

I. Review / Questions

II. Goals for This Unit:

- A. Investigate a biblical perspective on spiritual mentoring.
- B. Expose possible hazards in mentoring relationships.
- C. Gain insights from biblical examples of mentoring.

III. Spiritual Mentoring - a mutually encouraging relationship distinguished by...

...the power of example (1 Cor. 4:16; 11:1)

...the wisdom of humility (Jm. 3:13-18; 1 Pet. 5:5-7)

...the blessing of enthusiasm (Rom. 12:11; 2 Tim. 4:9-11; 3 Jn. 4)

These relationships occur in various settings with differing levels of individual interaction. Whether in large groups, small groups or one-on-one, people involved in spiritual mentoring are strengthened in their spiritual growth as God uses His truth to transform each person. As with all faithful ministry motivated by gratitude to God, there will be an eternal reward for this fruitful ministry. The temporal blessing is directly related to personal interaction and the eternal reward is primarily relational.

IV. Four Character Hazards for Proteges (and Mentors) - adapted from

Protégé: Developing Your Next Generation of Church Leaders by Steve Saccone with Cheri Saccone [IVP, 2012}, pp. 29-79)

- A. Envy stimulating imitation
 - B. Arrogance revealing folly
 - C. Self-reliance reflecting insecurity
 - D. Greed expressing entitlement
- V. Biblical Illustrations of Mentoring
- A. Jethro / Moses (Exod. 18)
 - B. Moses / Joshua (Exod. 17:9-14; 24:13; 32:17; Num. 13-14; Deut. 31:1-8)
 - C. Naomi / Ruth (Ruth 1-4)
 - D. Elijah / Elisha (1 Ki.17-2 Ki. 13)
 - E. Manasseh / Amon / Josiah (2 Chron. 33:1-35:27)
 - F. Jehoiada / Joash (2 Chron. 22:10-24:27)

- G. Elizabeth / Mary (Lk. 1:39-56)
 - H. Jesus / The Twelve (Gospels)
 - I. Barnabas / Paul (Acts 9: 27; 11:25-30; 13:1-15:40)
 - J. Aquila and Priscilla / Apollos (Acts 18:24-28)
 - K. Paul / Timothy and Titus and others (Phil. 2:19-24; 1 & 2 Timothy; Titus)
- VI. Mentoring provides a multi-faceted context for investing in others in ways that enhance their character, competence, contentment, consistency and thus their credibility in all areas of life.
- VII. The temporal blessings of such relationships enriches life, especially the latter stages where boredom and complaining can become rampant. The eternal rewards are better than we can imagine (Eph. 3:20-21; 1 Tim 6:17-19).