



BIBLICAL MENTORSHIP

IMPACT MENTORSHIP
EQUIPPING SESSION

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK



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General Superintendent



CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

We will be learning from Wayne Cordiero during this time. Watch this clip of him sharing at a church in the US:



Watch from 15:30-21:23 as he tells about the importance of learning from history.

CONTENT

The goal of mentorship is to help raise up the next generation of spiritual leaders in the life of the church. We have to understand what the goal is before we embark on the journey.

Years ago, I found a quote that my father, Dr. Jerald Johnson, had used to reflect his thoughts on leadership. I've taken them and used them as my own. This came from an advertisement in the Wall Street Journal by United Technologies Corporation of Hartford, CT:

“People don’t want to be managed. They want to be led. Whoever heard of a world manager? World leader, yes. Educational leader. Political leader. Religious leader. Scout leader. Community leader. Labor leader. Business leader. They lead. They don’t manage. The carrot always wins over the stick. Ask your horse. You can lead your horse to water, but you can’t manage him to drink. If you want to manage somebody, manage yourself. Do that well and you’ll be ready to stop managing and start leading.”

It’s the final two sentences that grip me. The only way that leaders can lead, is to first begin by managing their own personal life. We must take this seriously because the church currently has a credibility problem. This is the gap that’s created when people claim that they are followers of Christ, even proclaiming the story of God, but they fail, in their own lives to live out the ethical commands of Christ. The way in which I live my life speaks volumes about the faith which I embrace.



Biblical Mentorship

BY DR. CARLA SUNBERG

We all know our mission statement is, “To make Christlike disciples in the nations.” The goal of a Christ-follower is to become as much like Christ as possible. We should be on a journey in which we are transformed into the image and likeness of Christ. This means that if we are going to be leaders, we must first ask ourselves whether we are reflecting Christ in this world.

This is where we begin to understand that we find Biblical mentorship in every story of the Bible. We go to the Scriptures and we ask God to reveal to these individuals from the past who can lead us into the future.

We are currently living in a time of great challenge, and one of the finest examples of spiritual leadership in a time of challenge comes to us from Nehemiah. Receiving news from home he is suddenly confronted with insurmountable problems. His homeland is in distress, the people have been shamed, the walls of the city of Jerusalem have been broken down and the gates burned.

We sense his pain as he writes.

“When I heard these words I sat down and wept, and mourned for days, fasting and praying before the God of heaven.” (Nehemiah 1:4, NRSV) In that moment, when he received the news, a burden was placed on his heart.

He could not get away from the sense that God was asking him to respond to the situation. He went into a state of depression as he began to grieve over what had happened in his homeland. A few verses later we hear him crying out in prayer, “O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man!” (Nehemiah 1:11, NRSV)

For days he mourned and wept, but not only did he grieve, but he also cried out to God. He didn’t wallow in the depth of his pain, but he fasted and prayed to God. He realized that God alone could help him in this circumstance.

While praying Nehemiah became acutely aware of God’s plan and then he began to pray that God’s plan would find success. Nehemiah recognized that the plan was not of human origin, but was God’s desire that was revealed to him.



Observation: What is it that you observed in this verse or verses?

Application: What is it that you have learned from this verse or verses and how does it apply to your life today?

Prayer: What should you pray for, considering what you have learned from the Scripture.

Come back together as a group and report what it is that the Lord said to you through the passage. Give opportunity for each person to report.

CHANGE

- What do you feel that you have learned from this lesson today?

- How has what we have learned apply to your ministry situation?

