

to Him” as He was teaching in the Temple, “and He healed them” (Mt 21:14). He taught us to fast by fasting, to pray by praying, to serve by serving, and to forgive by forgiving: “Forgive them, for they know not what they are doing” (Lk 23:34).

The glorious, central message of the Gospel was taught in word and in deed. Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die” (Jn 11:25, 26).

By raising Jarius’ daughter, the widow’s son, and His friend Lazarus—and by Himself being raised from the dead—Jesus revealed the very essence of His teaching and preaching. The empty tomb is the most powerful sermon ever preached, silently proclaiming “the words of eternal life” to those who “have believed and have come to know” the One it reveals (Jn 6:68, 69). Is it any wonder, then, that so many marveled: “No man ever spoke like this man” (Jn 7:46).

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*For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him (Jn 3:16, 17).*

This is the heart of the Good News.

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**JESUS CHRIST:  
TEACHER,  
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# JESUS CHRIST

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At the age of twelve, Jesus appeared in the Temple of Jerusalem, “sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers” (Lk 2:46, 47).

Even as a child, Jesus reveals Himself as a teacher—or rather, as the Teacher of teachers! His primary ministry as Savior and Messiah is to be in the midst of His People, teaching, preaching, and being the very presence of God’s love in all its fullness.

## HE TAUGHT THEM MANY THINGS

Throughout His public ministry, Jesus continually revealed Himself as a teacher and preacher. He “went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom” (Mt 5:2). When encountering a crowd, “He opened His mouth and taught them” (Mt 5:2)

and “He taught them many things” (Mk 3:2). He “went on through cities and villages, preaching and bringing the Good News of the Kingdom of God” (Lk 8:1). He taught on mountains, near the sea, from boats, in the Temple and the treasury, wherever His People were gathered. Ironically, those who continually accused Jesus of false preaching still called Him “Teacher” (Jn 8:4) and “Rabbi” (Jn 9:2).

## TEACHING BY HIS PRESENCE AND ATTITUDE

In His teaching and preaching, Jesus recognized that pure information was not sufficient to change lives. He addressed the eye and heart, as well as the ear and mind, in an effort to form a loving attitude in His hearers. Perhaps the most profound insight into the nature of Jesus’ ministry came when He stood up to read in the synagogue at Nazareth, the town of His childhood:

*There was given to Him the book of the Prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach*

*Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” And He closed the book, and gave it to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing” (Lk 4:17-21).*

Jesus revealed that He is the very content and fulfillment of the Good News, the One to whom the words of scripture point. He is the Living Word of God who took on human flesh in order to save humanity (Jn 1:1).

## TEACHING BY HEALING ALL INFIRMITY

Jesus taught in deed as well as with words. It was not uncommon to find great multitudes gathering to hear Him while, at the same time, coming “to be healed of their infirmities” (Lk 5:15). “The blind and the lame came