

## **MEN'S LIFE BLOOMINGTON & GOD @ WORK**

*Tuesday, February 28, 2017*

# **Mentoring for Momentum**

## **Proverbs 17:17; Luke 40; John 8:31-32**

**Definition:** As Christians, it could be assumed that part of our role on earth is to mentor to others about following Jesus and the impacts that pursuing a Godly life can have on someone. Perhaps it's not until you feel the impact and benefits of being mentored to, that you realize part of your life's mission is to help bring along others to a life of knowing and following Jesus. Being a mentor to others in any capacity, will ultimately result in life-changing affects, not only on the person being mentored to, but also the person mentoring.

### **Segment Questions:**

- Who was instrumental in bringing you to Jesus? Was this person considered a mentor to you at the time? Discuss briefly how that person went about helping you come to know and follow Jesus.
- Think of a mentor currently in your life; how do they help keep you walking in the right path? What other areas of your life does your mentor(s) assist with your growth – business, finances, relationships, etc.?
- What are some ways you can be (or have been) a mentor to others? Who in your life could you be mentoring to that you haven't helped yet?

### **Action Questions:**

- Think about those in your life, that if you were to pass away today, you would want them to know that you were right in your walk with God – are you willing to have those conversations today?
- If we were measured by the impacts we had on others from a faith aspect, how would you live your life differently, or, what changes would you make to ensure you were actively working in other's lives?
- If Jesus were here mentoring you today, how do you think your life would be different – what would you do differently knowing he was physically by your side?

One of my most valued relationships is that of a man whom I met 8 ½ years ago, while going to work for the same company he was already employed at. This man had a way with leading and a way with words that no other professional I had been around could convey to me with such impact. Upon learning we shared similar interests not only in business but in life and faith, we spent considerably more time together, most often in a setting of being mentored to in both life and faith. Flash forward to today, and this man (20+ years my senior) is considered my mentor, business partner, role model, and one of my best friends. Most recently, we shared a meal over breakfast, in of all places, Las Vegas (for work). During that meal, my friend took out a small piece of paper that contained a daily devotional dating a couple weeks prior that he kept to share with me and one other friend of ours. The daily devotional discussed how now is the time to accept the fact that only Jesus can forgive us for our sins and that “there’s no better day than today to enter into God’s family”. Our discussion centered around how recent losses of loved ones has caused the concept and discussion of death to be a focal point more often than usual. What this daily devotional helped bring to light, was that not only should we feel at peace with our faith but we should help our loved ones know where we stand with our faith, should we pass unexpectedly. In the most compelling way possible, my friend sat at the breakfast table, and while we were in tears, he let us know that if something were to happen to him and he were to pass away, that “he is OK” because he is with the Lord and right in his walk with God. This overwhelming sense of peace came over me that morning, as did the urgent feeling that I needed to share this with my loved ones, so that they know I’m not afraid of death because I’m at peace with Jesus Christ; and, I will be taken care of. Sometimes it takes a role model to enlighten you in areas of life that you would normally “throw under the rug”. I’m forever thankful for that lesson, and even more thankful that God brought this amazing friend into my life.

There are numerous occasions throughout the bible where we see mentorship at the heart of interactions between multiple characters, not the least of which would be Jesus mentoring to his disciples or Jesus seeking solitude to pray to God for wisdom and guidance. Perhaps one of the greatest moments of mentorship coming from Jesus occurs in John 13:31-36, during which Jesus is predicting Peter’s denial:

When he was gone, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

“My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Simon Peter asked him, “Lord, where are you going?”

Jesus replied, “Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later.”

I find this passage reassuring despite part of the context surrounding the fact that Peter would later do exactly what he thought was impossible...betraying Jesus. It’s Jesus’ message to love one another as he has loved us that should be the take away; how can we live a Godly life without employing that command from Jesus? At the end of this passage, Jesus leaves us by saying “Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later.” Let’s ensure we follow (later) where Jesus went by living a life of mentoring to others about our Lord and savior to ensure that those that don’t know him now can come to follow him.