

June 20, 2010

Mentoring and Being Mentored

Acts 16:1-5; 2Timothy 2:1-2

This word *mentor* is a popular one in today's world. It is also a good word for use in today's church. Do you remember the story of Aquila and Priscilla? Acts 18:24-26. For those who have a some role in the church, whatever that is, one of your tasks is to duplicate yourself. Some want to be 'territorial': to have some type of exclusive role that no one can imitate. Often we measure the success of a church by its *seating capacity*. But perhaps a better measure of success would be a church's *sending capacity*.

Who has made the most significant impact on your spiritual growth?

A parent	your spouse	a minister
Your children	a school teacher	a church leader
a close friend	a co-worker	other? _____

What did they do to have such a great effect on you?

1. Acts 16:1-2. Have you done something in this past week that would cause other believers to speak well of you?
2. vs 3. Paul supported himself by what trade? How was this a sacrifice? Would you make a sacrifice to minister to others?
3. vs. 4-5. What could you do to help strengthen others in the faith? **Heb 10:24-25**. What kind of things would be things of encouragement?
4. 2Tim 2:1-2. What image of Paul and his relationship to Timothy do you gain from these verses? What have they experienced together? What is the pattern you could imitate from Paul? From Timothy?
5. Matt 9:36-38. Which person in the parable are you? Have you prayed for the *Lord of the harvest* to show you in what *field* He wants you to work? Are you already a worker in the harvest field? Are you part of the harvest? Does this imply that you can satisfy yourself that someone else will do the work? What kind of work shall you be doing in this *harvest field*?
6. 2Tim 4:5. When Paul says "but you..." what is he trying to emphasize... to contrast in Timothy's behavior? Are you faithfully discharging the duties of your ministry? Why or why not?
7. 2Tim 3:10-16. How willing are you to let someone else know everything about yourself, as Paul did with Timothy? How would that help your ministry work?

Paul asked Timothy to accompany him in ministering in several towns. Are you more like Paul, eager to mentor another person, or are you like Timothy, waiting for someone to mentor you?

What tasks are performed by a mentor?

What tasks must be performed by the person being mentored?

What is the most common excuse for not mentoring someone in ministry?

- I'm not presently serving in a ministry
- I just don't have the time
- I don't believe I'm a very good example
- I need mentoring by someone else first
- I'll leave mentoring up to the preacher or elders
- I don't know anyone who desires to be mentored
- Other _____

In order to give mentoring to another person, first:

1. Look for emerging leaders
2. Lead by example
3. Listen to their hearts
4. Labor alongside them.
5. Look for 'teachable moments'.
6. Launch them into their ministry.

Who could you identify today that has great leadership potential? Who needs your example? Who needs your encouragement and training? Who could benefit from your experience? If you don't work alongside that person, how will they gain some knowledge and/or experience in a ministry?

How does mentoring multiply the ministry work force? What are the advantages to the Kingdom in a growing ministry work force?

Matt 29:19-20. What does it mean when Jesus says *make disciples*? Are you working on making some disciples? If you were, what kind of things would be doing? What kind of things would be high in importance to you?