

Core 49 - "A Weary World Rejoices: "Discipleship"

2 Timothy 2:2

A. To prepare for the journey, find a mentor...

"Let the wise listen to these proverbs and become even wiser. Let those with understanding receive guidance." Proverbs 1:5

- A mentor is defined as a "wise and trusted counselor or teacher."

"Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble."
Proverbs 13:20

- Look for someone, as a mentor, who models the behavior you desire.

"Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you."
Philippians 4:9

- Look for someone who has been there!

"Get all the advice and instruction you can, so you will be wise the rest of your life." Proverbs 19:20

B. Mentoring is biblical...

"You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others." 2 Timothy 2:2

- Scripture is filled with mentor/mentee relationships.

- Jethro/Moses *Exodus 18*
- Moses/Joshua *Deuteronomy 31,34*
- Elisha/Elijah *1 Kings 19, 2 Kings 2*
- Naomi/Ruth *Ruth 1-4*
- Elizabeth/Mary *Luke 1*
- Barnabas/Paul *Acts 4,9,11*
- Paul/Timothy *Acts 16, Philippians 2, 1 & 2 Timothy* "As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend." Proverbs 27:17

- God commands us to make disciples and mentoring is one of the best formats.

"...go and make disciples..." Matthew 28:19a

- God calls us to lead a life where Christ is seen in us.

"And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ." 1 Cor 11:1

C. Mentoring is investing...

"The heart of mentoring: Getting the most out of life isn't about how much you keep for yourself, but how much you pour into others." -David Stoddard

- Mentoring is a powerful investment in the lives of others that continues even beyond your life.

"The Uncommon Individual Foundation, an organization devoted to mentoring research and training reports that mentoring is the third most powerful relationship for influencing human behavior, after marriage and the extended family."

- Mentoring is a desirable relationship by both church and unchurched alike.
"Both church and unchurched young adults desire a maximum number of opportunities to connect with a mentor." -Lifeway

- Mentoring may be your greatest legacy.

D. Mentoring is eternal...

"I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life." 1 John 5:13

1. Mentoring is making a difference in the lives of those we mentor.

"...hearing honest stories allows mentees to learn from a mentor's mistakes, and, hopefully, not repeat them." Anonymous

2. Your influence on others brings you joy. *"And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"*
Acts 20:35

3. Your greatest eternal joy... what is left behind!

"After all, what gives us hope and joy, and what will be our proud reward and crown as we stand before our Lord Jesus when He returns? It is you! Yes, you are our pride and joy." 1 Thess 2:19-20

E. So, get started...

"Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble."
Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

- Find a mentor...

Rules for Mentees

- Try to connect with your mentor at least 4 times a year
- In-person contact is best because nothing replaces the human moment
- Have a list of questions before each meeting
- Ask open-ended questions
- Listen actively, look for central ideas, big themes
- Take initiative, follow up on suggestions
- Bring something to the relationship, this is shared experience
- Build trust, don't take advantage
- Be respectful of mentor's time
- Be grateful, explain the impact of their relationship
- Take time after meeting to reflect, making notes on big ideas, and ideas you want to explore fully Be a mentor...

Rules for the Mentor

- Listen, listen, listen
- Help develop goals
- Be reliable and consistent
- Ask how or what questions, not why
- Always be positive
- Be courteous
- Learn to ask the right questions
- Support and challenge
- Encourage independence
- Help develop a new perspective, maybe for both of you
- Be a 'safe' person to bounce ideas off
- Be ready to learn something new that is important to you