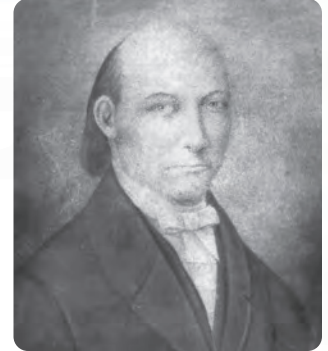


JESSE MERCER

BAPTIST DENOMINATIONAL LEADER



Questions for Conversation

- Jesse Mercer believed that education was important for pastors and church leaders. Why do you think education matters?
- How can learning more help us better serve God?
- Jesse Mercer helped churches work together by forming associations. Why is it important for churches to work together?
- What are some ways we can help others in our church or community?
- Jesse Mercer started a Baptist school that later became Mercer University. Why do you think he thought it was important to start a school?
- Jesse helped create a new hymnal so people could sing in worship. Why do you think music is important in church?
- What are some of your favorite songs to sing in worship?
- Jesse Mercer spent much of his life helping others learn about God and work together for missions. How can we follow his example?
- Even when Jesse Mercer's health was failing, he still wanted to help the church. How does this show his commitment to God's work?
- How can you stay committed to serving God, no matter what challenges come your way?

Suggested Activities

Sing a Hymn: Choose a hymn from Jesse Mercer's hymnal or another classic hymn. Have the students sing it and talk about why hymns are important in worship.

Mission Project Planning: Divide students into small groups and give each group a scenario where they are tasked with planning a mission project, such as a community food drive or a church fundraiser. Each group must discuss and decide how they will organize the project, who they need to work with, and how they can involve other churches or community groups. Afterward, have them present their plans to the class, focusing on the importance of collaboration, as Jesse Mercer emphasized in his work with associations.

Write a Letter: Write a letter to another church, telling them about your worship service and children's/youth group. Ask them questions about their church. Discuss why it is important for churches to learn about each other and serve God together.