

TOPIC 3 SELECTED TEACHINGS

Leadership and Discipleship Manual Excerpts (*Teaching No. 9*)

A GOOD LEADER MENTORS OTHERS

(A good leader invests in the lives of other believers and leaders)

A GOOD LEADER IS A MULTIPLIER

(Who will help to raise up many spiritual sons and daughters)

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy: “You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” **(2 Timothy 2:1-2)**

THE APOSTLE PAUL WAS A FATHER IN THE FAITH AND ENCOURAGED MANY OTHERS TO FULFIL THEIR GOD GIVEN DESTINY

A great leader will mentor and encourage many others to fulfill God’s destiny for their life. (Acts 14:21-22) (Acts 11:21-26)

All church leaders and Pastors need to invest in the lives of the next generation of leaders. (Psalm 145:4)

The Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the church in Corinth,

“For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Therefore I urge you, to imitate me. For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church.” **(1 Corinthians 4:15-17)**

JESUS EMPHASISED THE NEED TO MAKE DISCIPLES

Jesus said to His disciples, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” **(Matthew 28:19-20)**

EVERY GOOD LEADER MUST HAVE A COMMITMENT TO SEEING ALL BELIEVERS IN HIS CHURCH BEING GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME MATURE DISCIPLES (and acknowledges the importance of small groups in preparing mature disciples)

Pastor John Luliano from the Chatswood Assemblies of God in Sydney NSW, did a study on what Jesus taught His disciples as He prepared them for ministry. He found that of all the 350 things that Jesus commanded His disciples to do, he could summarise them into just seven major Core Values.

SEVEN CORE VALUES OF A MATURE DISCIPLE

A DISCIPLE

i) Loves God

“And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment.” (Mark 12:30)

- They know that fullness of joy comes from being in the presence of God **(Psalm 16:11)**
- They have a great hunger for God and love meditating on His Word **(Psalm 1:1-3) (Psalm 37:4)**
- They love worshipping God in Spirit and truth **(John 4:23-24) (Ephesians 5:19-20) (Colossians 3:16)**
- They have a great desire to walk in Obedience to God’s plan for their life. Jesus said, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make Our home with him.” **(John 14:23)**

ii) Loves People

“And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:31)

- They have a genuine love for others **(Ephesians 4:32-5:2)**
- They have a desire to serve and encourage others **(Matthew 20:26-28)**
- They have a desire to live for others **(Philippians 2:3-4)**
- They extend grace towards others and aim to look for the best in others. **(James 3:18) (Romans 13:8) (Colossians 4:6)** Love covers a multitude of sins **(James 5:20)**
- They have learned to practically help those who are in need **(1 John 3:16-17) (Acts 2:44-45)**

iii) Loves a Godly Lifestyle

“Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.” (Matthew 5:48)

- They have a genuine desire to glorify God with their lives (**Matthew 5:13-16**)
- They have a desire to walk in obedience and to follow God’s ways and plans for their life (**Romans 8:14**)
- They no longer have a desire to live for the things of this world (**1 John 2:15-17**)
- They have a great desire to serve the Lord and to have fellowship with other believers (**Galatians 2:20**)
- They have a great hunger for the things of God (**Colossians 3:2**)

iv) Loves Telling Others

“And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.’” (Mark 16:15)

- They have a great love and compassion for the lost
- They have been equipped to share their faith effectively with others and can clearly communicate the gospel message to others (**2 Timothy 2:15**)
- They have a great desire to reach out to the lost with the gospel message. The Apostle Paul tried all means to win people to Christ. (**1 Corinthians 9:19-22**)
- They pray for all their family and friends to be saved and for God to open up opportunities to lead people to Christ
- They look for every opportunity to share the hope that they have in Christ with others. They are always prepared to share the gospel in season and out of season (**2 Timothy 4:2**)
- They have great joy when seeing people come to Christ

v) Loves God’s Family

“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35)

- They have a genuine love for their brothers and sisters in the Lord (**1 Peter 1:22**) (**1 John 3:14**)
- They have a great desire to encourage and to build up those Christians who are struggling in their faith
- They look for opportunities to bless and encourage other believers

vi) Loves God's Kingdom

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." (Matthew 6:33)

- They have a great love for the things of God (**Philippians 3:7-8**)
- They love the things of God more than the things of this world and desire to store up treasures for eternity (**Matthew 6:19-21**) They are more concerned about the eternal things rather than the temporal things of this world
- They know that all the promises of God in Him (Christ) are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us." (**2 Corinthians 1:20**)
- They have a great love for the church and for seeing God's Kingdom expanded here on earth.
- They have a great desire to see God's Kingdom values transforming their communities. (**Matthew 6:7-10**)

AND

vii) Loves to Give

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." (Luke 6:38)

- God's Kingdom is all about giving. God gave His best, His only Son Jesus. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son..." (**John 3:16**)
- They have a real joy in giving to the work of the Kingdom and to giving to those who are in need
- They have an understanding in their heart that it is more blessed to give than to receive (**Acts 20:35**)
- They generously give as the Lord purposes on their heart to give
- They know that you can never out give God
- How much we love God is truly reflected in our approach to giving.

A GOOD LEADER HAS THE ABILITY TO TRAIN UP AND MENTOR OTHER CHRISTIAN LEADERS TO BECOME MATURE DISCIPLES WHO WILL IN TURN BE ABLE TO HELP OTHER CHRISTIANS TO BECOME MATURE DISCIPLES WITH FRUITFUL MINISTRIES (**2 Timothy 2:2**)

A good Leader will help and encourage many other Christians to have a passionate love for God and a genuine love for people of all backgrounds. A good leader will also help to foster in others a commitment to becoming more Christlike.

They will also help to train up and equip disciples who know the importance of sharing the gospel with the unsaved, who have a heart to encourage all other believers, who have a passion for the things of God and who give generously to the work of God.

GREAT LEADERS WILL TRAIN UP MANY OTHER LEADERS WHO WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE FRUITFUL MINISTRIES LONG AFTER THEY THEMSELVES HAVE GONE TO BE WITH THE LORD.

A GOOD LEADER HAS THE POTENTIAL TO TRAIN UP MANY OTHERS WHO WILL CONTINUE TO TRAIN UP OTHERS ALSO, THEREBY LEAVING AN ONGOING LEGACY OF THEIR MINISTRY HERE ON EARTH.

THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST IS THE GREAT EXAMPLE OF THIS. IN HIS SHORT TIME IN MINISTRY HE TRAINED UP A SMALL GROUP OF DISCIPLES WHO HELPED TO ESTABLISH THE EARLY CHURCH. THE CHURCH IS STILL GROWING TODAY. JESUS IN HIS MINISTRY HERE ON EARTH DEMONSTRATED A FOUR STEP PROCESS FOR RAISING UP MATURE DISCIPLES.

DURING HIS MINISTRY HERE ON EARTH JESUS RAISED UP A TEAM OF DISCIPLES AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) Jesus first GATHERED a group of people whom He believed would become disciples (Mark 1:16-18) (Mark 1:19-20) (Mark 2:14)**

2) After Jesus had gathered His disciples, He then took them on preaching tours and MODELLED the following for them:

- i) The importance of finding and fulfilling God’s purpose for their life **(Mark 1:38)**
- ii) How to preach the gospel of the Kingdom **(Mark 1:39)**
- iii) How to serve people by casting out demons and healing the sick **(Mark 1:39-41)** and
- iv) How to live a genuine God-glorifying life **(Mark 1:38-42)**

AS HE MODELLED WHAT TRUE KINGDOM LIFE WAS LIKE, HE ALSO CONSTANTLY ENCOURAGED THE DISCIPLES THAT GOD WAS DOING A WORK IN THEIR LIFE, AND THAT ONE DAY THEY WOULD PREACH, HEAL AND CAST DEMONS OUT THEMSELVES. JESUS APPOINTED THE TWELVE DISCIPLES AND TOLD THEM WHAT THEY WOULD BE DOING IN THE FUTURE. (Mark 3:13-15)

As disciple makers, we must give people a vision of what they can become. We must then teach them what it is like to be a real disciple by both showing and explaining to them what it is to be a true disciple

3) Jesus then began to MENTOR the twelve disciples

Although appointed in Mark 3:13, the disciples were not officially sent out by Jesus until Mark 6:7

“And He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them power over unclean spirits.” (Mark 6:7)

When they had finished their mission trips, they returned and reported back to their mentor

“Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught.” (Mark 6:30)

THE REPORT IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE MENTORING PROCESS. JESUS WAS INTERESTED BOTH IN: i) What they had done, and ii) What they had taught

No person will ever do things perfect the first time. A person must be allowed to make mistakes and create room for correction. A DISCIPLE MAKER MUST LEARN TO BECOME AN EQUIPPER. When giving an assessment for a completed task, mentors must address three issues:

- i) **What was done well**
- ii) **What could be done better, and**
- iii) **What needs to be done next time which was not done this time**

MENTORING IS A PROCESS DESIGNED TO “ENRICH” PEOPLE. The Apostle Paul emphasised the need for more Fathers of the faith to help encourage believers to become mature disciples. (1 Corinthians 4:15-17)

THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD PASTORS INTENSIVE HANDBOOK OUTLINES SIX KEYS TO BEING AN EFFECTIVE MENTOR WHO IS ABLE TO “ENRICH” THOSE WHO THEY ARE MENTORING.

A GOOD MENTOR WILL:

i) Encourage those whom they are mentoring

(The meaning of the word encourage, is to give courage. Encouragement helps people to overcome their failures, fears and insecurities)

ii) Nurture those whom they are mentoring

(Nurtured people are strong people, whereas neglected people can become weak, picking up wrong mindsets)

iii) Resource people with their knowledge, gifts, talents and abilities as well as providing resource materials

iv) Invest their life in the lives of other people

(We need to have a genuine commitment to and love for others)

v) Coach those whom they are mentoring, (Advising but not Manipulating, Leading but not controlling) and

vi) Hang in with those who they are mentoring (We must never give up on people, no matter what is happening to them)

4) Finally, before ascending to heaven, Jesus MOBILISED the disciples to do what He had trained them to do.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” **(Matthew 28:19-20)**

A disciple of Christ is not complete until he has been mobilised and released to become a disciple maker.

Mobilisation produces the “DNA” of multiplication. However many churches fail at this point because they try to get mobilisation happening without first spending enough time on the MODELLING and MENTORING phase of training up new leaders (disciples).

Before Jesus had got to the mobilisation stage, He had already spent approximately three years in correctly training up His disciples for the work of the ministry

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ALL CHRISTIAN LEADERS INVEST IN THIS GENERATION OF YOUTH, WHO WILL BE THE NEXT GENERATION OF CHRISTIAN LEADERS IN THE COMMUNITY