

## **Marks of a Good Teacher**

1. They know their Scriptures
2. They apply the scriptures to their own lives first
3. Their authority comes from Scripture They stand on what Scripture says
4. Their messages are based on what God has said, not what someone else said about it. They study for themselves
5. They treat the Scriptures with respect. They treat it as God's Word
6. They do not go beyond what Scripture says
7. They use scripture in context
  - a. They use Scripture in its' context, referencing all of Scripture
  - b. They apply Scripture to your situation
8. They preach what Scripture says and means irrespective of whether it is popular or not
9. They do not promote themselves
10. They are more worried about their responsibility to God than your opinion of them
11. Their preaching concentrates on how good God is, not how good you are.
  - a. It emphasises your current situation, and what to do about it
12. They are not afraid to call sin sin
13. They care more about your spiritual situation than your tithes and offerings.
14. They are not afraid to call out false preachers or praise true preachers
15. They are not afraid to mix, mingle, and spend time with their "sheep."



## Marks of a Bad or False Teacher

**Please consider Deuteronomy 13:1-4 and Deuteronomy 18:20-22**

1. **The obvious things from their mouths:** Strange doctrines. Commandments of Men. Doctrines of Devils. Heresies. Traditions of Men. Lies. Falsehood. Vain deceit. Deceptive Philosophy. (1 Tim 6)
2. **They do not regularly preach or teach on doctrine.** (Col 3 :16; 1 Thess 2:13)
3. **Their preaching lacks substance** (1 Tim 1:5-7). If they do speak on Scripture, it is only lightly, or on light subjects. (1Ti 1:6)
4. **Sin is rarely preached on** - it is a light subject, and treated as a "disease" that Jesus is the cure for.
5. **Their message does not condemn any specific sin**, allowing people to stay as they are.
6. **It does not promote sanctification**; it says you are OK and can improve from within. Alternately, it can say no further sanctification is necessary. (1Th 4:3)
7. **They are often in a specific sin themselves**
8. **They speak arrogantly** - They promote themselves
  - a. They want to be in the spotlight
  - b. They want to be considered an authority
9. **They imply their own revelations or visions have more weight than Scripture**
  - a. They often claim to have superior knowledge or authority to others or scripture
10. **They habitually use esoteric words and phrases as self-glorification, not for edification.** ("Christianese" or Greek and Hebrew)
11. **They denigrate and disparage True preachers.**
12. **They twist scripture to make it say what they want it to say.** They do not preach what it actually says. ("*Eisegesis*")
13. **They are Men-Pleasers** (Gal 1:10; 1 Thess 2:1-4)
  - a. They speak what people want them to speak on, the way people want them to speak. (2 Tim 4:2) (Are you ever challenged?)
14. **They concentrate on how good, worthy or deserving you are**, not on how good God is. Your own potential, not your current situation. (Gal 6:12; 2Cor 11:13-15)
15. **They strive to win people to their opinion or church**, but not to convert them to Christ. Matt 24:17) They consider altar calls in terms of numbers, not people saved.
16. **They make merchandise of their followers.** (2 Peter 1:1-3) They emphasize giving and money
17. **They tend to be very controlling.** (1 Tim 3:6)
18. **They often have a history of bringing friction to the Church.** (1 Tim 3:1-7)
19. **They reject correction or criticism.** (2 Tim 2:25-26)
20. **They are often deliberately unapproachable** or set up a hierarchy with themselves at the top.

NOTE: These are generalisations.