Teach Me Jesus

In Psalm 86:11, David writes, "Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth." In today's American society, most people have an understanding of "teaching." Although this may not have been true several decades ago or a century ago, as we look around us today and see our neighbors, friends, co-workers, and people with whom we do business, most of these people know what it means to be taught something.

Notice that David doesn't say here, "Show me your way, O Lord." He says, "Teach me your way, O Lord." Teaching is different from showing. You can show someone how to hit a golf ball. You can show someone how to decorate a wedding cake. But having been shown how to do things such as these doesn't necessarily mean you can do them yourself. If you want to acquire some skill or ability, you need to be taught.

David's desire was to be taught, and he wanted to be taught God's way: "Teach me your way, O Lord." What is God's way? Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." What is God's way? Jesus. Jesus is the way. If we want others to come to know God's way, we need to teach them Jesus.

David follows his request to be taught with what his response will be: "I will walk in your truth." And what is God's truth? Again, Jesus says, "I am the truth." When we teach Jesus to others, and they respond by walking in Jesus, the outcome is life. Again, from John 14:6, Jesus is the life. This is the essence of David's prayer: Teach me Jesus, and I will walk in and with Jesus, and Jesus will give me life—life everlasting.

This should be our prayer today: Teach me Jesus. Then we need to follow our being taught Jesus, by teaching Jesus to others, for this is the only way for them to be saved. As Jesus said in John 14:6, "No one comes to the Father except through me." May it be our prayer, both individually and collectively as a church body, that we continually teach, walk, and live Jesus, so that others may come to know Him as their Lord and Savior.

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