

Fully Trained Like the Teacher

Sunday, June 28, 2026

Preached by Pastor Brad

KEY PASSAGES

Luke 6:39-45 (NIV)

He also told them this parable: "Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into a pit? The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher. Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye. No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of."

FIVE KEY POINTS

- 1 **"Can the blind lead the blind?"** On the surface this is simple advice. Trust good teachers, or you both end up in the pit, the way a broken car goes to a mechanic instead of a dentist.
- 2 **But Jesus turns it around.** The lesson is aimed at the teacher, not the student, and it calls us to look in the mirror and ask how we are really doing.
- 3 **We all have roles of influence.** As parents, as elders and deacons, as pastors, or as members who want to share their faith. Before we reach for the speck in someone else's eye, Jesus says deal with the plank in our own.
- 4 **We'll never have it all figured out.** We won't reach a point where our vision is perfectly clear and we're finally "qualified" to influence others, because that isn't part of this life. So the answer isn't to go quiet and stay in our lane.
- 5 **Our job is to point to Jesus.** We are blind guides, and we always will be on this side of heaven. The only guide who isn't blind is Jesus, and the Holy Spirit living in us is what gives us any sight at all.

STORIES & ILLUSTRATIONS

The dirt-bike trail at Turkey Point. Twenty-five years ago he followed his boss with full confidence through miles of trail on an '89 dirt bike, glad for the guide since he has a terrible sense of direction. At lunch he thanked him, and his boss said, "Oh, I have no idea where we are either." His confidence turned to unease in a second. The blind leading the blind.

The man born blind. Searching for other stories of blindness, he landed on John 9, where Jesus heals a man born blind with mud and a washing in the pool of Siloam. Dragged before the Pharisees and pressed again and again, the man won't be argued out of what he knows: "One thing I do know. I was blind, now I see."

The Advocate who stays. The sight we're missing doesn't come from getting our act together first. Jesus promised "another advocate, the Spirit of truth, who lives with you and will be in you." We don't have to wipe our own slate clean before God can use us. The Spirit's work in us is what grows us and lets us walk alongside others.

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902-894-4721 · info@charlottetowncrc.org · charlottetowncrc.org

Created by Levi Ewald