

Equipping Disciples to Multiply Laborers

MENTORING



Tony Dungy
Coach and Mentor

This year's Superbowl was especially delightful for the tens of thousands of fans in Tampa where I live-- Coach Tony Dungy won! We had suffered when he was fired from the Bucs, but thousands of us have continued praying for him. We thrilled at his winning seasons with the Colts, and now this Ultimate Win. Pages of newsprint grew about the Christian testimony of the

coach, his family's home in Tampa, and his connections to Idlewild and Central Tampa Baptist Churches.

I clipped out one colorful headline page which The Tampa Tribune called: "Family Tree." I call it classic mentoring. Beneath a giant picture of the Coach were "legacy" pictures of present head coaches whom Dungy had once mentored in Tampa. Of note was his Superbowl opposition coach of the Chicago Bears and his close friend, Lovie Smith. Smith was hired by Dungy in 1996 and

stayed through 2000. Next came the Jet's head coach, Herm Edwards. Rod Marinelli followed nine years with the Bucs to become head coach of the Lions.

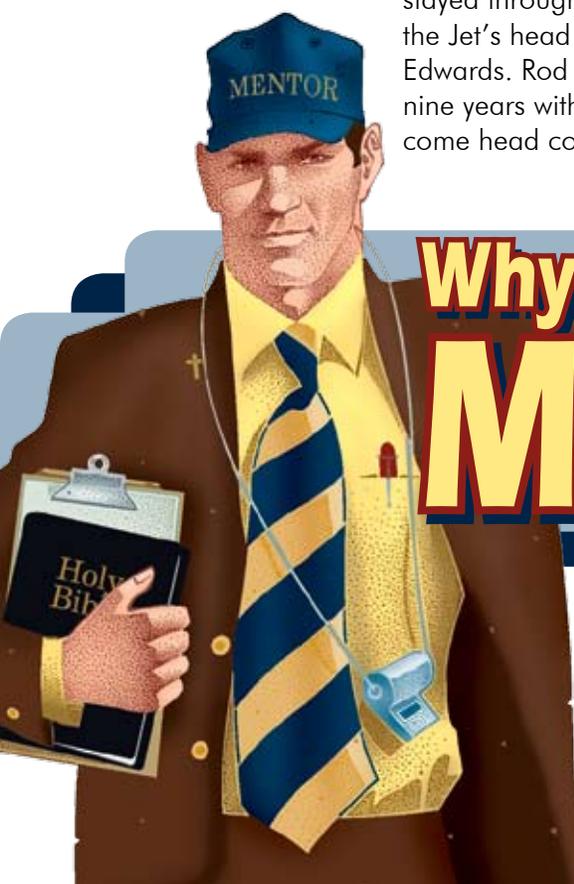
The fourth head coach mentored by Dungy, Mike Tomlin, was just hired by last year's Superbowl-winning Steelers.

The mentoring that works so well in professional football, in business, academics and the armed forces was modeled centuries ago and recorded in detail in the Bible. Jesus and Paul made it their basic ministry for reproducing new leadership. Along with believing prayer, it must be THE essential ministry of a church, modeled by the pastor and key leaders setting the pace.

Why Mentor? For your spiritual growth through a friend.

I keep reading about the loneliness of men in our culture. Few have a close friend. May I define "friend" by suggesting it is someone who is closer than kicking a tire together of your new car, or giving a high-five at the next televised ball game. A "friend" is one who immediately comes, or flies to you if you call: "I need you now!" And he stays to help you faithfully over the problem or crisis. This caring friend would be someone who levels with you boldly, someone you can tell anything to--and know it stops there. Most men have only acquaintances. Being mentored, and mentoring others can grow into invaluable friendships. Some friendships grow into a lifetime of gold!

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Why You Should Mentor Now

By Dr. Waylon Moore

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Visiting us a few days ago was a lifetime friend I met at Baylor University named Bruce Miller, with his wife Iko. Bruce met me in a phonetics class we were both taking. I was in Law School and chose an elective class. Bruce was studying for the ministry. Not much in common. Having been generally quiet in class, one day I approached Bruce in the Student Center and told him about some "girl trouble" I was having. He challenged me spiritually, and privately began praying for me. He helped me learn to listen to God, pray, and study the Bible. Learning that I enjoyed reading, Bruce suggested some great books that influenced me deeply. Plus he was strangely available to me. My life opened to the will of God, and months later I was surprised with God's call into the ministry, which happened during a prolonged prayer time with Bruce! He's lived in California and now in D.C., but we've kept up with each other over the decades and talked on the phone for hours.

Why Mentor? Jesus commanded us to make disciples of all nations. Jesus was sent to "seek and save the lost" and lead them into discipleship. And so are we to "... as you go make disciples..." (Matt. 28:19-20). John 20:21 says: "As my father hath sent me, even so send I you." We are to "follow Him" (Matt. 4: 19; John 12:26). Jesus is our model, our trailblazer. Everything Jesus did those 3 years of public ministry were linked to four priorities in his private ministry with His disciples. I call them **W.I.N.D.:** **W**itnessing, **I**ntercession, **N**urturing, and **D**isciplining, all in the context of modeling. He got eleven world changers and one devil out of the bunch. The disciples were "with Him" at least three solid years (Mark 3:14). He shared his life. Everything was bare and honest, as he taught,

healed, prayed, counseled, and did apologetics and exegesis with the religious leaders.

Christian mentoring has been linked to 8 areas of ministry. We get mentored intensively through one or more of the following people: a parent, a spiritual guide, a discipler, and a coach. We also have important occasional mentors who give less time to us: teachers, sponsors, counselors, and, through 2700 Bible biographies, we profit and learn. These "historical mentors" are there to warn us also. Few finished well! Studying their lives, warts and all. In the Bible I saw consequences to all my actions, received counsel, warnings, and conviction. Bookstores and the internet also provide well-written and exciting biographies of people who believed God and changed their worlds. These regular people followed Jesus, but were also imperfect.

Why Mentor? It knows no boundaries and carries no (tangible) price tag.

In some anti-Christian cultures overseas, God uses this method to deeply train leaders. The mentoring that produces spiritual leadership can be accomplished in a negative environment without buildings or public meetings. Its flexibility is profound and catching. Two men walked together slowly in the snow through a park in an anti-Christian nation. One man was mentoring the younger man. They talked, looked briefly at small New Testaments kept warm in their pockets, and prayed with their eyes open in the freezing weather. Over a period of a year, meeting on different days and hours, the younger man was led into growth and discipleship. He began to reproduce what he had learned by planting a new house church in his living room. Without seminaries in that nation, the training of new spiritual

leadership in that country was done in desperation --almost by chance and circumstance--one with one.

This out in the open, one with one mentoring was copied across the nation. Its fruit was a new group of maturing spiritual leaders and church planters. The vision, experiences, and prayers of their mentors positively stained the hearts of these younger men. They, in turn, spent time with each new convert modeling what they had learned. The method is also the message! Later, when the government changed, freedom paved the way to open Bible schools, seminaries and church buildings. After graduating a few growing classes of students, some older leaders met to discuss a problem: the lack of vision and evangelistic passion in most of the new graduates. Their discovery? They came to see that their class teaching over months just didn't have the impact into hearts and lives that personal mentoring gave. The teachers knew they needed to get out of the classroom and into the lives of some of the students. With some astonishment God taught them that there was no substitute for personal modeling and mentoring to produce maturity and passion in new church planters. MU Board member Donna Jensen has given a seminar at some of our workshops appropriately entitled: "M & M: modeling and mentoring!" With a vision and heart for mentoring, there need be no "closed nations" or doors. But this intense coaching must be deliberate, not accidental.

Why Mentor? It enriches one's family life. What I modeled in the Christ-walk of quiet time, Bible study, scripture memory and believing the promises of God was duplicated in the hungry heart of my precious wife Clemmie years ago. I

mentored her with all my heart. Bible principles from scripture came alive as the Spirit taught us through pain and pressures. Our children, in turn, found the Lord and copied what they saw in us of these basics. As we ministered to others, we brought our kids into the vision God put on our hearts of lost, needy people, and of God's power to change a life forever through spiritual reproduction. In addition, these men and women became role models for our kids. They were the "bus captain" coaches for our kids on Saturday visitation, and the ones teaching them to water-ski or counseling them at youth trips. Wise principles which we believed in were re-inforced by godly persons, in whose lives Clemmie and I had been privileged to invest.

Why Mentor? Mentoring is a golden two-way street.

We help and encourage others, then get it back, often beyond our expectations. A mentee can positively affect a mentor's growth and fruitfulness. Also mentoring others makes us more aware of potential mentors we need. All of us need a pacesetter, a peer, and a pupil in our lives. If you're not thinking "mentoring," you'll miss some pacesetters God brings through the flow of your life to change and challenge! I'm still listening and seeking through prayer, to find a mentor in an area of my need and be their hungry mentee. We had some gifted men's Sunday School class teachers in the last church I pastored. However, I just didn't think of this group of older men teachers as a "mentor pool" which I needed. I was wrong. Much later I discovered one of these rather quiet men as a giant in the Word

of God and exceptionally valuable for counsel, prayer, and sharing together.

Now, perhaps you've read a few books on the topic of discipleship. You've attended one of Missions Unlimited's Mentoring Workshops and read a half dozen articles on spiritual coaching. You're saying, "Waylon, I've got it. I don't need to hear it again." So why am I re-sharing this vision? Many of us tend to shift our focus. Leaders submit to the lure of quick programs and DVD-based classes and annual big events. But we often neglect the intensity and purpose of investing deeply in one, two or perhaps a handful of men and women. Like Dungy's article, the Lord is writing a headline page about your life's legacy—what will it read?

**Tampa, FL
May 4-5**

UNIQUE MENTORING CONFERENCE

Still time to attend this first, all-men's conference on personal mentoring. Learn the 5 steps in Mentoring, 8 types of mentors, 4 keys to coaching new believers into growing disciples. Learn a life-changing Inductive Bible Study that builds men, without spending a dime on booklets & videos. Hear great testimonies. Question/Answer times. Hosted at Davis Islands Baptist Church in south Tampa.

Experience the joy and passion of key speakers:
Dr. Waylon B. Moore and **Dr. Bill Steeger** with others.

Pastor/Staff Special Pre-Time: Friday 2-5pm
Cost: \$60, includes books, tapes, and PowerPoint printed cells.

Men's Conference Sessions:
Friday, 6:45-9:00 pm; & Saturday 8:45 am-4:30 pm
Cost: \$40, includes lunch, books

Register now at: mentors@arq.net

For phone registration or airport pickup arrangements, call: 813-238-2303

**It's better
to have a
partner
than go it
alone.**

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (Msg.)



Family News

MARTHA returned to Germany after five wonderful stateside months with us and sharing with hundreds of others in Canada, Missouri, Texas, and Florida. Her new address is: Roonstrasse 9, 38102 Braunschweig, Germany.

Website: www.gomartha.blogspot.com

BRUCE and HEATHER just celebrated a wonderful, two-years wedding anniversary. Our Crosspointe Church in Wesley Chapel (north of Tampa) continues to win many to Christ and grow under Bruce's excellent leadership. The graphic logos for his creative sermon series are being picked up by other churches. He attends a monthly coaching session for church planters.

WAYLON and CLEMMIE are thankful for health and a recent visit from their friends, the Millers. Waylon has delighted attending a few jazz concerts with Martha. He leads a Wednesday night home group for Crosspointe and Clemmie helps with the group meal times.

JUNE: San Antonio –May I see you at the Southern Bapt. Convention? Call me at the Marriott River-Center Hotel. Cell: 813-629-6060.

OCTOBER: Unique Anniversary Mentoring Workshop, Tampa. Special speakers!

Blackaby's Jewel Of A Daily Devotional

The Experiencing God, Day by Day Devotional is a stimulating blessing to me. I read this handy volume and meditate on the crisp, insightful comments on a verse a day with hitting applications. Henry and Richard Blackaby have given us another remarkable heart-lifting book. I recommend it highly.

MENTORING

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Dr. Waylon B. Moore • Consultant

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