

The Journey Outline

Cat and Dog: Lesson 4 Outline:

One Sentence Summary: Cat Theology is not necessarily incorrect, but it is incomplete.

A. Outline

a. Introduction

- i. Ronald Stacey King, who was a teammate of Michael Jordan, said, "I'll always remember this as the night Michael (Jordan) and I combined to score 70 points."
- ii. What Stacey said was completely true, but he left a lot out. On that night, Michael Jordan had scored 69 points by himself. What he said was not incorrect, but it was very incomplete.
- iii. This is what Cat Theology does. Cat Theology is not incorrect, but it is very incomplete.

b. Body

- i. How A Cat and A Dog view Salvation.
 1. Cats are saved from hell and it stops there.
 2. They pray the prayer, realizing they are no longer are going to be facing an eternal lake of fire, and then they celebrate and worship the Lord who made it all possible.
 3. They are not sure how to live after that because what they were really worried about was getting fire insurance to be sure THEY were not going to hell. These are the believers who are walking away from hell, not toward heaven, not toward the treasure.
 4. For Cats, being saved means "not going to hell." That's what Christianity is all about. Although this is not incorrect, it is very incomplete.
 5. Dogs know they've been saved in order to glorify God. Their salvation has a purpose; they are walking toward heaven.
 6. Dogs are on a continual journey of learning how to bring glory to God. They hunger more for Christ. They want to experience His glory and radiate it more and more.
 7. There are many ways to reflect God's glory in this world... Whether it is raising a family, sharing with our neighbors, reaching out to an international student, or simply praising God for whom He is.
 8. There is a big difference between being saved "From something" and being saved "For Something."
 9. When you are being saved "From Something" the focus is on you. You are the main character. It is all about you.
 10. When you are saved "For Something," you are no longer the main character. It is no longer about you. It is about God and His glory and making it known...revealing it to your neighbors and to the nations.
- ii. Differences about Prayer for Cats and Dogs.
 1. Bob was at a mission meeting and a leader prayed, "Lord, thank you for dying on the cross for our sins." This prayer is prayed all over the world. It is not incorrect, but it is incomplete.
 2. We should finish the prayer and say, "He died on the cross for our sins so that we might honor Him, so that we might glorify God for His mercy, that we might lift up and radiate His glory to the world.

3. The next time you thank God for dying on the cross for your sins, make sure you complete the prayer!
- iii. Differences about Blessings for Cats and Dogs
1. Cats walk around with a big bucket in their arms saying, “God bless me, God bless me, God bless me.” They are seeking God for what He can give them. Once they get those blessings, they enjoy them for themselves and happily remain focused on themselves.
 2. Cat Christians work all they can, to get all they can, and then once they’ve got it, sit on their can and enjoy it.
 3. Although this is not incorrect to seek God’s blessings and enjoy them, it is very incomplete.
 4. Dogs know they have been blessed by God to be a blessing! They too go around with a bucket asking God to bless them, but at the bottom of that bucket is a pipe through which the blessings flow after they’ve enjoyed them, and they pass them on to their neighbors and to the nations.
 5. Oscar and Beverley Walker are two people who exemplify this. They are both retired and have been blessed by God with lots of free time. Along with fishing and loving the grandkids, they take two nights out of their week to go and visit those who can’t get out of their homes to church and they take church to them. They know it’s about God; it’s not about them. They live to radiate God’s glory.
 6. Don’t let your blessing be an end in themselves.
- iv. Differences about Happiness for Cats and Dogs.
1. Cats love to be happy. They think that’s what life is all about. God wants us happy and He made us to be happy.
 2. God encourages us to be happy and that is absolutely correct but it is incomplete. God wants our happiness to be primarily in Him.
 3. God wants us to celebrate Him as the all Sufficient One, Him as our Great Provider, Him as our Protector, Him as our Healer.
 4. Some Christians who are in a marriage that isn’t satisfying them, get advice saying, “I know that God wants you happy. And if this person isn’t making you happy and they are not going to change, then get out. It’s not God’s best, but God wants you happy.
 5. They know it’s not God’s best. They know God hates divorce. But they also know that God wants them happy as well. So they compromise and they file for divorce.
 6. God does want them happy and it is commanded in scripture to, “Rejoice in the Lord.” If we live out a COMPLETE theology and find our joy primarily in God, then we will have joy to give to our spouse whether they make us happy or not.
 7. Both Cats and Dogs seek happiness, but a Cat’s joy is incomplete because they find it in everything, but God. A Dog’s joy is complete, because they find it in God.
- v. Incomplete Theology affects Pastors
1. A Cat Pastor’s goal is to minister to the people in his church. He has been called upon by God to feed his sheep. He spends time preparing his sermon so that the message will strike the hearts of his people to walk closer to God.

2. He gives his sheep words of comfort and encouragement when they need it because he wants them to know that God loves them and wants to bless them.
 3. Some Cat Pastors may have a vision for reaching out into the inner city or in the local communities hoping to bring more into their church. All of this is not incorrect; it is good, healthy, but incomplete.
 4. Some pastors don't look at the potential of having their people reach out beyond the culture they are comfortable in, seeking to possibly reach the internationals in their community, or work toward the goal of planting a sister church in a people group that is unreached.
 5. A Dog Pastor is concerned for the glory of God, not only in his own church, praying and hoping that every thought and deed of the members of his church reflects the glory of God. He is also concerned for God's glory outside the church's four walls, outside of his city, outside his state, and outside of His nation. Why? Because it's all about God.
- vi. Incomplete Theology affects Youth Pastors
1. A Cat Youth Pastor focuses on the youth in his church, feeding them, nurturing them, and seeking to help them become more like Christ. He gets them to say "no" to premarital sex, "no" to drugs, "no" to alcohol, "no" to all the bad things in life..
 2. He gets his youths to say, "Yes" to Quiet Times, "Yes" to Bible Studies, and "Yes" to reaching out to their local schools. This is not bad and is very healthy. It is not all incorrect, but it is incomplete.
 3. Dog Youth Pastors do the same things with their youth as Cat Youth Pastors but they go a step further. They train their youth to look for the glory of God in everything they do and say and they help them to see where the glory of God is NOT shining and encourage them to make a difference there as well.
 4. Dog Youth Pastors are very comfortable with encouraging young ladies, straight out of high school, to join a Nanny program, like the one Frontiers started, where these young ladies go overseas, live with a missionary family while taking care of the small children, while the parents themselves are freed up to work at learning the language.
 5. Dog Youth Pastors are very comfortable in challenging their youth to go beyond their own culture and to look for opportunities to reveal God's glory everywhere.
 6. Cat Theology is changing the way pastors and youth pastors do their job, but it also affects the parenting of many adults in our churches today.
- vii. Differences in Cat and Dog Parenting
1. Cat parents are all concerned for their children. They want them to grow up and know Jesus. They want them to be safe from the evils of this world.
 2. They want them to memorize and learn bible verses so they can live Godly, productive lives and be blessed by God. This is not incorrect, but it is incomplete.
 3. Dog parents who are concerned for God's glory also want the exact same thing, but they go a step further. They give their children a vision and understanding of God's global glory, discipling them to radiate God's

glory in every area of their lives, in the decisions they make, to how they view choosing a spouse.

4. Dog parents encourage their children to see God's glory in nature all around them. Then also encourage them to pray for God's glory among the nations, and encourage them to take God's glory overseas, on short term trips or long term trips.
5. They are happy seeing their kids go overseas because they are focused on God's glory everywhere.
6. Parenting with an incomplete theology will change a tremendous amount in how you raise your kids.

viii. Cat Theology spreads It's Influence among Missionaries

1. Paul Mckaughan, the president of The EFMA spoke of his younger years where he admitted that he felt that the church existed to support his vision and his dream. He was a young missionary working in Brazil and he had a clear goal and plan. He couldn't see beyond it and he felt the church existed to help see it become a reality.
2. Over time, God helped him to see that it was God's dream to see Brazilians worshipping the Lord, not his. And that Paul needed to look beyond Brazil and see the lost world that God's heart longed to reach as well. Paul's vision was a bit incorrect, and it was grossly incomplete.

c. Conclusion

- i. Incomplete Theology can change your Christianity, your church, and every aspect of your life.
 1. It can change who you date, what your work ethic is, how you keep your lawn, what kind of house you buy, what kind of car you drive, how you shop, etc.
- ii. We are praying that God's Holy Spirit is going to challenge you to look at every area of your Christianity, every area of your life and ask the question, "I know what I am doing is not incorrect, but is it incomplete? Is there something else I can be doing to bring my heavenly Father greater glory? Is there some purpose in life I am missing in what I'm doing?"