



ST. ANDREW'S IN THE PINES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SERMON
2-1-15

- I. Two studies for authority – making body large and voice training. Apparently you can learn to gain authority.
 - a. Jesus was seen as having authority. Must have done it right.
 - b. Study to learn how He used his authority.
 - c. Teaching and healing. Teaching and healing.

- II. I Corinthians reading a little jumbled but I think it is talking about people using authority.
 - a. Using word – knowledge but knowledge seems to give people sense of authority. I know something – I’m smarter than you.
Look how this reads with authority.
 - b. We can be dismissive of people agonizing over food and idols. It might seem trivial – But let’s rework this again.

- III. Walking with your child and they can’t step on crack cause it will break their mamas back. How do you react?
 - a. What about being given a token or necklace of a saint or a crystal and are told they will always keep you safe?
 - b. Or how about learning from your child that a stork brought them to the house?
 - c. Sure you treat them kindly because you love them.
 - d.

- IV. . There are times and places for teaching what you know. You pick them because of caring and love. You don’t do it with superiority.
 - a. How about Jesus and His authority? He sees us all as his children so he uses his authority with love – just like you would as a parent.

- V. Guy Clark song – “Good advice is hard to take, Bad Habits are hard to break, Common sense is hard to make. Good advice is hard to take.

- VI. That’s just the truth. If we use our knowledge or our authority to hand out criticism or advice – we won’t earn brownie points with anyone – not God, or Jesus, or your friends or your enemies. You’ll be tuned out. And if you wound their conscience – you sin against Christ.

- VII. Self- righteousness, being right, having knowledge, being seen as an authority – they are not worth much.

VIII. Instead Jesus used authority to teach and heal, to bringing wholeness and completeness to people. We do want to and need to keep learning new things- in the right time and place and with the right attitude in ourselves and in our teachers.

IX. Cause good advice is hard to take, bad habits are hard to break, common sense is hard to make, good advice is hard to take.

X. Let's avoid the wound given by knowledge and offer the authority given with love.

Thanks be to God.