

Concluding Thoughts

God designed us to need each other. Different relationships meet different needs.

We cannot expect one person to meet all of our needs and similarly, we need to consider what we can spiritually give to different people.

We need to build multiple spiritual relationships!

LIFE APPLICATION - PERSONAL EVALUATION

Based on your where you are in your life, answer the following questions:

Q: What are the spiritual gaps in my life where I need a spiritual partner?

Q: Who can I ask to help meet those needs?

Q: Who do I have as an emotionally connected, spiritual friend?

Q: What can I do to make that relationship stronger?

Q: Who am I being spiritually trained by, who knows my whole life?

Q: What can I do to make that relationship stronger?

Q: Who am I bequeathing to?

Q: What can I do to make that relationship stronger?

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GROUNDED

FOUNDATIONS OF DISCIPLING CLASS 02: BIBLICAL RELATIONSHIPS

A Bible Study

Introductory Thoughts

The Bible is filled with incredible examples of dynamic spiritual relationships. As we build discipling relationships with each other, let us imitate the qualities that empowered these relationships.

MOSES, AARON & HUR: PARTNERS

Exodus 3:9-11 When Moses was 80 years old, he was called by God to lead Israel out of slavery

- » Moses is one of the most revered and respected leaders in history

Exodus 4:10-16 We often forget that Moses felt inadequate as an individual ... he needed partners

- » Aaron was Moses' partner, who filled in gaps where Moses was weak

Exodus 17:8-13 Without Joshua fighting and Aaron and Hur supporting, there would have been no victory

- Q: Do you have the humility to admit where you are inadequate?
Q: Have you surrounded yourself with people and empowered them to help you?

MOSES & JOSHUA: AIDE

Exodus 24:12-13 Moses was called to be with God on the mountain for forty days¹

- » Even though we know Joshua was Israel's army general², he is described as Moses' aide

Exodus 32:15-17 When Moses came off the mountain, Joshua was by his side

- » Joshua waited for forty days (as the army general) on the side of the mountain to support Moses

Joshua 1:1-5 Joshua is still described as Moses' aide

- » No one knew Moses' life like he would have
- » He was the natural choice to lead Israel...great leaders must first be great followers!

- Q: Do you have the humility to serve those that lead you spiritually?

DAVID & JONATHAN: ONE IN SPIRIT

David & Jonathan had a very special relationship, especially considering the challenges they faced

- » Jonathan was the prince of Israel as his father, Saul, was king
- » David was chosen and blessed tremendously by God with incredible victories
- » Instead of envy, Jonathan humbly accepted God's will and embraced David

1 Samuel 18:1-4 After defeating Goliath, Jonathan binds himself in covenant with David

- » Jonathan gives David his prince's sword, royal robe and clothing
- * **These men were bound together because of common passion and partnership**

1 Samuel 23:14-18 Saul is chasing David to kill him and Jonathan comforts David

- » Jonathan acknowledges that David will lead Israel and he will be second to him
- * **Spiritual relationships must help us to be more spiritual!**

- Q: Who have you "bound yourself" with to build a spiritual partnership?

¹ Exodus 24:18

² Exodus 17:9

NATHAN & DAVID: PROPHET

David committed adultery and murder and had not dealt with it. God sent Nathan to confront him.

2 Samuel 12:1 Nathan was willing to talk to David about a very difficult situation

2 Samuel 12:7-10 Nathan confronted David about his sin

2 Samuel 12:13 David humbled out and responded by taking responsibility for his sin

- Q: Do you have the conviction to have needed tough talks with other disciples?
Q: Do you have the humility to be approachable for others to have these talks with you?

ELIJAH & ELISHA: STUDENT

Elijah was a powerful prophet that had done a lot to serve God. When he went through a time of struggling with depression, God instructed him to appoint a successor, someone to bequeath to.³

bequeath = to hand down or leave with someone

1 Kings 19:14, 16, 19-21 Elijah calls Elisha to come and train

- » Throwing his cloak was symbolic of bequeathing his role to Elisha
- » Elisha burned his farming equipment and slaughtered his oxen, leaving his previous life behind

2 Kings 2:1-3, 9 Elijah calls Elisha to come and train

- » Elisha had a tremendous sense of connection and gratitude with Elijah
- » He desired to *be like* Elijah and asked for a double portion of his spirit

- Q: To whom are you bequeathing spiritually?

JESUS & PETER: PROTÉGÉ

John 1:40-42 Jesus called him "rock" casting a vision for his life

John 13:6-9 Peter was vocal about what he thought and felt ... it allowed Jesus to train his heart

Matthew 18:18 Jesus planned on handing the leadership reigns to Peter

Luke 22:31-32 Jesus believed in and committed himself to Peter, knowing he would fall

John 21:15 Jesus had higher expectations for Peter and called him to serve the others

JESUS & JOHN: FRIEND

John 13:21-24 John played a different role than Peter ... he was a close friend

John 19:26-27 Jesus paired John with his mother as intimate friendship plays a unique role

We get different needs met by different relationships.
In all of these examples, there is one primary partnership.
We cannot expect to give only to one person or get all of our needs met by one person
but we should have one person that knows our whole life!

³ 1 Kings 19:9-16