

Why Mentoring?

Series: Why Church?

Romans 15:1-3 (1722)

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Glenn Schroder *As I looked around the room I was struck by the realization that each of the 3,000 people in attendance deeply loved this man, and even more amazingly, each felt deeply loved by him. Also striking was the reality that many of those in attendance had only a casual relationship with John. Some hadn't seen him in a decade or more; others had enjoyed only one or two conversations with him ever, yet they all felt that same sense of connection, appreciation and love.*

I. Three key values defining the mentoring community

a. Personal responsibility

Romans 14:12 NLT *Yes, each of us will have to give a personal account to God.*

b. Community involvement

1 Corinthians 12:25 TM *The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part*

James 5:10 TM *Take the old prophets as your mentors. They put up with anything, went through everything, and never once quit, all the time honoring God.*

c. Biblical identity

Romans 15:1-3 TM *Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, "How can I help?" That's exactly what Jesus did. He didn't make it easy for himself by avoiding people's troubles, but waded right in and helped out. "I took on the troubles of the troubled," is the way Scripture puts it.*

II. Steps to cultivating personal mentoring skills

a. Commit yourself to understanding the nature of influence

John Wesley *"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can"*

b. Choose to believe in people

c. Practice appropriate personal transparency

John Wimber *I'm just a fat man trying to get to heaven*

d. Always be willing to yield to the Holy Spirit

John Wimber *Well, you're doing the right thing. On days like this you'll be tempted to stay in bed, pull the covers over your head and hide from everyone. But, what you need to do is get up, put your shoes and socks on and go to work. And, pray in the Spirit until it lifts. It might take a few hours, or all day, but it'll lift.*

e. Seek God for a keen sense of vision