

**General Topics :: Mentorship****Mentorship, on: 2005/9/12 17:35**

Each day this grows in conviction in my life. I hear great men/women of God 'mentored' by another great man/women of God. It seems they are all linked together. Somehow someway.

So, I'd like to ask, Really what is mentorship.

Let me give you a little background on my life(maybe in a paragraph) so I can get deeper responses instead of just sentences.

From birth to 2nd grade I was a 'hell raiser'. My PRESCHOOL teacher retired because of me. And then kicked outta school in 2nd grade. I then had a change from the 'bully to the loser'. Or 'shunned one'. Most of my life, i've never had 'one above me' to really teach me. (No father EVER around) Mom can't/couldn't answer the deep questions I had. Spiritually and school-wise.

I pretty much have been going off myself and TRYING my best to learn from others lives. Most of the friends i've had, were really not able to 'teach' me, and for some weird reason, i can almost 'teach' them a thing or two. (Cool..but still no one to help me).

I've always struggled with having a good friend. Even today, i don't think i could say i have 'one true friend'. I have a bunch of 'one class friends'. But thats it.

First off, I really don't know TRULY what it means to be a friend. And it seems that being 'mentored' by someone you two must be bonded somehow. Friends.

So, i guess, i have 2 questions. What does it mean to be a friend? And what does it entail when you have a mentor?

Re: Mentorship - posted by Conqueror, on: 2005/9/12 17:48

I have a mentor...or a discipler. He is a missionary with Campus Crusade for Crusade and is currently in China....makes my mentorship difficult sometime...but we make it work.

A mentor is someone that takes an active interest in your spiritual maturity. Someone who who is himself spiritually mature or at least growing spiritually who can help wash you with the Word...show you how to get out of the rough patches, and encourages you.

New Testament examples of this are....

Jesus and the disciples.

And my favorite...the Paul/Timothy model of discipleship. Paul was Timothy's spiritual father.

If you do not have a mentor/discipler in your life pray that the Lord brings you one. Don't just pick someone. Pray the Lord gives you a specific person.

And remember, that its the responsibility of every disciplined person to disciple others as well.

Ever hear of the Amway pyramid scheme? The New Testament was the first pyramid scheme. Jesus disciplined 12 people, they each disciplined people... Paul disciplined Timothy, Timothy disciplined people.

So, You disciple two people, those two people disciplined four people, those four people discipline 8 people...etc...

My mentor took this new testament method of discipling to China. With that method, he disciplined a man in china who in turn disciplined others. Using this method they have brought 10000 people to christ. Seriously, not an exaggeration.

Re: - posted by Conqueror, on: 2005/9/12 17:53

Oh, and remember...a mentor/discipler is more than a friend and an accountability partner.

I would say he is an earthly version of our heavenly Father... someone who is not afraid to point out the sin in your life... and always encourages you to continue the race. He tells you what you need to hear, not what you want to hear.

And remember, as a person being disciplined you need to be....

Approachable
Submissive
Teachable
Obedient
Reproductive.

If you only listen to your mentor but do not act on what he shows you or tells you...or you don't produce fruit...you might as well not be disciplined.

Good luck! I pray the Holy Spirit brings someone into your life!

Re:, on: 2005/9/12 19:16

Quote:

Conqueror wrote:
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Never heard of the 'pyramid' thingy. But makes it simpler to understand.

This is specifically, something God has convicted me of. Christ had disciples (we are included, but im talking about His l ife on earth), Paul, Peter, John the Baptist, John the Revelator and so on. THEY ALL HAD PEOPLE "UNDERNEATH" T HEIR WING.

I wont be on for a while (maybe like 3/4 days) but i'll be looking forward to the advice of the brethern.

::Edit Below::

Also, how often do you meet with your mentor? What exactly goes on during that time? How long? Can it be over th e phone? Etc..etc..

Re: - posted by Conqueror, on: 2005/9/13 9:51

Quote:
-----Also, how often do you meet with your mentor? What exactly goes on during that time? How long? Can it be over the phone? Etc ..etc..

Nothing beats face to face contact. Period.

However, thats not possible sometimes. With my mentor who is often in SE Asia we have to make due with email quite o

General Topics :: Mentorship

ften. When he comes to town we usually get together for a couple hours. I share the my joys and struggles. he listens and rejoices with me over my joys and prays with me concerning my struggles. Not only does he pray but offers me Biblical advice on those struggles. He gives me tasks to do. I submit myself to his authority and to God by being obedient to him.

For example, for awhile I was having difficulty being a servant to my wife. When I come home from work I am completely beat. The last thing I want to do is meet my wife's spiritual, emotional and physical needs.

He then pointed out to me that the reason why I am having difficulty is because I have forgotten where my home is. My home is not the house I live in. My home is Jesus. I am to find my rest in my true home, by abiding in Jesus. He then suggested that on my way home in the evening I pull over and spend a half an hour reading my Bible and praying for rest so that I can serve Him and my family.

Then my mentor will hold me accountable to that. He checks in on me a week or two later to see how I am doing.

I have some book recommendations for you...

- Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster.
- The Spirit of the Disciplines by Dallas Willard
- Transforming Discipleship by Greg Ogden.

If you are interested in discipleship read those books and pray the Lord brings a Godly man in your life who can mentor you.

Re:, on: 2005/9/17 0:02

Anyone else, I could use all of your experiences.

Re: - posted by Warrior4Jah (), on: 2005/9/17 6:02

Well I guess I'll have a go at this one..
About the friends part, I do have much friends especially compared to my non-converted days.
But little friends where I can very much identify myself with. (spiritually)

Being a good friend means that you are willing to standup and help the other. Well apart from that that it very much helps if you both have like the same view on things, like faith or God.

I only have one not-christian friend left and I didn't felt any desire to meet him or such since our interrests are far from the same.

Lately I discovered that he had a mountainbike so now we have a common interrest again.. I hope that God can reach him through this or any other means!

Quote:
-----So, i guess, i have 2 questions. What does it mean to be a friend? And what does it entail when you have a mentor?

About the mentor part, I don't really have one.

There is a very God fearing man which I know through Herikon Biblecamp, but somehow the Lord didn't let me have contact with him with email and things like that. It's very cool that he could hear how God used him to reach me while he never had to hear the problems and things I was entangled in. Would only be a burden to his heart.

That plus the absence of anyone mature with God closeby forces me to get to God directly... which admittedly doesn't always goes like I want it to be. (Thanks to 'I')

Somehow God didn't let me follow a person..
Perhaps its because there are no people nearby that can mentor **and** point to Jesus and God...
I certainly don't just want to follow a person or a group.. or perhaps its just not the way God wants to teach me.

It seems like that I have to do it without a mentor somehow. Apart from the King of Kings Himself! :-D

Re:, on: 2005/9/18 0:11

For me a Mentor will do me good for the simple things.

I'm very much about the 'simple' things in life. But sometimes, I don't know about them and someone has to tell me (At times, the Lord told me).

Example: For the LONGEST time I had no idea how to color code my cloths, seriously, it took me YEARS to understand it. Even nights of crying. Seriously, this sounds stupid, and dumb but it was something that defeated me in the inside, till one day that it 'clicked'. Now, i CAN do it, and sometimes just don't choose to 8-) cause im weird like that :-P .

Another example, I didn't know how to shave. For months i'd shave my ENTIRE face. Why? No father, no brother, and too 'prideful' to ask my mother. Until ONE NIGHT where i was shaving my face at a friend's house and he is like 'what is wrong with you, are you really gonna shave your face?' I said 'Uh...no! I think it looks cool' (He bought that, hey anyone would, cause im just VERY weird :-?)) He then said, after sometime 'really though...did you shave like that for a while?' And i confessed to him and his dad also said 'ya man, you dont wanna do that..etc..etc'.

These things, and many more that i can't remember, BROKE MY HEART. Within it would be like someone just nailed me with a dagger.

Jesus is sufficant. Yes, there have been times God would say 'Josh, you don't need to do it that way, do it THIS way'. God is my ultimate mentor. But, I still feel within that *maybe* I need one. I just want whatever is God's Best.

Re: Mentorship - posted by Nellie, on: 2005/9/18 16:21

Reckon I would have to say that Jesus is my Mentor.

I keep a Journal, and write to Him.

He gives me things to write, and Scripture to read, sometimes.

I had a Friend who died in 87.

She told me to keep a Journal, and then when things get hard for me, that I can go back, and see what God had done for me.

This is true, if you want to try it.

Anyway, I must have been very hard for her to mentor, for she was so Spiritual. God had really brought her through a lot , and I was a new Christian, so much she said then was foreign to me, but I thank God for her now.

She always wanted me to sing the Song, "Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful Face,
And the things of Earth will grow stranfely dim,
In the Light of His Glory and Grace.

What a wonderful friend she was to me.

There are Mentor's on SI.

God Bless
Nellie :-)

Re:, on: 2005/9/18 20:33

A brother in the Lord, who had to move because of Katrina has been going to our church for 2 weeks and suggested a book to me. I think I'll read it. He said its only about 50 pages.

I told him I wanna be completely filled with the Spirit in everything that I do. And he suggested to me "A Practice of the Presence of God" by Brother Lawrence.

He said 'it basically says "Do everything unto Jesus" like your dishes, clean them for Jesus, like everything just for Jesus'. So, it sounds like a great book, something that I think I need to hear.

STILL UP FOR OTHERS ADVICE ON MENTORS!!

Re: Mentorship - posted by ellie, on: 2005/9/19 7:29

YeshualsMyGd,

May God your Father be your Mentor, your friend, your Father. That would fill the empty void within you. And that your Father (God) who loves you his son, would bring to you the human friendship, that HE would have for you.

As you let him lead you, relying on him and in him as the Father who loves you and wants you to look to him.

This that I give to you, is what has and does and is doing in my life.

He has taken me through many things where I had only him to look to.

People don't always know the best for you.

God does because he knows everything about you.

Seek prayer for all these things, be prayed for by your church. Thats all part of what God your Father, wants for you.

ellie

Re:, on: 2005/9/29 14:14

I resently had 3 things going on.

One is I got a cool verse. When I was discouraged and was like 'im walking in the desert' I stumbled on an awesome verse.

Deut. 32:10 (NASB)

10 "He found him in a desert land,
And in the howling waste of a wilderness;
He encircled him, He cared for him,
He guarded him as the pupil of His eye.

"as the pupil of His eye". Hmm.

Also, about 2 mins ago, a brother in the Lord clearly explained to me what a Mentor really is. He mentors many brothers in the Lord. He kinda said 'teaching, encouraging, challenging, and knowing the "secret stuff" within their lives'. He then explained to me, how he cut off someone in traffic and how he was 'torn up in love' with his mentors.

I have 4 in mind. My Senior Pastor, one of the elders of my church, A deacon in a Pentacostal Holiness Church, and him. (not God, the brother in the Lord) God is my ultimate mentor. But, it is always great for someone to build you up. Paul was with Barnabus for a while. Timothy had Paul. Elisha had Elijah ? (Maybe?) The apostles had Jesus. Need more ?

Thanks brothers for your attempt. Please lift up a prayer on my behalf.

Mentors - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/9/29 15:30

Quote:
-----I told him I wanna be completly filled with the Spirit in everything that I do. And he suggested to me "A Practice of the Presense of God" by Brother Lawerance.

Hey Joshua,

Here is an online copy of "Practicing the Presense of God"

<http://www.ccel.org/ccel/lawrence/practice.html>

Highly recommened and highly encouraged to put into practice... This is one of those books that can stay with you for the rest of your life, it radically changed what I understood prayer to be... in the sense of "*without ceasing*" a number of years ago.

Speaking of mentors, there are quite a few here as well, depending on your perspective.

Re: Mentors, on: 2005/9/29 21:52

A few things brother. One you, by the Grace of God, answered my prayer. (I REALLY REALLY wanted a copy of it, but when i searched for it online, a source came up but they 'messed' with the book, I didn't want a read a book that I HEARD about and end up reading a 'modified version'.)

Two, I forgot about it, and I felt like God wanted me to read this, but, forgot. So yea!!!

About a mentor, I kinda need a person I can see. I know there can be mentorship thru a distance, I just, personally, need someone around me. Thanks brother. Great help

Re: - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/9/29 22:42

Hi Bro!

Your persistance in seeking a mentor and knowing what one is reminded me of a story I heard about a little child whos mother had sent them to bed late one nite while it was storming out. The child protested that they were scared so the mother ,thinking fast on her feet, told the child that if they would just call on Jesus he would be there to protect them. To that the little child replied with a question/statement, "mom do you think I could have Jesus with skin on there?" I love that story!

I can see you applying God's word to your life. You've asked, you're very specific in your request. You are in the process of seeking, and I know God will honor that in your life. One thing I might make mention of, as you continue to do random acts of kindness in the ministry the Lord has placed you in, don't forget that someone is looking for Jesus with skin on and that my dear brother is exactly what God has called you to be in thier lives , by His grace. God Bless, Bro. Daryl

Grace - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/9/29 23:21

What edifying words Dohzman!

Think it is wonderful as well to be seeking a mentor and perhaps it was with a slightly different perspective where I was heading.

Joshua, I understand what you mean brother. I would love nothing more to sit under an older (spiritually) saint and glean from, learn from, to hear of their experience, to just share in what they have found. Especially as this walk goes on and find the further I go the less I truly know.

Was alluding to what you likely know already, that through these old timers who have left such a great legacy for us, in the messages and in written words as well as just the fellowship that goes on here... But it does lack the inflection and contact of being present. That the Lord fills this desire for you, have faith that He most certainly will.

Re:, on: 2005/9/30 9:54

Quote:

dohzman wrote:

reminded me of a story I heard about a little child whose mother had sent them to bed late one nite while it was storming out. The child protested that they were scared so the mother, thinking fast on her feet, told the child that if they would just call on Jesus he would be there to protect them. To that the little child replied with a question/statement, "mom do you think I could have Jesus with skin on there?" I love that story!

That was encouraging, but I don't think I TRULY got 100% of the last sentence. Maybe I did, and i'm over looking it. Please explain further. (Sorry, im at my college campus...1 million things going on)

Re: - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/9/30 15:19

A Jesus felt was better than one felt'. The child was asking the mother for her to be the presence of Jesus to comfort in the storm. In the same way, you are The Jesus men will first see, or as the case may be, because of your ministry, What those children in those schools see in you will tell them what Jesus is like. God bless.

Re:, on: 2005/9/30 18:52

Wow, im glad I asked, cause I DID get it all wrong. Gracias

Re: Beware the Pyramids! - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/10/1 5:27

Quote:
-----Ever hear of the Amway pyramid scheme? The New Testament was the first pyramid scheme. Jesus disciplined 12 people, they each disciplined people... Paul disciplined Timothy, Timothy disciplined people

Woah, there are some powerful implications in this statement. Who 'disciplined' Paul? Who says 'Paul disciplined Timothy'? Why do you say that 'Timothy disciplined people'? What happened in 'Jesus' disciplining of Judas Iscariot?

I suggest you always treat 'pyramids' with suspicion; they come from Egypt, which is the biblical type of the world. The Bible concept of disciplining is NOT a pyramid but is one in which each 'member holds fast the head'. In other words each one is disciplined to Jesus Christ. Disciplining is a relationship word. Wherever there is a disciple there must be a master. "Call no man master" might just as truthfully be expressed as "Do not call yourself any man's disciple". This pyramid disciplining/mentoring is not a biblical concept and has some ominous precedents..

Re:, on: 2005/10/1 14:01

Ron, that make me chuckle. Very true.

I think it would be fun to slide off a 'mini' pyramid. Weeeee :-D (I'm still a young man, 18, but I will always have a child's heart)

Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2005/10/1 14:22

Quote:
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discipled to Jesus Christ. Discipling is a relationship word. Wherever there is a disciple there must be a master. "Call no man master" might just as truthfully be expressed as "Do not call yourself any man's disciple".

These are some very helpful thoughts on discipleship.

Quote:
-----This pyramid discipling/mentoring is not a biblical concept and has some ominous precedents...

I once had a pastor tell me that in his opinion, nobody understood discipleship, reproduction, and cell groups better than Al Quaida. He said the church could learn a lot from them in these areas...:-o

Re:, on: 2005/10/2 17:00

My senior pastor is going to mentor me. Woohoo.
Peace out