



PRESERVING BIBLE TIMES^{inc.}

Because Context Matters

20 Nuggets of Discipling/Mentoring Wisdom

- 1 Respect the uniqueness of each person (reflects the uniqueness in the Godhead). Particularize your approach to each person and situation. No one-size-fits-all formulas.
- 2 Make sure you really do care about your mentee's spiritual growth and development.
- 3 Be a genuine friend first and foremost.
- 4 Chemistry matters in mentoring and discipling. Square pegs don't disciple round holes. Best place to start in assessing chemistry is with his or her life's story.
- 5 We are seeking to transform people from rugged individualists to community people in Christ.
- 6 It is the depth to which Christ is relevant to our own brokenness that we are able to "touch" the heart and mind of another.
- 7 Probe early on the motives/attitudes of the mentoree/co-disciple, that there is a receptive spirit.
- 8 Nothing will speak more eloquently to your co-disciple/mentee than your own personal piety. Remember G.K. Chesterton – "*All education is implication.*"
- 9 Be clear what the other's expectations are: a) negotiate time frames and differing expectations, b) define areas of focus and endpoints, and how best to address areas needing improvement.
- 10 Often best to start with the other's narrative – his or her journey. Don't be in a hurry. Mentoring is not a microwave experience. God's way is often a slow bake.
- 11 Need to be conscious about sharing too much. Be careful not to become a soul archaeologist digging around in the life of another.
- 12 Remember to re-establish "Grace Time" each time you meet. (See Chapter 6 "*Grace Before Truth*" in *Making Disciples Jesus' Way*.)
- 13 Best to always have your mentee summarize each session and close in prayer (listen carefully to what's being revealed).
- 14 Misconception: You have to know it all, have done it all, and well to disciple another! It's more to carefully listen and then share your perspective - what you know and have experienced.
- 15 Anyone can mentor if they have learned something from God and are willing to share it.
- 16 We minister out of our failures and brokenness, not our "successes." Our own weaknesses and shortcomings soon become apparent to others.
- 17 Always good to periodically evaluate: a) how's it going? b) what adjustments might be needed? and c) always seek "continuous improvement"- how to do it better.
- 18 Be careful that your methodologies not take a higher priority than following Jesus.

- 19 Mentoring is always a Value/Price decision for both parties (See Chapter 7 in ***Making***
Disciples Jesus' Way.” Helps to view your mentee’s responses/behavior through that lens.
- 20 You never disciple/mentor alone. Pray “without ceasing” to discern the leading of the Spirit.

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