



Mentoring

The Heart of Kingdom Leadership

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*"In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles."
Luke 6:12-13*

Mentoring is the heart of kingdom leadership and Jesus set the standard. If you remove the time and investment Jesus made in His apostles, His ministry on earth would unravel in a hurry.

While surrounded by a crowd of disciples, when visited by His mother and brothers, the Bible records these words: *"And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother'"* Matthew 12:49-50.

Before ascending into heaven, Jesus conferred on His disciples this same pattern of kingdom leadership: *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age"* Matthew 28:19-20.

A crisis in the church today is that Christian leaders have exchanged mentoring for training and equipping. Many have exchanged the deep end of mentoring for the shallow end of equipping. Abandoning mentoring has compromised the integrity of kingdom leadership and it leaves the church shallow, superficial, and immature. We cannot afford to settle for simply equipping and training when Christ has commissioned us to disciple-making mentoring.

The purpose of this teaching is to distinguish between mentoring, training, and equipping, and to call every kingdom leader to embrace all three, while giving priority to mentoring.

See additional notes for this podcast: *Mentoring, Training, Equipping Distinctions Spreadsheet*.

Mentoring Kingdom Principles

To teach a skill, you equip.

To teach a behavior or a career, you train.

To reproduce a leader or pass on a lifestyle, you mentor.

You equip a hand; you train a mind; and you mentor a heart.

You can equip in a day, you train in a month, and you mentor over years (three years minimum).

A kingdom leader has people they equip, train, and mentor.

As a local church pastor, I mentor my pastors, train my elders and leaders, and equip all.

In the College of Prayer, I mentor our Leadership Team and some in my Revival Prayer Institute Cohort; I train and equip most in the Revival Prayer Institute members and many others.

Mentoring requires time, extended time, and intentional time.

Mentoring requires me to go deeper, in order to take others deeper.

Any soulish leader can equip and train, but only a spiritual leader can mentor.

For me to go deeper, requires me to allow Christ to go deeper in me. This is the heart of spiritual maturity.

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