

WORD

And 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.

2 TIMOTHY 2:2

The Bible teaches us to be disciples—followers of Jesus—who will help others follow Him. We are to pass on what we have heard and believed to others. Though we may feel inadequate or unprepared, we can be used by God now, just as we are. We are simply called to stay focused on Jesus, serve others, and stay one chapter ahead of those we are ministering to. In this lesson, we will look at three key elements in raising others to become leaders.

1 Help others encounter Jesus.

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. ACTS 4:13

The religious leaders saw the courage of the disciples and how their lives were different because they had encountered and been with Jesus. These unschooled, ordinary men became bold and courageous because of who God was in their lives. As a result, they turned the world upside down. Who gives us the power to be His witnesses today (Acts 1:8)? How can you help others encounter Jesus?

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2 Be a mentor to others.

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Timothy was mentored by Paul, and Paul encouraged Timothy to pass on what he had learned to others. Timothy didn't know everything—he was simply one chapter ahead. In the same way, we can mentor others as we are mentored. Who mentors you? How have they helped you lead others?

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3 Serve others.

⁴²Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." MARK 10:42-45

Jesus contrasted Gentile leadership with how He wanted His disciples to lead—through service and by example. Jesus exemplified this by laying His life down for us. How is the Bible's definition of leadership different from the world's?

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