



Global Leadership Encounter

10 June 2020 Day 2

Main Speaker of the day:

Dr. Gunter “Mentoring for Mission”

book – Jesus’ approach in training in leadership with the 12 disciples

Hosted by **Wilson Goeda and Edwin Fillies**

Notes by **Vikki Wright**

Virmz Largo - Credits will be given through the UofN; details will be communicated when they have been finalized with UofN Extension Studies.

Rheo Loseo opened in prayer.

Edwin – outline of the day: Wilson will recap teaching from yesterday in area of leadership and identity. Gracia will give a short testimony; Beth will share a bit; and Dr. Gunter will share with us this morning.

Wilson Goeda – Recap of teaching yesterday (see notes from Day 1 for details)

Identity is so important, it’s the foundation for every leader. It’s so easy to lose that identity as we come into the mission, but we must reclaim and know who we are, like Jesus did. Once we embrace our identity it gives us confidence to lead, because people are not drawn to a vision but to YOU. So it’s important that we know who we are.

It is easy to wrap our identity in what we do and the role we have, but that’s not necessarily who we are, that’s just the office we serve, but what if it’s taken away from you? Who are you when everything is taken away?

I remember how God was dealing with me in Switzerland having to look after my son, and God said, “I want you to become a son again.” God anoints what we have. What is in your hand?

Gracia (South Roots International) – testimony of what has impacted her from yesterday. Amazing to see people like me speaking blessings and advice over us, encouraging me to be all that God has called me to be in this mission irrespective of whatever restrictions may be over us. The question about ‘what happens if you lose your memory?’ really touched me. I asked myself where I might have lost my memory, the things God has spoken about me, do I like my story? If we were to lose our memory today, what is our story, am I satisfied with my story, and how can I change it? That was a big challenge to me to change the reality of my own story and the story of my people to get the truth out.

Edwin – as this leadership encounter we desire people to be transformed and then to transform their nations.

Beth Arendise – serving in the Presidency Commission looking at how to rebuild and realign the education system so our country can move into a place to provide access and freedom for our young people in South Africa. Systems are changing and it is God who is changing them. The emerging trend in leadership in the world is called systems leadership... needs indigenous, YWAM leaders to impact and change systems. We really need to hear him about how he has impacted us and positioned us to join God in what He is doing in the earth, what is the new playing field he is shifting us into. We really have been positioned for such a time as this.



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Dr. Gunter part 1

“Mentoring for Mission” book – Jesus’ approach in training in leadership with the 12 disciples

Some thoughts on Christ’s mentoring approach:

Questions: How can I train leaders without training them into my own culture?

How can I train Christlike leaders rather than training clones of myself?

I needed to find a “supercultural” leadership training model, and this is evident in the life and ministry of the Lord Jesus. In the early ‘90s I studied for 2 years how Jesus mentored his disciples. This revolutionized my practice of leadership development.

The main findings are in my book “Mentoring for Missions”, but also I designed a 5-day leadership training course. I will share some of those fundamental insights into Jesus’ approach to mentoring.

Jesus ministry on earth had 2 branches:

1. The redemptive work he did with a climax in his death on the cross
2. His training work had a very specific vision: to create a dynamic worldwide witnessing movement for the extension of the kingdom of God. Luke 12:49 “I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled.” For this vision, he had a strategy explained in Mark 1:17 “I will make fishers of men.”
 - a. To facilitate this vision movement, Jesus first selected and trained the future leaders. He hand-picked 12 proteges after an observation phase that lasted probably 14 months to see if these men had the necessary qualifications.
 - b. He also chose them after night long prayer: Luke 6:12-13
 - c. He chose a group so that there would also be group dynamics
 - d. He didn’t choose sophisticated followers, so they didn’t have to unlearn so much; He chose Galileans, mostly fishermen, diligent, hardworking, acquainted with teamwork

Once he selected the best people for his program, which method did he choose for his mentoring approach?

Section 1: What were the foundation blocks of Christ’s mentoring of the 12?

1. Christ’s total obedience to God - Heb 5:8 “although He was a son, he learned obedience from what He suffered”. John 6:38 Jesus came to do the will of the Father. He didn’t try to set up his own agenda, but in everything he sought to please his father through total submission to His plans.
2. Christ’s anointing – Jesus did not begin his public ministry before he was empowered from on high at his water baptism; he sensed he needed a special divine equipping before his public redemptive work and before he took up his training work. Simon Peter revealed the key in Acts 10:37-38 to Jesus’ anointing.
3. Christ’s deep love for his followers – he dedicated himself sacrificially to their development, to deal with and work on their weaknesses but also to promote their strengths, especially the special investment he made into the life of Simon Peter. He showed kindness, acceptance, patience and forgiveness.
4. Christ’s intercession for his men – Luke 6:12-13 whole night in prayer before selection; also John 17 the great prayer for the protection and sanctification of his disciples; also Luke 22:31-32 where the devil wanted to sift his disciples but Jesus prayed for Simon that his faith would not fail.



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5. Christ's trust in God's work in them – he believed in the God-given potential in the men he was training, that they would grow into what God had in store for them; he trusted their honesty and teachability; he trusted their willingness to change and readiness to obey; he had confidence that they would bear fruit in the future; he looked forward to the day they would surpass his work in the kingdom John 14:12.
6. Christ's transparent witness – Jesus based his training on the witness principle Mark 3:14. Before Jesus called the disciples to be involved in ministry, he first called them to be with Him. He shared his life with them in mealtimes, ministry times, relaxation times. They saw him in public and private. They saw how he dealt with all different types of people. They listened when he preached, taught, prayed, healed, delivered. They also experienced that he established varying degrees of closeness in his relationships (72, 12, 4, 3).
7. Christ's primary concern for character development – make a tree good and its fruit will be good Matt 12:33, you will know a tree by its fruit; Luke 6:45 hearts bring good or evil. Character determines conduct. Who we are establishes what we do, why we do it and how we do it. Jesus' paramount concern was the character development of his men. He wanted to see humility, faith, love, obedience, prayerfulness and forgiveness, faithfulness and fruitfulness. Jesus taught hardly anything related to skill or managerial techniques, his predominant focus was on character. The supreme developmental interest was on holiness rather than on effectiveness!

Key to emphasize: Jesus spent most time with those with the most potential.

Yes, there were the multitudes, but Jesus invested his time particularly in the core group, in the 3 and in Simon. His presence was their school. He was their own method.

He followed the method/principle of association – Prov 13:20 He who walks with the wise, grows wise. The kind of people closest to us impact us the most. So Jesus expected his disciples to be molded into his likeness, and this required a few things:

Jesus had to be available, approachable and transparent.

I believe in our present-day training efforts, these are very difficult but important points. Most leaders are too busy to impact those who follow them. Or in certain cultures leaders are difficult to reach.

As leaders we need to learn to be open, to give access to our people in the aspects of our walk with God.

Section 2: some points that relate to Jesus' mentoring technique

1. His approach was relational – people grow best in the context of committed relationships. Christ first made friends, and later apostles. The word disciple is used 225 times in the gospels, but Jesus used that term addressing the 12 only 2 times. Rather he addressed them with the word 'friends', 'brothers', 'children'... terms of endearment focusing on the quality of relationship. Jesus did not establish an organization or structure, he created an extended family setting which was better for his training.
2. His approach was informal – Jesus decided to stay away from what we usually major on in the Western world which is institutionalized training. He didn't write a manual or formulate a curriculum or make them write book reports...but he did produce the most qualified graduates of all time. He chose an informal relationship orientated approach where the disciples could just be around him, ask questions, watch what he did. The ministry environment he took his men in to provided the testing ground for what had been learned.
3. His approach was oral – he conveyed the truth through sermons, parables, talks, questions, explanations. He desired his men to internalize and memorize his words so they could be his authentic witnesses. In the future they did not design their own systems of thought, but rather faithfully transmitted what they'd heard and seen in relationship with him. John said, "What we have seen and heard..."



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4. His approach was mobile – He engaged in itinerant ministry; he was on the road; he integrated the training of his men into his ministry in the cities, villages, temple, fields, synagogue, under open sky. He didn't make it static, but rather in the hustle and bustle of every day life. That's why he was so close to the practical side of living.
5. He modeled the overarching purpose to mold them into his likeness – Matt 11:29 learn from me because I'm meek and humble, John 13:15 – the foot washing, "I have given you an example, now do what I've done," Luke 6:40 "Everyone who has been sufficiently trained will be like his master". Do we understand what sufficient training is, and do we do it?
 - a. You know the difference between a handgun and a rifle...both can shoot, but a rifle can shoot better, farther and more accurately. The key is how long the bullet is in the barrel. We need to have people long enough under the right training before they can be released from the barrel. How long was Jesus with his men? Public ministry was 3 – 3.5 years. We cannot do thorough leadership training just in the spur of the moment. Teaching by example is the most natural and powerful way of influencing others, like the way we learn language and grow with our parents.
 - b. Jesus modelled in word, deed and attitude.
6. Jesus taught – he instructed his followers by his words, and by his example. What was the favorite subject of his disciples...who is the greatest among us? They had a problem with pride in the early days. In Matt 11 Jesus told them they had to learn to be humble; they didn't get it. In Mark 9:33+ they were still discussing who was the greatest, even when they met for the last supper...they still hadn't got the message. When Jesus showed them what true servanthood was, Simon Peter couldn't take it anymore. You may experience the same thing...your teaching might not impact people initially, but as they keep watching, one day the penny may finally drop. He instructed his people in public, but also in private. Mark 9:30-31... Jesus did not want the public to know where he was because he was teaching his disciples in private and he wanted the teaching to be quality. Jesus never took the pains to explain to the public the meaning of all the parables, but to his men, he explained everything and emphasized what was important. He even taught one to one despite the busyness of his public ministry, as seen when he answered Simon Peter about how many times we need to forgive. We need to be available to our emerging leaders in public and in private. One to one advice can be more impactful than public teachings.
7. Jesus enabled practical application – John 13:17, now that you know these things you will be blessed if you do them; Matt 7:24, everyone who hears these words and puts them into practice is like the wise man who built his house on the rock. Theory doesn't mean as much as practical application. Experience alone doesn't do it... reflected experience brings the teaching home. I recently learned that your response to a recent experience determines whether that experience will be valuable or not for your growth. We need to build a connection between theory and application... Great Commission. In their practical assignments they grew, their faith was tested.
8. He encouraged his men – understand that a vital key to effective leadership development is that you provide training in an environment of encouragement which builds people up through encouragement, but not always criticism. Sometimes we need to correct, which is good, but people thrive in an atmosphere of encouragement. Barnabas was so effective in encouraging Paul, that Paul became an encourager to Timothy. John 1:42 – Jesus encouraged Simon Peter and gave him a new name... Cephas...even though in the early stages Simon Peter was not a rock at all, but he must have been aware of his own weaknesses, and here was someone who told him who he could be if he would hang out with Jesus. There was someone who believed in his potential and was committed to see it come to pass. Luke 5:3 – Jesus decided to go to Simon's home to let him know he was with Peter. Matt 16:7 Jesus encouraged the statement Peter made. Matt 17:1 Jesus took Peter with him up the Mt of Transfiguration. Luke 22:32 Jesus announced Simon would turn back and should strengthen his brothers...Jesus had faith that Simon would make it through the testing. Luke 24:34 – Christ appeared to Simon Peter...I believe that was the

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- time when just the two of them, Jesus addressed the issue of the denial and settled it even before the time Jesus met him and the others on the beach and fed them. It shows the wonderful sensitivity of the Lord to deal with the denial in private and honor in public.
9. Jesus corrected – he did not shy away from correcting his men when he saw the need to do so Mark 4:40 – why are you afraid? Mark 8:17 – do you still not understand? Matt 16:23 – get behind me satan! Strong statement to Simon but Jesus was teaching him something... remember Acts 5 when Simon was in leadership and had to deal with Ananias and Saphira? He responded in the same way that Jesus responded to him... he had learned the lesson from Jesus. In such an environment of acceptance and encouragement, the disciples grew from the correction of Jesus. Mark 16:14 he rebuked them for their lack of faith. They still needed some confrontation. Sometimes we grow up and down, left and right, and we need correction.
 10. Jesus stressed the need for divine anointing and empowerment – he gave the best leadership training that ever was offered to man; after that he did not say, ‘Now, get going,’ but rather he told them to wait in Jerusalem because they needed the final crucial ingredient in their training which was the empowerment of God in them. The extension of the kingdom of god is a superhuman task and it requires divine competence. The seed of Truth Jesus planted still needed to be divinely activated through the power of God at Pentecost. Then his men were launched into the witnessing movement to which he had recruited and trained them.

The term ‘following’ Jesus has to do with a soldier following his commander, a slave following his master, obeying the law and taking someone’s advice. In essence, this following means that you pattern your life after the example of someone else. That is the crux of understanding Christlike leadership...we are changed more and more by the Spirit into the likeness of Jesus.

God today wants us to go through a similar program like the disciples did in their time through the Holy Spirit working in us.

“One of the urgent things today is to get leaders back to the example of Jesus” – a statement made in 1999 by a man of God in England. The truth remains the same today. Why is that the case? Three reasons:

1. Christ’s model represents a timeless example which God in his wisdom has set as the standard for leadership development. We do not have the freedom to invent a new model or follow any other example. Instead we are expected to follow the old model, like Paul did: 1 Cor 11:1 – follow my example as I follow the example of Christ. Are we committed to see, understand and follow the timeless model?
2. Christ’s model is the only supercultural model – here you find the absolute truth, standard and principles of God’s example of leadership.
3. Christ’s model is the only one that can expect the fullness of God’s approval and blessing. How can we be a blessing? Follow Christ’s example.

Our leadership models can only receive blessings from God if they display the likeness of the Lord Jesus Christ, just as coins display the sovereigns of their nations.

Jesus has given us all we need towards God-pleasing and beneficial leadership. Amen.

Highlights from Wilson:

Wow, wow! I think what Gunter said, what he heard in 1999, if we want to be effective at producing quality leaders, we will have to come back to the Jesus model in how he did it. It’s

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beyond our culture. It's the example we need to follow. There's so much here that we need to discuss.

Question to Gunter: when you talked about the foundation of mentoring, point #5 that the Lord Jesus trusted them and their potential...sometimes we miss the potential depending on where we're coming from. How do we spot the potential in people? Sometimes potential in Africa and in the Western world might differ...how do we spot that?

Answer from Gunter: A few things that go together:

1. It's important to develop a relationship like Jesus did in the observation phase, in that context Jesus was able to relate to them, get to know them, and spot what he was looking for in them. All the major qualifications for leadership are qualifications of the heart - are they teachable, humble, willing to serve, faithful? In Lesotho, God opened my eyes to the potential in a young man.
2. I have realized that when I ask God if this is a person you want me to take up and invest into, when God confirmed that he have me a release of faith for that person's development. God opens my heart that there is something he wants me to facilitate to manifest in that person's life even if I can't see it. God gives me the ability to trust him to bring the potential to pass. Divine confirmation that there is something God wants to do in you to develop that person, and it comes with the faith.

Highlights from Edwin:

Gunter is the catalyst for this Leadership Encounter, so I have been journeying with him the last 4 years in a mentoring relationship, so this GLE is the fruit of that relationship.

What really struck me is that Jesus' presence was the school. His personal example provided the content. He was his method. How can we apply this as leaders? How can we follow Jesus' example? Are we distant? Do we delegate that aspect of presence to others and lead remotely, or are we following the example of Jesus where His presence was the school?

We can teach volumes, but we can destroy all of that with outbursts of uncontrolled anger, like Moses did with water from the rock.

Reflect on this during the break time...this GLE is a catalyst for on-going learning. We want to whet your appetite to learn more. This is just a taste for greater hunger to pursue in your leadership.

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Break time



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Second Session:

Virmz Largo – we will be sending you a link so you can download the video recording and go to a website where other resources will be made available soon; we also have a facebook group that you can join and continue networking; some are asking about UofN credits...the GLE is registered and we are just working on some final things... 2 credits available for this webinar, but there will be extra work for that.

Tomorrow, very important we have a Kona connection with David Hamilton, and we will also have Paul D from Burkina Faso in Nigeria, so we will be meeting one hour earlier, wherever you are... 8 am Cape Town time.

Dr. Gunter part 2

Title: Some implications derived from the Lord Jesus' mentoring approach

Matt 12:30 Master stated, "He who is not with me is against me..." Spiritual leaders are to discern and carry out the specific purposes of God. There is no neutral zone...either we promote the interests of the kingdom of God, or the powers of darkness.

Hudson Taylor – "has not the failure of many of our efforts been due to our attempting to do God's work in man's way, and sometimes even in the devil's way? Haphazard endeavors and unfinished tasks do not honor God.

As spiritual leaders representing God's interests, we're expected to have a clear grasp of his leadership strategy and wholeheartedly commit ourselves to its application.

None of us is clever enough to improve on the wisdom of God as revealed in the life and ministry of his son. There is only one avenue that meets with the full pleasure and confirmation of God.

Six aspects of our leadership involvement:

1. We must take a fresh look at our selection process – effective leadership training starts with wise selection; God deserves the best. There is a danger to be blinded by outward impressions, or degrees, or eloquence, or finances, or strong recommendations. The paramount prerequisite are all qualifications of the heart: zeal (can't train anyone satisfied with the status quo); teachability and obedience, committed and faithful, full of integrity... all dimensions of the heart. We want to make sure that if we as mentors invest time, energy and prayer, that we do it with the right people. We need to understand that not everyone qualifies for leadership. Some have not received a call from God; others lack potential; still others have inadequate personal responses to the truth that is shared with them. Two things particularly relevant:
 - a. Sufficient observation phase – give enough time to assess the potential of the candidates
 - b. Wait on God for confirmation – let God confirm the candidate and give me faith to invest in him; it's not for our benefit but for the kingdom of God
 - c. Warning - potential criticism – if we only select certain people, we need to recognize the difference between suitability and spirituality...we do not negate anyone's spirituality, but we recognize the suitability of a person. Jesus did not select anyone with a non-Jewish background, with a degree, his physical brothers...rather Jesus called those whom He wanted. Mark 5:18-19 Jesus did not allow the demon-possessed man he had delivered to join him, but sent him back home to witness... not suitable for leadership training. When we as leaders have discerned and received assurance for those God has prepared, we should take initiative to call them out. We should also explain to the others why we do what we do, and keep the chance open for others to be mentored at a later stage.



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2. We must take a fresh look at our availability – A Mentor in the biblical sense establishes a close relationship with a protégé, and on that basis, influences him to gain a deeper comprehension of divine truth, lead a godlier life, and render more effective service to God. In the heart of true mentoring is the close relationship between mentor and mentoree. This requirement puts the finger on a major problem, especially in the West, ... the neglect of deeper relationships. Some of my finest memories are the deep, satisfying relationships with my black brothers and sisters. The Western world is largely characterized with busyness, works, etc. that make it difficult to establish and sustain close relationships. A managerial fallacy is when leaders mistake effective management for good leadership. Management is what you do; Leadership is who you are. As members of the Body of Christ, God desires and expects us to live in healthy and meaningful relationships which are the channel of love towards other people, and provide the climate which is conducive to spiritual growth. Jesus first made friends, then apostles. He believed that growing deep with a few would yield better long range fruit for the kingdom than remaining on the surface with me.
 - a. Are we convinced to follow the Master's model?
 - b. Are we convinced this is the simplest, most natural and powerful way to impact others?
 - c. If so, what about our priorities? This would imply we give preference in our schedules to the few God shows us, that we direct most of our training efforts to those with the highest potential. No one can be effective mentors without paying a high price. Some may feel everything they are already doing is important, but is it important to the Lord? Did you screen your various activities by prayer? Will what you do have eternal significance? God led me to design a completely new format to leadership training than what I had been doing. Time and again I've seen that the Truth took greater effect with the participants that they said the experience was life-changing. I had to establish new priorities and do many adjustments. What adjustments are required for you to become more effective mentors? What changes do you need to make to make room for those God has given us?
3. We must take a fresh look at our commitment to building people – William Carey, "I think it becomes us to make the most of everyone whom the Lord gives us." As leaders, God entrusts us with many resources, but especially with people. Have we learned to truly appreciate the people God gives us? Have we sensed the weight of the responsibility to release their potential in God? Have we learned to develop people the way Jesus did, majoring on building character rather than skills? Why should we as leaders have a paramount concern for character? Character determines conduct. The life of a person is a stronger message than the words. When leaders fail, they usually fall in the realm of character: pride, dishonesty, manipulation. Some leaders fail to address character weaknesses, but it needs to be a primary focus in leadership development. Character training is most effectively addressed through modeling which shifts focus from instruction to being. We need to realize the influence we exert on our trainees is determined by the degree that our actions, words and deeds reflect Christ. "It is not great talents God blesses so much as great likeness to Jesus." A Christ-like life is the best way to be a blessing to others and secures an authentic and effective witness, and produces the deepest personal satisfaction. It also brings the highest glorification to God. Do you focus on that? Is your life focused on bringing glory to God? John 17:4 Jesus glorified God....will you? Do you truly hunger after Christlikeness? Do we see the power of God in Christlike living? We need to put our emphasis on building Christlike character in our people.
4. We must take a fresh look at our perspective of the future – 2 Tim 2:2 – Key verse on discipleship: the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. Here we have 4 generations of spiritual development: Paul, Timothy, reliable men, others taught by them. Paul summarized the Master's approach which he was committed to follow.
 - a. The challenge for us: we are meant to pass on our life in Christ to succeeding

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- generations. We are to make room for others to grow up besides us. We need to be concerned about replacing ourselves. Do you as a leader work in such a way that you can replace yourself as soon as possible through good people? How serious are we about reproducing ourselves so leaders can take over from us?
- b. Are we aware of the benefits of mentoring for the mentoree, but also for the mentor and for the organization as a whole? New skills, capacity building, growth in character as iron sharpens iron, greater delegation, etc. Greater effectiveness; greater retention rate of people.
 - c. Key motivator is genuine trust in the people God give us.
 - d. Barnabas took the initiative to invest in Saul/Paul, see how many lives he touched?
 - e. Chinese: anyone can count the seeds in an apple, but who can count the apples in a single seed? You never can imagine what God can do with one person you train under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
 - f. The Kingrich 7 (?) – CT Studd and others decided to leave all their property and wealth to become missionaries in China.
 - g. In the early 90's I got to work with Edwin and Wilson and we formed another group with some others, and this group was the foundation laid in my relationship and mentoring efforts. Today we are connected via Zoom to share this truth with many nations. Another member of that group has been a missionary in Thailand for the last 20 years. We have no idea what God can do with the people we invest in.
 - h. We need to make room for other/younger people to take over. It is a sad sight when older leaders don't make space for other younger leaders to take over and for them to be free to move on. Whenever I come to a stage in my life and think, What next?, God comes up with something total new. Don't block yourself from the next step by staying in a position you should be free of to make room for others.
 - i. Moving on with God can have some radical aspects including significant geographical movements. Don't miss the moves God has for you. Be open for God's future; don't limit God by staying in what you have done up to now and miss what He has for you.
5. We must take a fresh look at our capacity to contextualize leadership development – to make it culturally meaningful, relevant and acceptable. There is an increasing need for contextualized mentorship. In churches in Germany, we find many African brothers and sisters in the church. Every missionary working cross-culturally has the need for contextualization. We need to be able to communicate the supercultural elements and principles of Jesus' style leadership into the culture we are meant to serve. You have to research the culture you are serving in. We have to discover the local leadership idiom. We have to use indigenous teaching models (parables, stories, etc.) We have to graft the non-negotiable principles into the host culture and lay a foundation for what the Holy spirit will set ablaze. We are expecting to train leaders to become Jesus like and not like our culture.
- a. God has given us a tremendous safeguard into not training people into clones of ourselves – that is servanthood, someone who comes with the attitude of a learner.
 - b. A servant leader loves the nationals, he wants to serve them and sees himself in a transitory role to come and go as God leads him.
 - c. He takes glory in being surpassed by the nationals. We are not here to build our kingdom but to release the nationals to pass us.
 - d. Our servanthood sets the nationals free to be all they are meant to be.
 - e. The attitude of servanthood protects us from pride, ambition, arrogance, et.
 - f. The relevance and validity of Jesus' mentoring approach extends across cultures, but when we serve, the dominant thing must not be our culture, but our Christlikeness. So let's live in such a way that we give ourselves to raise up others under the guidance of the Holy Spirit so they can come into the fullness of what God has for them.



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6. We must take a fresh look at our estimation of the Holy Spirit's anointing – it is impossible to have like effects without like causes; if we want to see New Testament fruit in our day, we must give Him paramount position as he had in NT times. We need the power from on high. If we desire God's full confirmation, we have to work through the Holy Spirit. 2 Cor 3:5-6 very important basic fact – 'Our competence comes from God.' We need to be people living in Christ. John – Jesus spoke about abiding in Him. We call this the last great message that Jesus gave, and only after Judas Iscariot had left the group and it was dark, that is when Jesus revealed some of the deepest of his teaching, including abiding in Him. He did not waste that truth with Judas Iscariot. Then the great prayer for the protection and fruit came after Judas left the group. We need to be grafted into Jesus as the vine that his life can flow into us and produce the fruit. We are not producing the fruit...we are just the branches on whom the fruit becomes manifest.
- Eph 5:18 – be filled with the Spirit, or better "keep on being filled" with the Spirit; it is an on-going process, time and again, when we give ourselves in ministry, we have to be refilled again and again.
 - Gal 5:25 – keep in step with the Spirit
 - Jesus insisted that his men do not go out at all until they could go with God's anointing.
 - People today do not have the main concern being lack of anointing. Someone said, "If the Holy Spirit should withdraw from the earth, over 70% of the Christian activities would continue."
 - There is only one sound basis for our confidence – God's divine presence. More than anything we need God's divine authority because his presence is with us. When you carry the anointing of God, people will want to follow you, will want your leadership, will give you the right to be led. They want to be influenced by someone who has the hand of God on his life. Why did the Moravians become the greatest force? Because they evidenced divine authority?

Maybe you would like to be involved as a mentor but were never mentored? I have found that the Holy Spirit is still more than sufficient to shape us into jewels fit for his use. Like the boy who gave the Lord 5 loaves and fishes, let us give to God the little we have to develop us, and others through us. If we take the example of Jesus seriously, then we need to ask ourselves these questions:

- Does my life evidence Christlikeness? The position you hold is no proof that you are a spiritual leader, but whether you have Christlikeness is proof.
- Who is following me? Are they people with a heart after God willing to pay the price to progress in holiness, or is it only problem cases?
- Do people follow me because they have to, or because they want to because of my character?
- Does my leadership attract people of higher caliber than my own? Barnabas invested himself into highly gifted Paul.
- Does my leadership influence lead to reproduction and release of multiplication with the goal of me moving on further into the things God has for me?
- Am I available and approachable enough to be a mentor that others can really learn from?
- Are my wife and children the first beneficiaries of my coaching endeavor? Does it work in the family at home?
- Does my leadership manifest all that God has in store for me in Christ? In other words, we have not arrived...do we see down the road the next milestones to become more like Jesus?

May God give you the grace to become the people God has in mind for you to become. Amen.

Comments of appreciation/ Questions from the Philippines, Togo, Japan, Cape Town,

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Where is the place to wrestle with some of these questions? How can we take this further in discussion and processing?

Alejandro Rodriguez will be speaking with us next week; he has started a forum for discussions of this type. Global South Leaders Dialogue is on-going and you are all welcome to join.

End of Day 2

