

The Unfinished Task

Titus 2:1 As for you, Titus, promote the kind of living that reflects wholesome teaching. **NLT2**

2 Themes

Since being an example is inevitable,
make it a blessing for all.

God enables effective mentoring
(discipleship) for those that commit to it.

Introduction

Tick tock! Tick tock!

1. Cuts drug use in half
2. Cuts school absenteeism in half
3. 98% of our young people are not receiving the benefits of mentoring

Marcia N. Smoller, The Long Island Mentoring Partnership.

1. The Need of The Hour

Historically, the preparation of people for the Good News and godly character came...
at the home, at meals, at family devotions, at school, at extended family events...
and/or through a particularly wise person in the family or friendship circle.

How has Mentoring Gotten Lost?

- a. Ignorance of truth
- b. Beset by distractions
- c. Spiritual atrophy

2. The Word for The Hour

The Bad News and the Good News:

2 Tim. 3:1 "But mark this: There will
be terrible times in the last days."

Acts 2:17 "In the last days... I will
pour out my Spirit on all people."

"Go out and train everyone you meet – far and near – in this way of life, marking them by
baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, & Holy Spirit." Matt. 28:19 **The Message**

Words Have Lost Meaning/Become Corrupted

The key word here is Mentor:

There is a practical equivalence between
Mentor & Disciple-Maker.

The Word's History...

It's About Relationships

"Mentoring seeks to establish relationships, short or long term, which will help maximize the personal growth and spiritual growth of the mentee.

"Most mentoring is informal. The relationship involves companionship, camaraderie, correction, and simple friendship.

Mentors are helpers. They befriend, teach, and inspire us to reach our full potential."

Being an Example?

- Giving an example is easy, being an example is difficult.
- A good example is an effective delivery system for both sound doctrine and good advice.
- If you want more kindness in the world, put some there.

3. The Practice in The Hour

Titus 2:1 As for you, Titus, promote the kind of living that reflects wholesome teaching. **NLT2**

Titus 2:1 But as for you, communicate the behavior that goes with sound teaching. **NET**

- a. Promote: Communicate, convey by word
- b. Living: Behavior, conduct, action
- c. Reflect: That which is consistent with
- d. Wholesome: Healthy, sound, pure, resilient
- e. Teaching: Doctrine, instruction, Scripture

4. The People in This Hour

a. Jesus with the disciples shows how it is done...

1. His personal development so He knew what others faced & needed
2. Called them out, selecting ordinary people
3. Spent time with them in every life activity
4. Aimed to make them successful
5. Educated them in needed life & spiritual skill
6. Helpful feedback/debriefings/takeaways
7. Key: Jesus cared

b. Paul & Timothy

1 Cor. 11:1 "Follow my **example** as I follow the example of Christ."

Phil. 4:9a "Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—**put it into practice.**

2 Thess. 3:7,9 "...follow our **example...** to make ourselves a **model** (or **Template**) for you to follow."

5. The Blessings from The Hour

- a. Sense of incredible fulfillment that comes from doing exactly God's will (Titus 2)
- b. Joy of seeing the disciple's maturation
- c. The awe that comes from seeing God at work in relationships.
- d. Our own growing understanding as we receive new light & lessons.
- e. Our strengthened spirit as God exercises our spiritual muscles.

And so... Our Challenge

Ask the Father to show you
in whom you will invest yourself.