How would Jesus Teach/Preach?

If the Lord Jesus Christ was to teach a Bible Study, Sunday School class, Jr. Church lesson, or preach to a congregation or hold an outdoor (open air) meeting how would He do it?

1. Jesus would have a <u>life</u> that would be in total <u>harmony</u> with the message He communicated

The Lord Jesus perfectly lived, exemplified, & fulfilled that which He taught

John 8:46
Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

Luke 6:39-40
And he spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch? [40] The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.

2. Jesus would have a teaching <u>style</u> that would <u>empower</u> His message to <u>impact</u> lives

a. He would teach with <u>zeal</u> & <u>enthusiasm</u>

John 2:13-17
And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, [14] And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: [15] And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; [16] And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise. [17] And his disciples remembered that it was written, **The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up**. (Cp.Ps.69:9)

b. He would teach with <u>compassion</u> & <u>grace</u>

Ex. The woman at the Well (John 4)

c. He would teach with <u>simplicity</u> & <u>clarity</u>

Jesus used a simple vocabulary and style so that it is said:

Mark 12:37 - …The common people heard him gladly.

John 16:25
These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father.
John 16:29
His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb.

d. He would teach with <u>boldness</u> & <u>authority</u>

Mark 1:22
And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

e. He would teach with <u>repetition</u> & <u>patience</u>

For Example:
He repetitiously taught the truth about Divorce
Compare: Matthew 5:32 with 19:9
He repetitiously taught the truth about Forgiveness
Complare: Matthew 6:15 with Matthew 18:23-ff
He repetitiously taught the truth about Hell & Judgment
He repetitiously taught the truth about His death & resurrection

f. He would teach with the <u>Father's leading</u> & the <u>Spirit's control</u>

John 8:28
I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.

Isaiah 61:1
The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek;… to proclaim liberty to the captives

3. Jesus would build <u>rapport</u> & <u>relationships</u> with His pupils

As He did with His disciples
As He did with those at Matthew's dinner table
As He did with the Woman at the Well

4. Jesus would launch into a lesson by attaining a commonly understood point of reference

In other words, He would move in His lesson from the known to the unknown, the natural to the supernatural, from the physical to the spiritual, from the visible to the invisible, from the concrete to the abstract.

5. Jesus would employ a variety of illustration techniques to make the truth come alive

The word "illustrate" basically means "to make bright" or (from the vernacular) "to shed light" on a subject.

An illustration is a means of throwing light upon a point being taught by use of an example. It is a "word picture."

An illustration is simply a teaching aid that helps a teacher to help a learner to learn and retain.

It is a "hook" that catches and holds the attention of the pupil.
It is a "nail" that fastens the truth to the students' minds.

CHRIST'S EXAMPLE OF USING ILLUSTRATIVE TEACHING AIDS

1. He used stories
   a. Real-life examples (historical facts; EX: Lk. 13:4 - "Tower of Siloam")
   b. Hypothetical examples (Lk. 13:6ff - "A certain man")
   c. Parables (earthly message with spiritual applications; Mt. 13:3 - "And he spake many things unto them in parables")

2. He used objects lessons
   a. Mt. 18:1-10 - He called a little child
   b. Jn. 13 - He washed the disciples' feet
   c. Writing in the sand, millstone about neck, coin with Caesar's picture, etc.

3. He used dramatics - Mt. 21:7-16 - The triumphal entry and cleansing of the temple

4. He used questions (Mk. 13:3; Lk. 13:15; Jn. 4:6ff)

5. He used daily experiences - Jesus frequently referred to familiar objects and experiences: air, altar, birds, bread, camel, candle, cloth, door, etc. (use the concrete to clarify truth and lead people to Christ)

6. He used the O.T. Scriptures to illustrate (Jn. 3:14 - "As Moses lifted up the serpent")

7. He used various kinds of analogies (Jn. 15:1-9), metaphors (Mk. 7:27), and similes (using "like" or "as" - Mt. 7:24-27; and substitutions - Lk. 13:32, Jn. 10:9, etc.)

THE NEED FOR ILLUSTRATIONS:

1) Short Attention Spans - A child's ability to sit, listen, and think varies with age and background. A picture or illustration of some type will generally hold anyone's interest.

2) Different Levels of Learning

a. 0 - 2 years: Learns through senses
b. 2 - 5 years: Learns concrete facts
c. 6 - 9 years: Thinks logically, primarily with concrete facts
d. 10 - 12 years: Thinks logically with abstract terms

--Because children do not have a developed ability to think about abstract concepts, using teaching aids (audios and visuals) is vital!

3) People are visually orientated by nature
We remember approximately 2% of what we read
We remember approximately 10% of what we hear
We remember approximately 75% of what we see
We remember approximately 90% of what we do

4) People today are living in a visually-orientated society (color photographs, films, videos, movies, TV, billboards, etc.)

5) Illustrations aid you in your explanation of the Bible.
"A picture is worth a thousand words."

Illustration is similar to explanation in that it aids the listener's understanding of the text, but it is different in that it uses an example or word picture to do so, rather than a statement of fact from the text.

6) Illustrations obtain and hold the interest of the listeners.
   a) Everyone can relate to stories or pictures (they appeal to all ages and cultures).
   b) They stimulate the mind and imagination.
   c) They help the listener "visualize" a principle in action (a good illustration will elevate a principle from abstraction to objectivity - it makes truth come "alive").
      We are living in a "picture orientated" society (a generation of lazy minds). Illustrations help the listener "see," "feel," and "touch" unseen eternal principles with finite minds.
   d) They give the listener a time of "mental rest" (relaxation) or in other words "an opportunity to breath" (especially during a long message).

7) Illustrations aid in the retention (memory) of the truth you present.

VARIOUS KINDS OF TEACHING AIDS (Visual aids and audio-visual aids)

Impressional aids - involve doing of the teacher
Expressional aids - involve doing of the learner

1. Suggested aids for the teacher
   a. Objects
   b. Maps
   c. Pictures (prints, film strips, movies)
   d. Chalk board
   e. Flannelgraph (suspense, movement)
   f. Flash card stories
   g. Visualized songs
   h. Role playing (teacher acts out the story)
   i. Puppets
   j. Records/tapes

2. Suggested aids for pupil's use
   a. Handwork and handcraft
   b. Projects
   c. Some of the things used by the teacher may also be used by the students
   d. Role playing (pupils act out a story)

How would Jesus Teach & Preach?…

6. Jesus would have a balance between teaching in "small group" settings and preaching to larger audiences.

a. He encouraged dialogue in "small class" informal private settings

Mark 8:27
And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Caesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

Matthew 17:1
And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,

b. He captivated large audiences with bold preaching in public settings

Mark 2:13
And he went forth again by the sea side; and all the multitude resorted unto him, and he taught them.

7. Jesus would take advantage of "<u>teachable moments</u>" and "weave" His teaching into the fabric of <u>daily experiences</u>

Mt 6:26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

Mark 11:20 And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away. And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Mark 12:43

And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury:

Mt 26:26 ¶ And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

Jesus taught lessons while the disciples were fishing; outside the temple; up on a mountain; out on a boat sailing; in a house; in the field; in a synagogue; etc.

8. Jesus would teach by setting an <u>example</u> of how the truth should be <u>lived</u>

Joh 13:15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

Joh 14:11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

1Pe 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

Joh 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

Jesus didn't just teach about <u>humility</u>, He modeled it (John 13:5-f)
Jesus didn't just teach about <u>forgiveness</u>, He showed it (John 8:11; Lk.5:20; Lk.23:34)
Jesus didn't just teach about <u>love</u>, He demonstrated it (John 13:34)
Jesus didn't just teach about <u>grace</u>, He extended it (John 1:14)
Jesus didn't just teach about <u>compassion</u>, He felt it (Mt.15:32)
Jesus didn't just teach about <u>a burden for souls</u>, He had it (Mt.9:36)
Jesus didn't just teach about <u>sacrifice</u>, He gave it (John 10:11; 10:15)

9. Jesus would ask thought provocative, <u>soul-searching questions</u>

He asked questions that would cause people to examine their hearts:

Mt 9:4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

Mt 7:3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?

He asked questions that would cause people to think deeply about a truth:

Mt 18:12 How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?

Mt 22:42 Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he?

He asked questions that would cause people to put their foot in their mouths:

Mt 26:66 What think ye? They answered and said, He is guilty of death.

He asked questions that would cause people to make personal application of truth:

Luke 13:1-4

There were present at that season some that told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. [2] And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things? [3] I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. [4] Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?

He asked questions that would cause people to examine their priorities

Mt 6:28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

He would ask questions to calm fears

Mt 8:26 And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?

He would ask questions to answer questions

Mt 15:2-3 Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

He would ask questions to lead people to draw conclusions

Mt 19:17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God

Joh 8:46 ¶ Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

10. Jesus would motivate and appeal to the <u>will</u> of His audience to act upon (<u>respond to</u>) God's truth

a. He would encourage people to <u>listen to</u> the message He proclaimed
Mt 11:15 He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

b. He would encourage people to <u>believe</u> the message He proclaimed
Lu 24:25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:

c. He would encourage people to <u>apply</u> the message He proclaimed
Lu 13:3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

d. He would encourage people to <u>obey</u> the message He proclaimed
Mt 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

Joh 13:17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

How would Jesus Teach/Preach?

If the Lord Jesus Christ was to teach a Bible Study, Sunday School class, Jr. Church lesson, or preach to a congregation or hold an outdoor (open air) meeting how would He do it?

1. **Jesus would have a life that would be in total harmony with the message He communicated**

2. **Jesus would have a teaching style that would empower His message to impact lives**
   a. He would teach with zeal & enthusiasm
   b. He would teach with compassion & grace
   c. He would teach with simplicity & clarity
   d. He would teach with boldness & authority
   e. He would teach with repetition & patience
   f. He would teach with the Father's leading & the Spirit's control

3. **Jesus would build rapport & relationships with His pupils**

4. **Jesus would launch into a lesson by attaining a commonly understood point of reference**

5. **Jesus would employ a variety of illustration techniques to make the truth come alive**

6. **Jesus would have a balance between teaching in "small group" settings and preaching to larger audiences.**

   a. He encouraged dialogue in "small class" informal private settings

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7. **Jesus would take advantage of "teachable moments" and "weave" His teaching into the fabric of daily experiences**

8. **Jesus would teach by setting an example of how the truth should be lived**

9. **Jesus would ask thought provocative, soul-searching questions**

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    c. He would encourage people to apply the message He proclaimed

    d. He would encourage people to obey the message He proclaimed

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