the Student Journal.

Lesson 1: Created to Worship God

Various Old Testament Passages

We are created to worship God by delighting in Him.

- ▶ All people are created to worship God. Men will always worship something, but true joy and satisfaction can only be found by delighting in God. People cannot just determine to make themselves interested in God and spiritual things, but must receive this grace from God.

Key Verse: Psalm 16:11

Lesson 2: The Idolatrous Heart

Creation of Man and The Fall (Genesis 2-3)

Man rejected the worship of God for the worship of self and has exchanged the worship of the Creator for the worship of created things ever since.

- ▶ In the fall, man rejected the worship of God and became a worshipper of self. Because of his sin nature, man is prone to exchange the worship of God, the Creator, for the worship of lesser the creature. An examination of Romans 1 shows how idolatry today is the same as Adam and Eve’s sin in the garden.

Key Verse: Romans 1:21

Lesson 3: God Gave Them Up

God’s Wrath on Unrighteousness (Romans 1-2)

Man is without excuse when God rightly withdraws His restraining grace and gives man over to his sin.

- ▶ Man’s idolatrous heart leads to the withdrawal of God’s restraining grace on his sinful nature. The truth of God is plainly shown in creation and the law is written on the heart of man, so man is without excuse in his sin. God is a jealous God who alone deserves man’s worship. Sinful man is storing up God’s wrath to be revealed on the Day of Judgment. Presuming upon God’s grace (kindness) in this way is an evidence of a hard and impenitent heart.

Key Verse: Romans 2:4

Lesson 4: Jesus, the Bread of Life

The Words of Eternal Life (John 6)

God must give sinful man a spiritual appetite for Jesus, the Bread of Life.

- ▶ As show in John 6, man is prone to seek physical bread rather than spiritual bread. While physical bread is temporary and unsatisfying, spiritual bread is eternally satisfying. Jesus, the Bread of Life, came to save sinners that the Father draws to Him. The truth of the Gospel must be accepted by the mind and impact the whole man—mind, heart, and will.

Key Verse: John 6:35

Lesson 5: The Surpassing Worth of Knowing Christ

The Rich Young Ruler (Matthew 19)

The Gospel must be embraced by the heart to be persuaded that our idols are rubbish compared to knowing Christ.

- ▶ As the truth of the Gospel is trusted in the mind, it must be embraced by the heart for a person to be saved. But, love of the Gospel is often prevented by addiction to the world, blindness to personal sinfulness and the wrath of God, and confidence in personal merit. Everything else is as rubbish compared to the surpassing worth of knowing Christ.

Key Verse: Philippians 3:8

Lesson 6: Follow Jesus

Various Passages

Obedience is the result and evidence of genuine faith and repentance.

- ▶ Salvation requires the accepting the Gospel in the mind and heart and an act of the will—trusting Jesus to save. Repentance—forsaking sin and committing to obey Jesus—and commitment to live under God’s rule is a necessary response of trusting Jesus in faith. He will not turn away from any repentant sinner.

Key Verse: John 6:37

Lesson 7: Your Life is Hidden with Christ

The Greatness of God (Isaiah 40)

Our fleeting lives have significance only when we die to self and live for God and His purposes.

- ▶ Man’s existence is fleeting, but God is eternal. People were born to live for God’s purpose and to glorify Him as He sovereignly orchestrates His plan for the universe. Therefore, the Christian is dead to his own plans, will and agenda, and instead lives for Christ.

Key Verse: Colossians 3:3

Lesson 8: Obedience: The Mark of a Surrendered Heart

Various Passages

God demands and delights in hearts that respond to His grace in obedient surrender to Him and His will.

- ▶ Jesus, who is Savior and King, loves and demands obedience. This is an evidence of a disciple with a surrendered, obedient heart. God’s graces inclines His children’s hearts in submission to Him, and enables them to fight their sinful nature and passions by denying themselves and taking up their crosses daily. Blessing comes to those who seek Jesus and walk in His ways.

Key Verse: Luke 9:23

Lesson 9: Jesus: Our Example

Various Passages

Jesus is our perfect example of a heart surrendered to the Father and a will submitted to God’s purposes.

- ▶ Jesus is an example of a heart surrendered to the Father and a will submitted to God’s purposes. Jesus understood and submitted to the Father’s authority and had a loving, personal relationship with Him. Jesus’ perfect obedience is evidence of His surrendered heart and submitted will. God, a loving heavenly Father, strengthens people who desire to follow Him.

Key Verse: John 6:38

Lesson 10: Teach Me Your Way

Various Passages

Because the believer operates in God’s kingdom, he must submit his mind, heart, and will to learn the ways of God.

- ▶ God’s ways are higher than man’s ways. The Christian operates in God’s kingdom as He helps them put off the old self and put on the new self. To learn the ways of God, believers must be teachable before the Lord with an informed mind, a heart desire, and a surrendered will.

Key Verse: Psalm 86:11

Lesson 11: The Poor in Spirit

The Beatitudes (Matthew 5)

God's kingdom belongs to the poor in spirit because they humbly recognize that they are undeserving of and desperate for God's mercy.

- ▶ The Sermon on the Mount provides a description of a Christian's character. The kingdom of heaven is shown as both present and future. The sermon explains that the poor in spirit recognize their utter spiritual depravity and are humble before God.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:3

Lesson 12: Those Who Mourn

Peter Denies Jesus (Luke 22)

God brings eternal comfort to the one who mourns over sin and repents.

- ▶ Those who mourn over sin are blessed as this godly grief produces repentance. The outcome of repentance is comfort and forgiveness from God. Those who are Christians will mourn over both personal sin and over the sins of others.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:4

Lesson 13: The Meek

Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus (Matthew 26)

The meek humbly submit their wills to Jesus and trust God's rule, which results in the inheritance of all things.

- ▶ The meek—those who are submitting their wills to Jesus and trust God—are marked by gentleness, humility, determination to follow Jesus, and self-control/God-control. They see their sinfulness, mourn over it, and have no expectation of mercy because they recognize that they do not deserve it. Soft on the outside and strong on the inside, the meek will not only reign in the kingdom to come, but also possess everything in the present that leads to contentment.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:5

Lesson 14: Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness

Various Passages

God will satisfy those who desire that their lives and the lives of others reflect God's righteousness.

- ▶ God gives believers the gift of an appetite for spiritual things and a desire for righteousness personally and for others. Hungering and thirsting for an inner righteousness that conforms to the will of God and obeys His ways is the mark of a believer. God continually satisfies the desire for righteousness. For believers, the Sermon on the Mount is a celebration of identity in the kingdom, but for unbelievers it is an invitation to surrender to Christ and join His kingdom.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:6

Lesson 15: The Merciful

By Grace Through Faith (Ephesians 2)

Those who truly embrace the undeserved mercy of God will overflow with mercy toward others and so be blessed with more mercy.

- ▶ Jesus demonstrated the mercy of God, forgiving sin and restraining evil. Those who recognize they are saved by grace will overflow in extending this same mercy to others, showing forgiveness and compassion on those in misery. Mercy is not just a feeling, but an action as well.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:7

Lesson 16: The Pure in Heart

Various Passages

Through Jesus Christ sinful hearts are made clean and undivided so that Christians can see God now by faith, and one day will see His face in heaven forever.

- ▶ The pure in heart shall see God and the righteous shall enter His presence. Jesus is the only way to have a pure heart that is clean from sin and wholly dedicated to God. Seeing God is both now and future. Seeing God now means seeing Him in His creation, seeing His hand at work in the world, and enjoying fellowship in God's presence.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:8

Lesson 17: The Peacemaker

The Woman Caught in Adultery (John 8)

Christ reconciles man to God and then gives man the ministry of active and passive peacemaking.

- ▶ Christ reconciles man to God and gives man the ministry of reconciliation. Peacemakers are blessed and shall be called sons of God. Being a peacemaker, an active and passive duty, comes from surrender to Jesus and is evidence of being a disciple of the Perfect Peacemaker.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:9

Lesson 18: Those Who Are Persecuted for Righteousness' Sake

Various Passages

Though followers of Christ will be persecuted because of their identification with Christ, they can rejoice because their reward will be great in heaven.

- ▶ Believers belong to the kingdom of God where those who have been persecuted will receive a great reward. Followers of Christ will be persecuted for Christ's sake because of their identification with Him. This is a blessing, and Christians are to rejoice in persecution.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:10

Lesson 19: The Salt of the Earth

Fighting the Fight of Faith (1 Timothy 6)

Christians are called to be salt, flavoring the world with the Gospel and preserving the world from moral decay.

- ▶ As the salt of the earth, Christians are to be a positive, noticeable presence in the world, preserving it from moral decay. When believers fill their lives with the world though, it is easy to dilute or dull their spiritual standards as they trade God's high standards for the world's low ones. Those not demonstrating the uniquely Christ-like character reflected in the Beatitudes are not useful in the kingdom, and may need to question if they are true followers of Christ.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:13

Lesson 20: The Light of the World

Walk in Love (Ephesians 5)

Those who follow Jesus, the True Light of the World, reflect His light to a dark world.

- ▶ Just as Jesus is the light of the world, His followers are also light because the light of Jesus is within them and because believers are called to reflect His light to the world. The mission of Christians as light bearers is to expose darkness, warn of spiritual danger, and guide those in darkness to the True Light. The true Christian will not hide his light.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:14

Lesson 21: Anger

Various Passages

The heart attitude of anger, not just the outward act of murder, is liable to judgment.

- ▶ Righteousness must be more than outward righteousness but an inward action of the heart. Both murder, an outward act, and the inward desire to harm another is forbidden by God. The mouth speaks from the heart's abundance. Anger is dangerous and must be arrested. Jesus imputes perfect righteousness to His followers and the Holy Spirit helps them walk in His ways.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:22

Lesson 22: Reconciliation

The Lord Rejects Saul (1 Samuel 15)

God delights when His obedient children quickly initiate reconciliation more than He delights in outward religious activity.

- ▶ Christians are commanded to reconcile with fellow believers before religious activity in order to worship with a right heart. God delights in obedience more than in sacrifice—a broken and contrite heart. Christians must attempt to be at peace with everyone, but if peace does not exist in a relationship they should urgently initiate reconciliation.

Key Verse: 1 Timothy 2:8

Lesson 23: Lust

Various Passages

Lust is a strong, progressive, controlling desire that must be cut off so that the believer will reflect God's wise and pure design for his life.

(NOTE: This lesson contains separate small group discussion questions for boys and girls.)

- ▶ Both the external act of adultery and the inner heart attitude of lust is wrong. As Jesus condemns these actions, he also commands purity. Lust is a deadly poison—a progressive desire that becomes uncontrollable and grows when it is fed. Believers must take whatever measures necessary to protect themselves from lust and prevent lifetime habits from forming—no measure is too drastic. They can support others by not placing a stumbling block before them.

Key Verses: Matthew 5:29; Psalm 119:37

Lesson 24: Dying to Self

Bless the LORD, O My Soul (Psalm 103)

Christians are called to follow the example of Jesus and die to self, surrendering their rights to God.

- ▶ The spirit of retaliation in the human heart is in conflict with the ways of God. The Christian is not to resist the one who is evil and personally offensive, but to respond to need in generosity as they die to self and surrender their rights. Believers can fight the spirit of retaliation by remembering the mercy of God toward them.

Key Verse: Romans 12:21

Lesson 25: Love Your Enemies

Love Your Enemies (Luke 6)

Believers who have experienced the love and forgiveness of God are called to imitate God by committing to love and forgive their enemies.

- ▶ The Gospel heals the man's relationships between God and other men. Just as God loves His enemies because He is good, Christians are called to imitate His actions and commit to forgiveness. If believers do not forgive others, they do not understand the sin in their own hearts and God will not forgive them. True Christians will grow in Christ-like character.

Key Verse: Matthew 5:44

Lesson 26: Hypocrisy

Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6)

Actions and worship that please God overflow from pure hearts that desire His praise more than the praise of others.

- ▶ True righteousness comes from a pure heart and overflows in expression of good works. The pure motive for letting these works be seen is so that others can give glory to God. Even sincere Christians are susceptible to hypocrisy, but God can do good things through a sinful heart. God rewards those who give, pray, and fast with a sincere heart.

Key Verse: Matthew 6:1

Lesson 27: Submission in Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6)

True prayer is focused on God and flows out of a relationship with God.

- ▶ Prayer is just empty words unless a person has a relationship with God. The Lord's Prayer, in Matthew 6, exemplifies a surrendered heart and provides a picture of a God-centered prayer.

Key Verse: Matthew 6:9b-10

Lesson 28: Store Up Treasures in Heaven

Various Passages

What we treasure both reveals our hearts and influences everything in our lives; true joy can only be found by pursuing the eternal heavenly treasures for which God designed us.

- ▶ Christians are to pursue heavenly treasures, which are eternal, instead of the temporary treasures of earth. People's visions and priorities reveal and capture what they treasure in their heart. This influences everything in their lives. No one can serve two masters.

Key Verse: Matthew 6:19-20

Lesson 29: Faith, Not Anxiety

Various Passages

Worry comes from believing lies more than the promises of God.

- ▶ Worry, believing lies instead of truth, comes from having wrong values, trying to control life, and lack of faith in God. Christians should seek God's kingdom, because He is sovereign over all of life and cares for His children. God will provide all needs of those who pursue His kingdom so they do not have to be anxious about tomorrow.

Key Verse: Matthew 6:34

Lesson 30: Judge Not

Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7)

When a believer sees sin in another person's life, he must not be judgmental or self-righteous but must humbly repent of his own sin before correcting his brother.

- ▶ Christians are to be discerning, but should not have a condemning, judgmental attitude toward others, which comes from a self-righteous heart. The degree of mercy extended toward others will be reflected back from God. Before correcting others, believers need to first examine their own hearts and repent of their own sin.

Key Verse: Matthew 7:3-5

Lesson 31: Ask, Seek, Knock

Various Passages

God's children who pray diligently for spiritual blessing will receive it, as God will transform their desires and actions by the Holy Spirit.

- ▶ The Sermon on the Mount is not a list of commands, but a description of the kind of person the Christian is to become through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. When God's children pray diligently for spiritual blessing, they will receive it. In the same way, God gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him. The work of the Holy Spirit in the Christian's heart enables him to treat other as he would want to be treated.

Key Verse: Matthew 7:7, 12

Lesson 32: The Narrow Gate to Life

The Choice of Life and Death (Deuteronomy 30)

Everyone is either living for the world, which is easy but deadly, or living for Jesus, which is hard but infinitely worth it.

- ▶ Everyone is on the narrow path or the wide path. Individuals who do not choose end up on the wide path. Although it is easy, the wide path leads to destruction. On the other hand, the narrow way is hard, but it leads to life. Jesus is the only way to the narrow path, and He is the only way to salvation.

Key Verses: Matthew 7:13-14; Acts 4:12

Lesson 33: Beware of False Prophets

Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7)

Watch out for false teachers, and test those who claim to be from God by the evidences of His grace in their lives.

- ▶ False teachers are dangerous because they make their teaching believable and portray themselves as acceptable while their aim is destruction. Believers need to be wary of the influences in their lives and know the Bible. Because false teachers are known by their fruits, Christians should take time to observe, and not be quick to follow those who claim to know the truth.

Key Verse: Matthew 7:15

Lesson 34: Genuine Faith Produces Obedience

Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7)

True faith in Christ produces a growing desire to obey Christ.

- ▶ Those who do good deeds and religious works but fail to do the will of the Father or have a personal relationship with Jesus will not be welcomed into heaven. Believing the Word of God is not sufficient evidence of salvation. Believers who are obedient to the Word have evidence of true saving faith and will weather both life's storms and final judgment. God accepts those who are humble, contrite, and tremble at His Word.

Key Verses: Matthew 7:21; 1 John 2:3

Lesson 35: Sojourners and Exiles

Various Passages

The believer will feel out of place in this world because his heart desires and life actions show that Jesus is his King and heaven is his ultimate destination.

- ▶ Christians are different from the world because they have citizenship in heaven, and therefore are sojourners and exiles in this world. They must cooperate with the work of the Holy Spirit in transforming their minds, hearts, and wills by pursuing truth and praying for the humility to accept it. The Christian's desire for heaven is stronger than his desire for the world, so he should live differently by abstaining from the passions of the flesh.

Key Verses: Philippians 3:20; Romans 12:2

Lesson 36: Fear God, Not Man

Pilate Delivers Jesus to be Crucified (Luke 23)

The believer must resist the fear of man, knowing that he has been accepted in Christ and that the opinion of God is infinitely more important than the opinion of man.

Isaiah's Vision of the Lord (Isaiah 6)

- ▶ The fear of man causes Christians to sin. This controls their behavior and prevents them from submitting to God because they are enslaved to sin. A fear of exposure and humiliation or rejection and ridicule sparks the fear of man. To fight the fear, Christians must 1) see the greatness and holiness of God; 2) focus on God, not themselves; and 3) see themselves as reflectors of Christ as they ask Him to break their desire to satisfy self-serving needs.

Key Verse: Proverbs 29:25

Lesson 37: The Folly of Sin

Slaves to Righteousness (Romans 6)

The Christian must submit to Christ, his true Master and fight against the foolishness of the slavery of sin.

- ▶ As a result of the Fall, sinful man is controlled by his heart, passions, desires, and lusts. The Christian must fight to be governed by his mind and by the truth. By its nature, sin 1) enslaves; 2) offers fleeting pleasure; 3) is aggressive and destructive; 4) cannot be hidden forever; 5) grows; and 6) is far-reaching.

Key Verses: Genesis 4:7; Proverbs 6:27; James 1:14-15

Lesson 38: Exhort One Another Every Day

Nathan Rebukes David (2 Samuel 12)

Because sin is very deceitful, we must actively fight for our own faith and the faith of those around us by using the Word of God.

- ▶ Sin is deceitful and can harden the heart. Even the Christian's heart is prone to wander from God, so he must watch over his heart with vigilance and fight the fight of faith. As a community, Christians are called to keep watch over each other's souls and are admonished to exhort one another daily. If believers hold their confidence in Christ firm to the end, they will share in Christ's heavenly inheritance.

Key Verse: Hebrews 3:12-13

Lesson 39: Submit Daily

Various Passages

The Christian should submit his mind, heart, and will daily to King Jesus, who promises a great reward in the coming kingdom.

- ▶ Satan tempts people to worship the creature instead of the Creator. Desires, even good desires, can be held too tightly and lead to sin. These desires grow to demands, needs, and expectations that lead to disappointment and punishment. Christians must submit their hearts, desires, and wills to Christ daily and do everything for His sake. The reward gained for submitting to Jesus will be a hundredfold in the kingdom to come.

Key Verse: Matthew 16:25

Lesson 40: The Glory to Come

Future Glory (Romans 8)

Focusing on the glory to come enables the Christian to endure the groaning of this world's trials.

- ▶ As all of creation awaits its redemption, the dual experiences of groaning and hope characterize the life of the Christian in this world. Focusing on the glory to come enables the Christian to navigate the difficulties of this world. When Jesus returns, believers will be like Him, reflecting the perfection of Christ's character. What matter most when Christ returns is being His child.

Key Verse: Psalm 37:34