

**DIMENSIONS OF NEXT LEVEL ↗ UPWARD LIVING:**  
**I CORINTHIANS 2**

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Paul's fidelity to the Message, vss. 1-5

Synopses of New Testament Preaching

God came in the person of Jesus Christ to defeat sin and evil.

This mission was accomplished on the cross

Christ's resurrection demonstrates his superiority over sin and evil

The redefinition of the cross

Packaging of the message

The Church's Kerygmatic Mission, Matthew 28:18

We make disciples through kerygma.

Whenever we witness or testify we are doing kerygma.

Kerygma is the responsibility of all believers and not simply those who preach as a profession or vocation.

We all prepare food to live but there are persons who are professional cooks.

Do not get the general call to kerygma confused with a call to preach or proclaim as a profession

Purpose of Kerygma

Wins new souls

Strengthens souls already won through inspiration

Characteristics of Kerygma

Breaks down the mysteries of God into simple, understandable terms

John 3:16 – This verse is a lesson in such concepts as incarnational theology, vicarious atonement, soteriology and even a hint of eschatology

New Testament meaning of mystery

Bestows more wisdom than knowledge

Spirit Empowered

The power of the proclamation to convince and convict is of the Holy Spirit

Power of our witnessing is not only in our words or our methods but also in the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

The necessity of separating the instrument from the message

The Challenge to Grow Beyond Kerygma, vss. 6-13

Traditional weakness of much of our traditional African American Religion

We have tried to reach full maturity by a diet of Kerygma

If some of us are still in the elementary things of God and the Holy Spirit, the reason may very well be that we are still at the stage of Kerygma.

If we become so easily confused and lead astray by other cults, groups and denominations, the reason may very well be that we are still at the level of Kergma.

The Church's Mission of Didache, Matthew 28:20

### Importance of Teaching for the Believer

Holy Spirit has Teaching Office, John 14: 25-26 & 16:12-13  
 Teaching Office in the Life of the Church, Ephesians 4:11-16; 1  
 Corinthians 12: 27-28; Romans 12:6-8.

Every time the gifts of the Holy Spirit are mentioned, teaching is included.

We are all called to teach even as we are all called to proclaim.

However, some of us have the gift of teaching even as some are called to proclaim as a profession or vocation.

We must be careful about getting a general call and a special anointing and gifting confused.

### Purpose of Teaching

Explains what is proclaimed

Step One is being convicted and converted by proclamation.

Step Two is explanation and application.

Equips Saints for effective ministry and witness.

We cannot explain what we do not understand ourselves.

We are most effective when we are not only converted in heart but enlightened in head.

We need light as well as fire and heat.

Many of us have a preponderance of fire and heat and a dearth of light.

### Characteristics of Spirit Filled Teaching, vss. 14-16

Christian Teaching must be as Spirit Filled as Preaching

Some things can only be learned through the Holy Spirit, John 14:  
 15-17.

Leads to Maturity

Bestows Discernment

Fosters the Mind of Christ

**Commitment**

No commitment without obedience

**Humility**

**Resurrection**

**Inspiration**

**Service**

**Teaching**

Note: Both kerygma and didache, proclamation and teaching are necessary for maximum Christian maturity.

### Questions to Think About:

Does your faith have a good balance of preaching and teaching?

If your faith is out of balance in any way, how are you correcting the deficiency?

How do you feel the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit in your life?

Do you have the "mind of Christ"?