

Building Sustainable Family Relationships: The Mentor as A Guide Through the Phases of Life

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Phases of Life in the Making of a Mentor

- Introduction
- Adam's Mentor
- Fasting and Praying
- Phases of Life in the Making of a Mentor
- Where do you Stand?

Introduction

- Last lecture focused on the Mentor as leader.
- Each building work requires leadership, but all leaders are not suited for every building work.
- Leadership can be seen as situational.
- The Ellison Model Leadership builds sustainable family relationships because it's values are rooted in caring, sharing and loving and is adaptable to each situation.
- Today's lecture examines the mentoring role of the Creator as He fashioned His creatures.

Introduction Cont'd

- The Creator made man in His Image & Likeness
- God is a spirit
- The man was created a spiritual being
- God is Holy, Faithful, Trustworthy, Longsuffering, Honest, etc.
- The man was like God in these traits
- As God was Adam's Mentor, Adam became Mentor to all humanity

Summary and Expansion

- Adam was made in Image and Likeness of God
- He served as predecessor of all humanity, meaning that he was the father of humanity
- By example, Adam was to mentor or teach all humanity
- Adam had the rule over all things and the power to call things what he would

Relationship Sustained by Praying and Fasting

- Prayer is communion with God from the creature with a heart that is like God's heart—Pure
- Fasting means to abstain from eating
- As long as the Mentor is present, Fasting is not needed
- Adam was called on to eternally fast or refrain from eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
- It was a permanent fast from disobedience to God's word

Divisive Leadership

- Adam broke his fast and ushered in divisive leadership.
- In our last lecture, we learned that leadership along the conservative, progressive line is by nature divisive. In theory, leaders are said to work for the good of the whole, but the reality is that the “party” is more important.
- Note the “good” and the “evil” inherent in the above statement
- When people join a party because they believe in its philosophy, they say by their deed that they do not agree with the other party’s philosophy. The fact of the matter is that leadership along party lines seeks advantages for those holding party membership. While this is functional for some, others are losers.
- Adam became familiar with deceptive ways dealing while pretending to be doing good

The Apprentice/One Minute Manager as Mentor

- Leader viewed as Self-serving Mentor
- The Leader may be styled as a One Minute Manager, e.g. Donald Trumpe
- You're Fired!! The value of exclusion trumps inclusion
- Implications for Family Relationships when leaders hold to self-serving values
 - Negativity
 - Discommunity Building
 - Divisive

Broken Fellowship with Creator

- Adam ushered in divisive leadership in his world by relinquishing his authority to another mentor whose values included hatred, fear and destruction
- Adam could not bring forth in God's image & likeness because he was no longer pure
- Adam brought forth children in his (Adam's) natural image

Taking Stock of What's What

- A mentor made in the image and likeness of God is an expression of God's character
- Adam as a mentor was a predecessor
- Out of a relationship between an existing mentor and a mentor-to-be, more mentors are born but they must first be proven as protégées
- It is the mentor's job to teach the protégé how to overcome all things
- Life from the Creator must flow freely into creature for overcoming power to be demonstrated

Phases of Life in the Making of a Mentor

- Phase 1 – The emphasis is on hearing proper teaching from the Creator, knowing the word and holding fast to it
- Hearing does not mean that the protégé receives the word nor does it imply that the protégé understands the word
- This is the beginning of the trying of the protégé's faith
- Faith comes by hearing the word of God

Phase # 2

- Phase 2 – This is a time of testing based on word spoken by Creator
- Self-imposed Test. If self-imposed, the test is a function of the person's will.
- If God-ordained, it's to prove Creator's overcoming power
- This phase will prove the degree to which the individual has received the word spoken in Phase 1

Phase # 3

- Recognition of the importance of the word is the focus in this phase. The Protégé becomes a mentor.
- When faced with *a specific test*, mentor goes back to the word spoken seeking understanding.
- The word is mixed with faith and produces for the mentor the overcoming results sought.
- *Faith is agreement with what God has said, not that what was said will take place but *has already taken place**
- This phase requires testing again recalling Phase 2 focus on the flesh and adding to that the world and the Devil also

Phase # 4

- Declared by God to be an over comer of all flesh
- Sanctified spirit, soul and body
- Mentor's state of existence is an expression of God's character
- This is the definition of God's Mentor or Last Adam
- This is the requirement of all God's children

Where do you Stand?

- Are you overcoming the test? Or is the test overcoming you?
- If the test is overcoming you, that means that you are focusing on the test and not the teaching to overcome the test