

REVIEW: 2 Timothy 2:2.

The 20 Principles from Paul's Life and Ministry we will be looking at ("Developing Discipleship Eyes"), can be divided into 4 categories:

Mentalize Mobilize Minimize Maximize


Today we want to begin by looking at *Mentalizing Saints*! The word

Mentalize (transliterated from Portuguese) means to d_____ a m_____-s_____. We want to develop a mind-set for ministry, a mind like Christ's. (Philippians 2:5-8)



1

Treat disciples and trainees as *vital, important to the work, even as equals*. What evidence do we have that Paul did this? See how Paul refers to his disciples in these passages: Rom. 16:3; 16:21; 2 Corinthians 6:1; 8:23-24; Colossians 1:7; 4:7; 1 Thessalonians 3:2; Philemon 1, 2, 24.



When so many, these days, would like to "lord it over them," this is a good lesson for us to learn. Let's treat them like equals. (They are, you know!)

2

Encourage your people; tell them for what you are *thankful for in their lives*. Not only do our people need to feel that they are with us in this thing called ministry, but they also need to be encouraged.

Time after time in his epistles, Paul thanked God for his addressees. We also have evidence of him encouraging (instilling courage in) people in person. Acts 20:1; 27:31-37; 2 Cor. 7:4; 1 Thessalonians 3:9.

All through the epistles, we see Paul thanking people and commending them for their work. Read the following verses and find . . .



Verses	For What Paul is Thankful	For What He Commends People
Romans 1:8		
Romans 16:3-16		
1 Corinthians 7:4-7		
Ephesians 1:15-16		
Philippians 1:3		
Colossians 1:3-8		
1 Thessalonians 2:13-14		
1 Thessalonians 3:8-9		
2 Thessalonians 1:3		
2 Thessalonians 2:13-15		

Do we sound like that? Are we encouraging people? Are we thanking them for the ministry they've had in our lives and in the lives of others? Are we commending them before others?

3

Pray for your trainees and let them know of your prayers. Almost as often as he encouraged his disciples, Paul told them of his prayers for them. There is a lot to be gained by studying the content (the what) of Paul's prayers. He prays . . . that his people would gain the spirit of wisdom and revelation so that they might know him better (Eph. 1:17 and Col. 1:9) . . . that the eyes of their heart would be enlightened so they might know the hope of their calling, the riches of their inheritance (Eph. 1:18) . . . that they would be strengthened with power through the Spirit (Eph. 3:16). His prayers are so rich. Our prayers need to emulate them. But today, don't think about **"the what"** of Paul's prayers. Let's think about the **"when and how"**.

Look at Philippians 1:3-11. Notice adjectives and adverbs and highlight them.



I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

What does the above tell you about **how often** Paul prayed for his disciples and about the **intensity** of those prayers? Check out these passages, too: Rom. 1:9-10; Eph. 1:17-22; Col. 1:9-24; 1 Thess. 3:10; 1:1.

We'll learn three more Mentalize principles next week. Which of these first three Mentalize principles do you want to work on this week?

MEMORIZE: Philippians 2:5-6 this week.

"Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped." Philippians 2:5-6

