

Five Enhancements for Finishing Well

1) Renewal Encounters

2) Maintaining a Learning Posture

3) A Biblical, Lifetime Perspective -- “Telos” Seen in All of Life’s Events & Phases.

4) Life Giving Spiritual Disciplines

5) Mentoring Relationships

Paul on the Importance of Spiritual Discipline

I Corinthians 9: 23-27

I do it all for the sake of the Gospel, that I might share in its blessings. You've all been to the stadium and seen the athletes race. . . . All Good athletes go into serious training. They do it for a gold medal that tarnishes and fades. You're after one that's gold eternally.

I don't know about you, but I'm running hard for the finish line. I'm giving it everything I've got. No sloppy living for me! I'm staying alert and in top condition; for fear that when I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified!

I Timothy 4:7-8 & 15-16

Take time and trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit. Workouts in the gymnasium are useful, but a disciplined life in God is of unlimited value, for it holds promise both for this present life and the life to come. There is no doubt about this at all; it is a truth you can accept completely

Give your whole attention, all your energies, to these things, so your progress is plain for all to see. Pay close attention to your life and your teaching. Don't get diverted. If you continue to follow this way of life you will save your own soul and also the souls of your hearers.

(Smooth Blend of Phillips and Message Versions)

Exemplars of Paul's View of God's Work Throughout Our Lives

II Corinthians 1:5-9

5 For **just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives**, so also through Christ our comfort overflows. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as **you share in our sufferings**, so also you share in our comfort. We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. **But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.**

II Corinthians 4:7-17

But we have this treasure in jars of clay **to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us**. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body **the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body.** . . . because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead **will also raise us with Jesus** and present us with you in his presence. All this is for your benefit, **so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.** Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

Romans 8:17

Now if we are children, then we are heirs —heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, **if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.**

Philippians 3:10-15

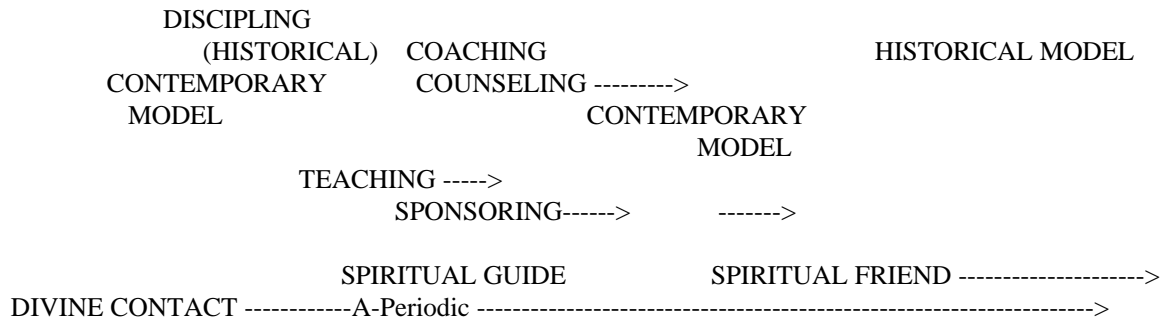
I want to know Christ and **the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.** . . . All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you.

Mentor Types and Central Thrust of Each

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>CENTRAL EMPOWERMENT</u>
1. Discipler	Basic Habits of the Obedience of Faith.
2. Spiritual Guide	Discernment of the Spiritual Life and Friendship to Aid Development Toward Maturity
3. Coach	Skills of Various Kinds; Ministry and Life
4. Counselor	Advice and Perspective on 'Situations' and Personal and Ministry Needs
5. Teacher	Impartation of Knowledge of all kinds that Fits Needs
6. Sponsor	Protection; Career Development; Resources and Opportunities to be Able to Develop
7. Contemporary Model	Values, Character, & Ministry Models Seen Lived Out Which Inspire Emulation and Growth in Faith
8. Historical Model	Values, Character, & Ministry Models Lived Out Which Inspire Emulation and Growth Faith
9. Divine Contact	Guidance; God-Given Timely Intervention Which Spurs a Person Along Towards Their Destiny

“Normal” Order of Mentor Needs Along the Developmental T/L

Phase I		Phase II		Phase III		Phase IV	
Ministry Foundations		General Ministry		Focused Ministry		Convergent Ministry	
Sovereign Foundations	Leadership Transition	Provisional Ministry	Growth Ministry	Competent Ministry	Role Transition	Unique Ministry	Special Guidance
age(20)	(23-26)	(24-35)	(30-38)	(32-45 yrs)	<-- (40-55 yrs) -->		? ?



MENTORING TYPES

1. Discipler	2. Spiritual Director	3. Coach	4. Counselor 5. Teacher 6. Sponsor	7. Contemporary Model 8. Historical Ideal	9. Divine Contact
<----- More deliberate Less deliberate ----->					
Relationship	Relationship	Relationship	(Relationship)		
Submission	Submission	Submission	Submission		
Perspective	Perspective	Perspective	Perspective	Perspective	Perspective
Transfer	Transfer	Transfer	Transfer	Transfer	Transfer
Accountability	Accountability	Accountability	Accountability	(Accountability)	

Recruiting a Mentor

Four guidelines.

1. **Think Small**--focus on specific needs.
2. **Think faith**--pray and trust God to bring someone along that can help in the specific area.
3. **Network** -- Ask others for recommendations of people who might fit the mentor type that you need.
4. **Think aggressively**--ask/ seek/ knock/ attempt to establish a relationship/ demonstrate responsiveness in every way you can.

“Since the days of John the Baptist, the kingdom comes with violence and violent men and women lay hold of it.”

-- Matthew 11:12

