



RE: BIRTH – Part 5

EXPERIENCE BEFORE EXPLANATION

Luke 5:17-26

Experience Tests Teaching

Luke 5:17-19

¹⁷ One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick. ¹⁸ Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to

take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. ¹⁹ When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

PUT A FACE ON IT. MAKE IT TANGIBLE. MAKE IT PRACTICAL.

Experience Provokes Questions

Luke 5:20-21

²⁰ When Jesus saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.”

²¹ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, “Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

BE AWARE OF PRESUPPOSITIONS. TAKE THEM SERIOUSLY. NURTURE QUESTIONS.

Experience Supports Claims

Luke 5:22-26

²² Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, “Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?

²³ Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk?’ ²⁴ But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the paralyzed man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” ²⁵ Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. ²⁶ Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”

GIVE REASONS TO BELIEVE. DO THINGS BY GOD’S GRACE. INSPIRE AND IMPRESS.

Closing Summary

- Do our real life experiences demonstrate that our faith is more than ideas or teachings?
- Are we living in a way that causes seekers to question their presuppositions?
- Can we testify to remarkable things that amaze and inspire praise to God?