



The Quest for Authentic Manhood - Session Nine

“Three Cheers for Mentors”

I. The Awesome, Empowering Impact of an “Older” Man on a Younger Man’s Life.

A. Locking onto a Life

II. Exploring this Rich Concept Called “Mentoring”

A. From Dad to Whom?

1. Dad can only take you so far.
2. Male mentors are Specialists

B. Five Comments About a Mentor

1. He is one who supports rather than competes with you.
2. He is one who is primarily a cheerleader not a critic
3. Seeks to encourage the development of your gifts while seeking to protect you from costly mistakes.
4. He is the one who admires and delights in you because he instinctively recognizes your value and untapped potential.
5. He is not necessarily a close friend, but he is a close confident.

C. What a Mentor Brings

1. Wisdom through experience
2. Warnings
3. A Belief in you
4. Cheers for your achievement
5. In some instances... a proven hero

III. The Bible FILLED!

A. Some Scriptures to Sample

1. I and II Timothy
2. Exodus 18: 14:17-19

IV. Ten Marks for a Good Mentor (Dr. Howard Hendricks, *As Iron*)

Sharpens Iron.

- A. This man has what you clearly need.
- B. He chooses to cultivate a relationship with you.
- C. He is willing to take a chance on you.
- D. He is respected by other men.
- E. He has a network of resources.
- F. He is consulted by others.
- G. He both talks and listens.
- H. He is consistent in his lifestyle.
- I. He is able to diagnose your real needs.
- J. He is concerned with your interests.

V. The Impact of Mentors

- A. For the Mentor
 - 1. Connects older and younger men in a symbiotic relationship.
 - 2. Allows a man to teach naturally, from experience, which younger men desperately need and want.
 - 3. Closes the loop on a man's life cycle.
- B. For the Protégé
 - 1. A bigger personal vision
 - 2. Hope
 - 3. Wisdom
 - 4. Encouragement

VI. So, you want to be a Mentor?

- A. Make a list of your strengths and experiences you can bless a younger man's life with. This is most important.
- B. Determine how much time you have to give.
- C. Pray for and choose a young man you want to be with.

- D. Initiate
- E. Meet regularly together until he has what he needs...then let him go.

VII. If you Need a Mentor

- A. Pray for wisdom and guidance.
- B. Once you find him, go ask him courageously.
- C. Don't get discouraged if you are turned down.
- D. If you get turned down, try again... with a larger number.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

- Who have been the mentors in your life? Explain. How did these “mentors” make a difference? Explain.

- Could you see yourself as a mentor right now? Why or why not?

- Are there men around you that you would like to be mentored by in some way? What keeps you from asking them to invest in you?

- Are you beginning to see the power a man has in “investing down” in younger men? Explain.

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