



NCFI Congress 2016

Part 2: Practical Applications for Emerging Leaders (young or old!)

By: Anne Biro

- Barnabas took note of Saul at a time when others didn't see any potential in him.
 - What characteristics are important in a mentor? Why?
 - What characteristics are important in a person being mentored? (What are some of the reasons that Barnabas may have taken notice of Paul? What might have made Paul open to being mentored?)
 - Are there people in your country that the Lord may be preparing for leadership that have not yet been recognized? If you do not know, what can you do about this?

- Saul's initial attempts at preaching upset many people (Acts 9:28-30). So the believers sent Saul to his home town of Tarsus so that he wouldn't get killed by the Greeks in Jerusalem. We hear nothing more about Saul until Barnabas purposely went to Tarsus to bring him to Antioch to join him in the work among the Greeks.
 - Have you experienced failure in trying to lead? Are there areas where you feel insecure in your leadership? What do you think God would say to you? What can you learn from this?

 - Barnabas took the initiative to seek out Paul to mentor by including him in ministry. However sometimes we need to seek out mentors ourselves to help us in becoming the people God created and called us to be.
 - Is there someone in your life who is already acting as a mentor even though there might not be an established mentoring relationship? Are there ways that you think the relationship could be more intentional or formal in a way that would benefit you? If so, what are they?
 - Is the Lord directing you to someone who can be a mentor to you? What will you do about this?

 - Paul's passion for teaching and philosophical discussions was evident in his early attempts in evangelism (Acts 9:27-29) and Barnabas included him in the preaching & teaching ministry in Antioch (Acts 11:26).
 - Do you have a sense of what God is calling you to and has gifted you for? Who would you like to work with to help you grow in your calling?
 - If you don't know who can help you grow spiritually and as a leader, what can you do about this?

- Barnabas took primary leadership in the initial years, but then Paul began to be the main speaker/teacher. The result for the church was growth, but for Barnabas, he was no longer the main leader.
 - As a younger leader, in what ways can you begin to take on leadership yet still be respectful of current or previous leaders?
 - How do you think God might want you to respond in a situation where you and your mentor (or older leader) disagree?

- Through worship & fasting God spoke to the elders of the church in Antioch about a new ministry role for Barnabas & Saul.
 - Do you and others worship & fast? Do you pray for current and future leaders?



Part 3: Taking the next step (making a plan)...

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For future leaders

1. Make it a priority to pray that God will bring a mentor into your life if you do not yet have a mentor. If you have a mentor, pray that God will give your mentor wisdom.
2. Write down your expectations for a mentoring relationship. (e.g. What are the reasons that you want to be mentored? What are the areas in your life that you would like to grow in? How can you communicate this with your mentor? How often do you think you would like to meet with your mentor?)
3. If you do not yet have a mentor but have someone you think could be a good mentor, make a plan to ask that person to mentor you.