

Training Spiritually Qualified Men - Part 1

Lorne Sanny

I. Introduction.

A. Everyone needs time for spiritual renewal.

1. The little gnawing things jolt our perspective.
2. We need strength to endure and not just power to achieve.
3. Frequency and immediacy cloud perspective. Just because something is close to us does not mean that it is important.
4. Many ministers are being forced into doing things they may not be gifted to do.
5. Sometimes we seek deliverance from our friends. (Acts 26:16)

B. The objective of the Navigators: to contribute to the fulfillment of the Great Commission by recruiting, developing and guiding laborers for Christ.

1. To recruit means to add new personnel - that is, new disciples for Jesus.
2. The focus is on developing men - teaching (imparting facts), training (acquiring a skill through practice), building (with reference to gifts) and guiding (in a person's ministry).
3. Target areas: service men, college students and young business men.

C. It is as important to determine what not to do in regards to training as what to do.

II. The pattern for training.(Acts 14:21-22)

A. The basics: the leadership preached the gospel, they made many disciples and then they appointed some leadership. This is the carrying out of the Great Commission.

B. Jesus exercised the same pattern.

1. He preached the gospel. (Mark 1:15)
 - a. If a man does not feel like he is producing the thing he is talking about, something begins to die down inside with frustration and guilt.
 - b. Our basic ministry ought to be outgrowth of our own life.
 - c. Training leaders has to be in an atmosphere of the basic ministry.
2. He made disciples. (Mark 1 and following)

- a. He made disciples for the building of the church and the battle against the enemy. Jesus was looking for disciples that He could rely on. (Luke 14:25, Ephesians 2, Matthew 16)
- b. The objective of the Christian ministry is to win the lost and edify the saved. The objective of war is not to occupy real estate, but to engage the enemy to defeat them.

3. He appointed leaders.

- a. When Jesus chose the Twelve, he chose them to be Apostles.
- b. The training of leadership should happen when it is needed. (Proverbs 24:27)
- c. Make many disciples but only take a few out for leadership.

III. The content of training.

- A. Jesus tried to train His disciples in faith through experience. (Luke 8:22)
- B. We are called to claim God's promises in prayer - to believe in Him.
- C. God's personal promises to us become like pegs to ground us with.
- D. Every believer must stand before God by Himself so they have the right convictions and the right reasons for those convictions.
- E. When everything else is stripped away, we only have God's promises to cling to.

Application questions

1. What is the pattern of leadership that Jesus modeled? Why is it important that we have our own ministry first?

2. Explain the importance of God's promises in the Christian life.

3. What kind of personal ministry do you have? Is it a gospel-centered ministry? What can you do to make the message of Christ the driving force behind your laboring?
