

MENTORING

Equipping Disciples to Multiply Laborers

InstantMentor

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Dr. Waylon Moore, author, teacher and world-wide mentor



Send an e-card to the mentor in your spiritual life

What if you're desperate to find that illusive mentor? Hungry men and women have shared with me the difficulty of finding someone who has both the time to invest and has a strong track record of living for Jesus over the years. Know what? You can find a great mentor this week. You'll discover your new mentor's record of believing God, experiencing Christ's power in times of crisis, and his answers to prayer.

Our loving Father in Heaven has two sources available for you, both of which involve stories. Particularly in our culture, exchanging stories is a major way to reach people's hearts. **The first source of "instant mentoring" is in the treasury of Bible characters.** Over 2700 different people are recorded in the Bible. In a sentence or even chapters, God opens the layers of their lives, revealing the stark realities of their weaknesses, victories, tests and trials. We see truth and consequences. "For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope (Rom. 15:4, NAS).

God in His love uses these multiple lives to warn us, and warm our hearts to follow Him. The Old Testament is saturated with insights from the lives of **Abraham, Moses, David,** and **Elijah** and their walk with Yahweh God. Studying these four giants will bring you better understanding of the New Testament. Moses reached out from the millions he led, to invest in others at God's command. God exhorted him to take time to mentor a man, Joshua (Deut. 3:28). Moses also gave himself to Caleb. These two became leaders in Israel. Observe the careful mentoring of Naomi as she prepares Ruth for God's will in marriage. Follow in I Samuel 1 & 2 the emotional history of childless Hanna; then her new baby of prayer, Samuel.

Then watch a King's son, Jonathan. He peer-mentors the shepherd boy, David. Who better to introduce him to "big city" politics and protect him from the dangers of a jealous King? Read with amazement the determination of a young Elisha to get mentored by old prophet Elijah. Learn as you pick up hundreds of "Bible photos;" snapshots which have depth, revealing both the public appearance and God's inside x-rays.

In the New Testament God sent His Son to be our supreme model to follow. For three years day and night, Jesus taught and modeled a life worth copying before the Twelve. Sermons weren't His major tool to shape men. "He ordained twelve that they should be with him . . ." (Mark 3:14). Jesus wanted them "with him," to share His life. He then "sent them forth to preach," after training them in ministry and imparting His vision. **Life on life** was Jesus' ultimate mentoring method. In Acts and in all the Church Letters, Scriptures reveal how churches grow. It begins with Peter, then Paul. Their mentoring life-experiences glued the New Testament together. Paul wrote multiple times commanding converts to, "Be ye followers of me." Their Bible first had legs. Having a face-to-face mentor to copy and to ask questions from is biblical. But we also keep balanced spiritually by maintaining a daily focus on Jesus and the Scriptures.

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Instant Mentoring | 1-2 |
| Character Study How To's | 3 |
| CDs and DVDs | 3 |
| Family News | 4 |

Next, for instant mentoring, read the exciting, true biographies of dozens of men and women God used to change their world. I have in my library about 30 feet of biography. The books reveal stories about statesmen and business giants, inventors, media entertainers, explorers and missionaries. There are also books about unknown people who dared, in faith, to do things others were afraid to try.

For younger readers, buy a set of books by authors Dave & Neta Jackson. Begin with their first 4 volumes titled **Hero Tales**. Each book contains 15 biographies of real-life heroes told in the form of short stories, especially good for 8-13 year olds. Interesting questions are provided for discussion and each chapter concentrates on a specific character quality embodied by the person.

Trailblazers Series: The Jacksons have blended the life of a famous Christian missionary or leader with fictional people who are woven into that Trailblazer's life. Therefore, it's not a pure biography. The culture and customs of people living in that time frame make the stories a walk into history and geography. These fun titles made me smile in anticipation, so I ordered all 40 of them.¹ A few sample titles are:

- *Kidnapped By River Rats*
(about William & Catherine Booth)
- *The Hidden Jewel*
(Amy Carmichael)
- *Imprisoned In the Golden City*
(Adoniram & Ann Judson)
- *Attack In the Rye Grass*
(Marcus & Narcissa Whitman)
- *Quest for the Lost Prince*
(Samuel Morris)
- *The Fate of the Yellow Woodbee*
(Nate Saint)

A pastor friend, Brad, sent me a surprise birthday gift of 6 wonderful sets of **Christian Heroes: Then and Now**, by Janet and Geoff Benge.² I'm thoroughly enjoying the quality, quick-reading adventures of amazing men and women. These books for younger readers are colorful and shorter than adult-sized biographies.

The website comments: "Readers of all ages love these fast-paced adventures that take them to the heart of a nation, an era, and what it means to live a life dedicated to serving God and those He loves."³ One may also order a curriculum guide corresponding to each book, for use with homeschool kids or groups of all ages, complete with reproducible fact sheets and maps. Although you can get them in sets of 6 books, you may want to pick one or two to start. I've shown my Top Ten choices:

1. *Hudson Taylor: Deep in the Heart of China*
2. *Jonathan Goforth: An Open Door in China*
3. *C.T. Studd: No Retreat*
4. *Corrie ten Boom: Keeper of the Angels' Den*
5. *Gladys Aylward: The Adventure of a Lifetime*
6. *Lottie Moon: Giving Her All for China*
7. *Brother Andrew: God's Secret Agent*
8. *William Carey: Obligated to Go*
9. *George Mueller: The Guardian of Bristol's Orphans*
10. *Mary Slessor: Forward into Calabar*

Devotionals and Other Books:

Active in my life are some special books and articles that God used to teach and convict me. Among my "instant mentors" are devotional authors: Oswald Chambers, Andrew Murray, John Piper, and Henry Blackaby. To increase my delight in the Scriptures I've been encouraged by C.S. Lewis, Warren Wiersbe, Ray Stedman, Chuck Swindoll, John R. W. Stott, John MacArthur, and Arthur Pink (especially Hebrews, David, and Elijah). I've experienced great years of mentoring through hard-hitting articles by Fred Smith (see website of *Christianity Today* or *Leadership Magazine*). Rich, stimulating biographies on American presidents have come out by David McCullough (John Adams is my favorite). In addition, two other writers of excellent biographies are John Pollock (on Hudson Taylor and Maria, Moody, etc.) and Irene Howat (10 Boys, and 10 Girls series).³

Commitment to Character Growth

Most importantly, in all this reading, our goal is personal change, not just information gathering. Ask the Holy Spirit to bring you into a new, growth relationship with the living Christ through applying what you've learned. Generality dulls growth. The Spirit deals in specifics. As you read a biography, underline key sentences or star paragraphs that stand out. After reading each chapter, ask the Lord, "Is there something you want me to **know, stop, change or start** from this information (2 Tim. 3:16)? Write any decision you have been led to make on the inside cover and date it. Pray about this application and share what God has taught you with someone else.

¹ To order, go online to the authors' website: <http://www.daveneta.com/jump/trailblazers/Trail-jump.htm> or go to the publishing website: <http://www.trailblazerbooks.com/Frame-1.html>

² Youth with a Mission Publishing, 1999; Tel.: (425) 771-1153, www.ywampublishing.com. Order from the WYAM website: <http://www.ywam.org/books/ywamstore.htm>

³ More Resources: To see a list of modern-day missions' heroes, check out books & videos from this interesting website of Wycliffe: <http://www.wycliffe.org/catalog/books2.htm>

How To Do A Biographical Character Study

Begin with a less well-known person, with fewer Scriptures to look up, such as Hannah (1 Samuel 1, 2) or Barnabas; or Caleb, Asa, Titus, Sarah, Peter.

1. **Write** down all Scripture references on the person, using a large concordance (most Bibles don't have all references in the back).
2. **Read** through the verses 3-5 times slowly.
3. **List character qualities.** Observe any positive qualities and actions and any negative ones. List them in columns.
4. **Ask questions** and answer them, after prayer and meditation. ASK: Who, What, When, Where, Why and How? For example, What was his relationship with God or Christ? Why did he take that course of action? What are the consequences? Is there a sin, or an attitude to confess and avoid?
5. **Imagine** yourself there. Use your senses. What do you hear, feel, smell, and see?
6. **Application:** What lesson have you learned? What warning have you taken? What can you do now, in Christ's strength, to get a positive quality into your life this week?

Give New CDs & DVDs

Visit www.mentoring-disciples.org and click Materials

CDs & DVDs (plus shipping)

- *The Power of Mentoring & Winning you Neighbors and Friend* 2 discs, \$5
- *Building Disciples Toolkit* 300 pages; download; Adobe format - \$17
- *Midwestern Seminary Class "Lectures on Mentoring"* MP3 format, 10 hours - \$15
- *Mentoring Workshop: Dr. Moore/ Dr. Bill Steeger, others.* CD MP3; 12 hours - \$17
- *Equipping Mentors for Character & Skills* 8 DVD's; 14 great hours for groups, or select leadership training to multiply. Includes workbook - \$95

Books

- *Living God's Word: Sizzling group study on applying Scripture; by Lifeway* \$9
- *Multiplying Disciples - CD or book. Used in seminaries. Discover how Paul built men* \$11
- *First Steps - 110 pp. Includes 6 "entry level" beginner studies and NIV Gospel of John. Also the why of how to memorize Scripture, how to give a testimony, how to have a Quiet Time.*
Sold in boxes of 76 at \$1.54 each (\$131).
Or, 5 for \$9.00
- *The Power of a Mentor - 24 pages; Summary of mentoring* \$2

Building Disciples Toolkit Committee:

Rev. Larry Adkisson
Dr. Waylon Moore
Dr. Ralph Burrage





Family News

Martha just arrived from Germany and is on state-side assignment. She is here first to renew herself and God's mission through her, but secondly to share the vision of missions at some conferences. She has just moved to Braunschweig, Germany with its large engineering university, to launch a new Connexion campus ministry when she returns in April.

Clemmie and Waylon are experiencing the joy of leading a home fellowship Bible study at **Pastor Bruce Moore's** Crosspointe Church in Wesley Chapel, FL. **Heather**, his wife, is wonderfully serving by his side. They both lead group Bible studies. We're growing.

Clemmie and I had a challenging time in September as I spoke in Zurich churches on "Bible Study Methods for Life Growth," then Germany to teach mentoring to pastors. Because of a brief illness I had, Martha was asked to fill in for three days. In fluent German she taught Mentoring with PowerPoint. With Martha were six staff and students who shared some in the teaching load. The group modeled three generations of believers!

Your prayers have meant decisions for Christ, new commitments, and translations of our books and materials into other languages. We are praying for you. Your investment now would allow us to be financially current this year. Send us your prayer needs, please.

Wishing you a joyous Christmas!



Waylon and German host Pastor Stefan Keil

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