

Fresh Oil



January 2020

Dear Fellow Servants,

Well, here we are at the beginning of a new year, a time for new beginnings. This is a time to establish good patterns and habits to implement in our walk with Christ for the rest of the year. I want to challenge you to maintain a posture of consistency in your time in God's Word in 2020. It is only through a sustained, daily effort to apply God's Word to our lives that we will become mature. This process can be greatly helped through a mentor. Webster's dictionary gives this definition of a mentor:

"a wise and trusted advisor; counsellor"

The Bible models a number of mentoring relationships. Moses was a mentor to Joshua. Joshua's ability to lead the children of Israel into the Promised Land, as outlined in the Book of Joshua, was a direct result of what God taught him through the elder Moses. Consider Exodus 24:12,13:

"Now the Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to Me on the mountain and remain there, and I will give you the stone tablets with the law and the commandment which I have written for their instruction. So, Moses arose with Joshua his servant, and Moses went up to the mountain of God."

The Scriptures indicate further that Joshua received some direct impartation from God Himself at times, as Exodus 33:11 shows:

"Thus, the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses returned to the camp, his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent."

A good example of mentoring in the New Testament is found in the life of Priscilla and Aquila with respect to a young man name Apollos. The Scriptures testify that Apollos was a gifted and articulate expositor of the Scriptures:

"Now a certain Jew named Apollos ... an eloquent man ... and he was mighty in the Scriptures." Acts 18:24

The rest of this passage goes on to explain that Apollos, though mighty in what Scriptures he did know, was limited by what he didn't know. But God raised up mentors for this man in Priscilla and Aquila, as Acts 18:26 testifies:

"... but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately."

... I have been anointed with fresh oil

PSALM 92:10



A mentor will not only give wisdom to the naïve, but also will make a good man/woman better. A good mentor will help to fine tune your spiritual engine to bring you to your maximum potential. Consistent time spent with a godly mentor will reap powerful results.

Jesus Christ is our model of consistency and endurance. He is the best mentor of all. Pat Harrison, founder and president of Faith Christian Fellowship said this in the January 2002 issue of "The Mentor" magazine:

"As disciples, we are His apprentices, learning to live as He did. We all need mentors... but the greatest mentor in our lives is Jesus. Jesus is our model Christian, and He is our example of maturity. Maturity is only reached by consistency. What causes us to endure when others quit? Above all else, it is sustaining diligence in our pursuit of Christ."

Let's make Jesus Christ our primary mentor in 2020. Let's learn from Him as we daily spend time in His Word, hearing what He has to say to us for our lives. We will need to be consistent in our study of God's Word. That will mean reading it and waiting upon him when we are busy, when we don't feel like it, etc. With consistency lies the power! Let's take the advice of the apostle Paul in Colossians 3:1-2:

"If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on the earth."

Now, go get your Bible and start learning from the Mentor!

Your fellow servant,
Pastor Brian