

# The Way of Wisdom

BIBLICAL MENTORING STORIES FOR LEADERS

MICHAEL PARADISE, DMin

AdventSource

The Way of Wisdom  
Biblical Mentoring Stories for Leaders

Author: Michael Paradise, DMin  
Cover design and layout: Ramsey Mesnard

Additional copies of this resource are available from:  
*AdventSource*  
5120 Prescott Avenue  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68506  
AdventSource.org  
402.486.8800

Copyright © 2023 by the North American Division Corporation of  
Seventh-day Adventists.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be  
reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any  
form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying,  
recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of  
the copyright holder.

Printed in the United States of America

ISBN# 978-1-57756-232-0

# Contents

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Where Are You Going? .....    | 1   |
| The Road to Emmaus .....      | 9   |
| Elijah and Elisha.....        | 23  |
| Jethro and Moses .....        | 41  |
| Moses and Joshua .....        | 53  |
| Ruth and Naomi .....          | 65  |
| David and Saul.....           | 77  |
| Solomon and Rehoboam .....    | 89  |
| Jesus and the Disciples ..... | 99  |
| The New Testament Church..... | 115 |
| What Comes Next? .....        | 131 |



# Where Are You Going?

Twins?! Surely the ultrasound tech had to be playing a practical joke. The finish line for graduate school was in sight, as my wife and I had received a call to pastor a church in another state. Just a few weeks before we packed our little family into our tiny car to move across the country to our quaint town home, we received the news that we were pregnant with twins! As I frantically completed my coursework and made all of the necessary arrangements for our move, I ran into a beloved professor and mentor in the parking lot of the seminary building, and he stopped me in my tracks with a simple, direct question.

“Where are you going?”

He was a sweet man, and as a seminary professor, he was no stranger to seeing his students stress at the end of their graduate work on their way to their next phase of life. I hadn't yet told him about our move.

“Thanks for asking, Professor,” I responded, reluctant to get into a drawn-out exchange, “We’re on our way to Nebraska to serve a wonderful church. We’re excited about it!”

“Very good,” he offered, “but where are you going?”

I was blown away by the depth of this question. I mean, sure, we knew the address to inform the moving truck, but we felt totally lost and out of our comfort zone. The stress of moving to a new place... on top of the stress of finishing school... with the added stress of having twins... meant that I was running around like a headless chicken! Tears welled in my eyes as I looked up at my mentor and unloaded all of the uncertainty in a single, breathless outburst. He listened carefully, nodding empathetically, hiding his surprise well at what he discovered beneath the surface.

The whole conversation felt like I had exhaled after holding my breath for too long. I experienced relief and appreciation. Then, when I had burned out my fuel and we had reached the end of a valuable dialogue, he asked his poignant question one final time.

“Really, though, where are you going? I need a ride home.”

Suddenly, it became clear that I had misinterpreted his question and spilled my guts needlessly, but helpfully! We have enjoyed laughing about that interaction in the years since, and I have always appreciated his mentoring to me in a delicate time, even though he got more than he’d bargained for!

We can learn much from the mentors in our lives, and mentors can grow from the experience, as well. The Old and New Testaments

are filled with narratives about leaders who have succeeded and failed in their endeavors to both follow after God and lead others; and there is much to learn from each one. The mentoring relationships that follow are examples to us of just how much we can learn from engaging with one of God's children in this way. Jethro guided Moses. Moses, in turn, mentored Joshua in what it meant to be God's servant.

We can put ourselves next in that line of mentors as we read the biblical history of God's people and examine those relationships. We, too, can be mentored by these leaders through their stories, even though they were experienced thousands of years ago. The transformational tool we call "mentoring" is available to *you* now!

This book explores some of the most prominent mentoring relationships in the Bible and how they can apply to leaders in both church and business. By examining the lives of biblical characters, such as Moses and Joshua, Elijah and Elisha, and Jesus and His disciples, we can gain insights into the qualities and characteristics of effective mentors and mentees.

## SEEKING WISDOM

Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching. For I too was a son to my father, still tender, and cherished by my mother. Then he taught me, and he said to me, "Take hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands, and you will live. Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn away from them. Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch

over you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. Cherish her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you. She will give you a garland to grace your head and present you with a glorious crown.” (Proverbs 4:1-9)

“Is not wisdom found among the aged? Does not long life bring understanding?” (Job 12:12)

When God sought to illustrate His omniscience in the story of Job, He pointed to Creation. God stretched the boundaries of the sea and set the planets in motion. He created the newt and the wildebeest, and He did it all a long time ago. With age comes wisdom, and God is timeless. It makes sense, then, to avail ourselves of any wisdom we can discern from God’s written letter to us.

Through the biblical canon, there are many examples of God using capable leaders to accomplish His objectives. In this book, we’ll survey God’s use of mentoring in the Old and New Testaments as a method to develop leaders who would become important parts of His mission. Throughout the Old Testament, we see examples of God partnering with leaders to train younger people in His work. This is evident through the work of the prophets (1 Kings 19:19-21), the ministry of Moses (Deuteronomy 31:1-8), and in the influence of leaders like Naomi (Ruth 1:16-18) and Jethro (Exodus 18:7). In the New Testament, apostles shared mentoring relationships with young men and women (2 Timothy 2:1-2), just as Jesus had modeled to them (Mark 3:14).

The biblical narratives we’ll discuss, illustrate powerful relationships that changed the lives of each individual. While we’ll consider each



of them to be mentoring relationships, there are certainly other terms that accurately describe them, as well. A mentor generally describes someone more experienced in a particular area than the one who will be mentored, sharing the wisdom of their experience as they walk side-by-side. Mentoring is about so much more than sharing experience, though. A mentor will guide a mentee along a path of growth by journeying closely with them, where there may be situations that call for a coach, a confidante, a tutor, a cheerleader and a sponsor; but all of it is done with the intent of growing the mentee. In an ideal mentoring environment, both the mentor and the mentee will grow as they walk together.

### **WHY MENTORING WORKS**

Energy and wisdom. God designed our intergenerational relationships to be mentoring relationships in which wisdom and energy would be shared. As young people develop, they have all of the strength and stamina, both physical and mental, required for the work they'll encounter. What they don't have is the applied knowledge that comes with trial and error. Aging folks have learned lessons over the years from their own experiences and those of others, but their energy for fulfilling tasks tends to diminish.

What we lack as we get older, we have when we're younger; what we're missing as young people, we gain through the years. Mentoring is a God-ordained process by which young and old, experienced and inexperienced, will discover what they lack, and accomplish mutually-recognized goals.

Intergenerational relationships give vitality to organizations. Churches thrive when everyone is invested in the processes and

outcomes of the body. Young people feel more connected and are more likely to be involved in church ministry. The importance of intergenerational relationships within a church is not just proven for engaged adults, but for unengaged emerging adults as well (Jenkin & Martin, 2014; Kinnaman & Lyons, 2007). Martin suggests that these relationships, or even the lack thereof, have a huge impact on making people feel welcomed and nurtured in the organization. In fact, when it comes to providing an atmosphere of acceptance in churches for young people, intergenerational relationships are more important than peer relationships. Please allow me to reiterate that point: *Connections with older church members makes young people feel more accepted at their church than even having good relationships with members of their same generation!*

The fact is that these types of cross-generational relationships are currently taking place in every church, place of business and cultural settings. In some settings, they aren't positive examples or intentional efforts, but they *are* happening, according to a study (Jenkin & Martin, 2014). "The objective isn't to facilitate intergenerational interaction, because it is already going on; the objective is to make these interactions positive. Because for every positive interaction there seems to be a negative one as well" (p. 5).

A mentor can provide stabilization and growth in the life of a mentee. Because the life of an emerging adult includes rapid transitions and plenty of uncertainty, mentors can help to stretch the thinking of a young person, encourage them on a positive path, and help them to develop the self-identification that they crave (Parks, 2011). This involves not only teaching and sharing, but also recognizing the competency that the mentee has

within. The mentor must be prepared to invest in the young person and become a good example of what it means to be a growing individual in every aspect of life. Actually, an emerging adult mentee represents what one researcher describes as an individualized mission field (Parks, 2011).

Anyone who desires to develop good leadership skills should seek a mentor. Young people crave mentors who can help them navigate leadership development; so, organizations are well-served to create an environment where more experienced mentors can provide valuable assistance and experience to more inexperienced individuals. Mentoring takes time, and is supposed to see long-term success in an individual, not simply a short-term gain.

This book will examine the importance of mentoring in leadership development and how it can benefit both the mentor and the mentee. We will explore the various types of mentoring relationships, the qualities that make a successful mentoring relationship, and how to establish a mentoring relationship that is mutually beneficial.

Whether you're a leader in the church, a business executive, or simply someone who wants to develop your leadership skills, this book will provide you with valuable insights into the world of mentoring. By examining the mentoring relationships in the Bible and their relevance to today's leaders, we can learn how mentoring can help us achieve our goals, make our organizations better, and make a positive impact on the world around us.

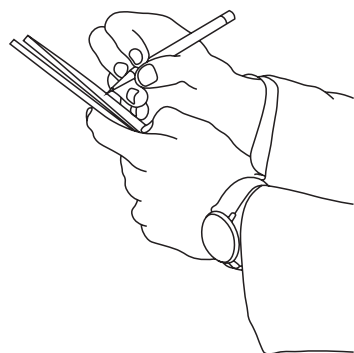


# *The Road to Emmaus*

## JESUS' MINISTRY OF DIALOGUE

### PRE-CHAPTER QUESTIONS

- Think about a recent interaction where someone came to you for guidance. Did you take the time to ask questions to help you understand the situation? Did you offer them advice?
- Recall a situation in which you've asked for wisdom from someone else. What did they offer you? How was it helpful?
- How might a mentor be most helpful to you when you have a specific need?



They stood paralyzed in the garden when He was arrested. They saw Him beaten, thrust before judges in a sham trial in the middle of the night. They heard the clank of hammer to nail as He was crucified. They saw Him die. It was brutal, and it was final. The Sabbath dragged on as they reflected on the fearful tragedy that had played out before them.

Then, on Sunday, the rumors began.

Interrupting their defeated thoughts and sullen moods were whispers of Jesus' inexplicable resurrection. How were the disciples to process all of that? They found themselves in the uncomfortable place of questioning what they had known to be true. Hadn't they witnessed signs that could only be described as miracles as they followed Him closely over the past few years? He'd demonstrated His power over nature time and again, but did that mean that He really could just wake up after a few days of being dead?

Two of Jesus' disciples walked together toward the small town of Emmaus with their faces partially covered, hoping to avoid being recognized by the authorities lest they meet their mentor's fate. One cannot be too careful in times like these. As they traveled, their mood ping-ponged between anxiety and hope, fear and nostalgia, anger and sadness...processing. That's when they were approached from behind by a stranger. When he asked what they were talking about, they shot each other a guilty glance as they tried to communicate without words.

*Was this an undercover temple guardsman weeding out Jesus' followers?*

*How long had he been following them?*

*Was he trailing them because he knew they were with Jesus?*

*Did he think they had something to do with Jesus' body being removed from the tomb?*

Cleopas thought it would be safest to blend in with the crowd, rather than out himself as a member of Jesus' innermost circle. "We're discussing the same thing *everyone* is talking about! Are you the only one around here who doesn't know what things have happened this weekend?" Again, the stranger asked a question, prompting more interaction from the disciples: "What things?"

Now they looked into the face of this stranger. Although they didn't recognize his mysterious face, they let their guard down and shared with him all that they knew to be true about Jesus, who they'd hoped He would be, and how they were ultimately disappointed in what had come to pass recently.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus." (Luke 24:19-24)

Jesus used the walk to Emmaus as an opportunity to further mentor His followers. He supernaturally veiled His identity so that He could allow them to think differently about the questions they were pondering. But why did He use this approach? What can we learn from it?

### WHY DO IT THIS WAY?

Jesus' mentoring approach for the disciples on the road (Luke 24:13-35) is a good model for us today. While the circumstances were certainly unique, there's much to be learned from this brief exchange which took place in just seven miles. But I must admit that I find myself fidgeting in my armchair as I read about all that time Jesus spent with those two disciples, listening to their feelings and thoughts about what had occurred over the weekend, with only a limited time left to influence them before He ascended to Heaven. Why waste that precious time? Why couldn't Jesus save the time and use it to correct the disciples?

I find that often when I read the stories in the gospels of Jesus explaining something to His disciples, the Pharisees, the temple scribes or the multitudes present for His sermons, I wonder why He didn't explain something in the way I would have done it.

If I were Jesus, I would have started off by introducing myself and sharing my credentials: "Hello, guys, it's me, Jesus. I have recently defeated the Devil and removed death's sting. Now I'm on a public campaign to let the world know all I've accomplished. Thank you for following me and never losing faith. I've got to go check-in with Thomas. He's not gonna believe this!"

I've spent some of my career teaching in a college classroom. Perhaps that's why I think I know best. Many of us who teach



begin each class with the assumption that the information in our brains is so important that it must be exported and received by the other brains in the room. The process is a transfer of information, a transaction. After I've shared all the information that I believe you'll need to know, I'll then test you on how much you've absorbed. If you've absorbed a high enough percentage of what I've shared, you pass the course and can commence forgetting everything I've ever told you. This is called the Classic Theory of learning. Unfortunately, something is lacking in that whole process.

Learning goes far beyond the mere transfer of information. According to Frank Smith in *The Book of Learning and Forgetting*, "All learning pivots on who we think we are, and who we see ourselves capable of becoming." Our mentors matter. The more time spent in someone's company, the greater transformation able to take place for us as we're shaped by our mentors. This Classic Theory of learning is not quick and simple, but it does have thousands of years of history to support its effectiveness.

One cannot helicopter to the top of a mountain and claimed to have climbed it. The journey is the experience. I'm reminded of my teenage son's aversion to taking a family walk through our neighborhood. When the weather is nice and the family is all together, my wife and I love to grab the kids and gently force them to take a walk with us. My firstborn is a kinetic vessel of non-stop, nervous energy. Taking a walk is simply not active enough for him, and he's usually the first to exclaim, "THIS IS BOOOOOORRRRIIIIIINNNNGGGG!" In my view, kids will go to great lengths to make certain things are as miserable as possible for their parents in order to avoid them the next time around.

I've asked him where this revulsion to taking a walk came from, and he replied, "I only like doing things that are active."

"Oh, so like, taking a walk?"

"No, Dad! I only like doing things that are useful!"

"Oh, so like, connecting with your family on a healthy, life-giving, memory-making evening walk?"

I'm yet to convince him, but he comes anyway. At a certain point, I have to go back to the old, "because I said so," if I truly want results. I'll admit that I don't have the same patience that Jesus demonstrated on His walk with the disciples. Alas, I am not Jesus, and He had his own way of handling these disciples in their darkest moment. Jesus asked the questions. Jesus took the time. He journeyed with His disciples and effectively mentored them.

## UNDERCOVER BOSS

One of the intentions behind Jesus' approach may have been to coax the true feelings of those disciples in a way He couldn't have if He'd revealed Himself to them. The disciples were permitted to discuss the teachings of Christ freely, even though He could have interjected at any time to correct any of their wrong assumptions. He let the scene play out and learned that they felt let down by Him, and even that a distinct distrust of their Jewish rulers had set in.

The road trip to Emmaus played out like an episode of Undercover Boss. In that reality television show, a CEO dons a costume and shows up as a trainee with some of their frontline staff. In the

process, the staff feel that they can let their guard down, and the boss can get a valuable, candid perspective from people who know what life is like on the front lines. By Jesus playing the part of *Undercover Lord*, the disciples were free to speak their mind. How many times have you thought, “Just wait until I get an opportunity to tell the boss what I *really* think of this new project!” only to chicken-out when you get the chance?

Jesus knew that it was important for them to process all of the events so they could come to important realizations about who Jesus was and what He wanted from them. In the few days that passed from the time of Christ’s death to when He appeared to His followers, there was plenty of opportunity for them to reflect. We see in the gospels that they were afraid and hiding from crowds. Then, when Jesus’ female disciples returned from the empty tomb, several of the men went racing to the site to verify. Highs and lows. By the time Jesus asked the disciples on the Road to Emmaus about their feelings, they’d had an emotional journey. They expressed disappointment, bitterness, humiliation and blame for their leaders, rather than the Roman occupiers. Jesus received this unfiltered information from them before He stepped in to reveal himself.

The freedom of expression that the disciples were able to display ought to teach us something of the way we typically interact with those who aren’t as high in the corporate hierarchy. “People are accustomed to hearing corporate communication professionals tell stories about a company, but there’s nothing like hearing a story direct from the front lines. When employees speak from their own experience, unedited, the message comes to life” (Harvard Business Review, *Leadership is a Conversation*).

If we're intentional about leveling with employees and invested in listening to their concerns and suggestions, they may not feel the need to hide things from their leaders.

## JESUS AS COACH

In this story, we get to see Jesus as a coach. He spends this valuable time on the road to Emmaus in dialogue with the disciples, but avoids lecturing them. Clearly, they'd received plenty of teaching from Jesus over the years, and He also seemed to want to remain concealed through the journey. A coach asks questions, challenges assumptions, and allows those receiving coaching to arrive at conclusions on their own.

I've received plenty of coaching over the course of my adult life. Some of it has come informally, some from formal mentors, and I've also had dedicated sessions with a certified career coach. In one of these sessions, I was eager to share a humiliating experience that had happened to me recently. While sitting with my family at church just weeks after a terrible car accident, someone made a reference to a car accident from the pulpit. Not only did this bring about feelings of anxiety, but I also felt that everyone in the auditorium (nearly 1,000 people) turned at once to check my reaction. I was red with embarrassment! When I told this story to my coach, she listened with empathy and then asked a simple question.

"How many people turned around to look at you when a car accident was mentioned?"

"I don't know...EVERYONE!" I shrugged.

She persisted, “Really, do you think every single person in the church turned to look at you at that moment?”

“Well, no,” I allowed. “I’m sure it wasn’t every single person.”

Still, she wanted to get to the bottom of my experience. “How many people can you name that turned and looked at you?”

I had to stop to think about that. “Actually, I remember one person in particular.”

“Was there anyone else?” She asked.

“No. I don’t believe there was anyone else. I just remember one guy turning to look at me.” I was already starting to reconsider my initial assumptions when she went deeper.

“Was this one person looking at you in order to make you feel bad?”

“No. He is a friend of mine, and he was offering a sympathetic look.”

Over the course of those few, thoughtful questions, I’d shifted my own recollection of the story significantly. My starting point was assuming that everyone at church turned to stare at me, embarrassing me in the process. By the end of those questions, I realized that only *one* person had turned, and that was only to offer compassion. If it weren’t for that coaching session, I might still carry the unnecessary humiliation from that experience to this day! A godly coach can work wonders for anyone who’s in the valley of decision or needs to talk through important life choices.

## DIALOGUE

One method Jesus employed several times in His teaching relationship with the disciples was to encourage their growth by connecting to one another. They learned through dialogue, not only with their Master, but also with each other. After Jesus' departure, they dialogued and tried to gain consensus on the things that they'd learned from the life of Jesus. Jesus used this trip to Emmaus as a good way to enhance their learning.

Through dialogue we learn how to engage our hearts. This does not mean wallowing in sentimentality. It refers, instead, to cultivating a mature range of perception and sensibility that is largely discounted or simply missing from most contexts... Dialogue requires that we take responsibility for thinking, not merely reacting, lifting us into a more conscious state. (Isaacs, 1999, p. 47)

Jesus could have told them at the beginning of the trip who He was and what He wanted them to know, but it was more powerful to allow them to dialogue until they came to the correct conclusion themselves, which would strengthen their faith. Dialogue is time well spent. Only after Jesus departed did the disciples fully understand who He was and what had happened. Jesus' mission was for them to come to some understanding of who He truly was, and that goal was met as He revealed more to them over time, rather than all at once. In that way, the narrative of the Road to Emmaus is a great example of how Jesus reveals himself to each of His followers. He walks with us, knowing us well, and allows us to begin to understand Him better little-by-little. Have you noticed that sometimes He reveals himself in bursts that stop us in our

tracks and at other times, the fog lifts slowly? The Emmaus disciples would experience both on that day.

The fact that Jesus allowed the disciples to wonder on the events that had recently taken place brings to mind Dialogic Theory's concept of suspension (Isaacs, 1999). "To suspend is to change direction, to stop, step back, see things with new eyes. This is perhaps one of the deepest challenges human beings face – especially once they have staked out a position" (p. 139). Because they had to spend time evaluating their feelings through dialogue, the disciples had to suspend what they knew about Jesus beforehand. And because their initial conclusions on the identity of Jesus were inaccurate (Mark 9:30-32), they had to suspend their beliefs to come to an alternate, more complete knowledge.

## THEOPHANY – GOD APPEARS

Have you ever wondered why the disciples never seemed to *get it*? I mean, really, considering all the time that they spent with Him! If you're like me, you look back through the Old Testament and decry the Israelites' inability to turn from other gods and remain faithful to the Lord. You might wonder at the fact that the Word took on flesh and dwelt among us, almost going completely unrecognized for what He was. And the disciples, who spent years working, eating, sleeping, talking and journeying with Jesus, *still* had a hard time understanding who He was and what He had to do. With the benefit of generations of reflection and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we've concluded that recognizing Jesus as the Messiah was as simple as reading the crystal-clear prophecies in the Old Testament. However, Jesus didn't choose to reveal all of His divinity at once to the disciples. As He walked with them, He gave them a little at a time, drawing them into a more complete understanding.

This process is repeated on the road to Emmaus.

The eventual revelation in Emmaus wasn't the first time Jesus showed Himself to be God. Far from it. They'd witnessed so much from Jesus' works over time. In that moment, however, all of the things that they thought they knew but had questioned over the past couple of days, reclaimed their place in their minds and hearts. In a moment, while they were sitting to a meal after the journey, Jesus removed whatever veil He had used to cloud their understanding, and all of a sudden...BOOM! They saw Him face to face. In a flash, they reflected on the things revealed to them during the road trip, as well as hundreds of other puzzling and enlightening interactions they'd experienced over the course of the past few years. Frozen breathlessly, their bread went stale in hand as they gaped at one another under a newly confirmed reality that Jesus was exactly what they had hoped He would be – alive!

They marveled, "Were not our hearts burning within us?"

Have you ever had an experience like that? You talk to a friend late into the night and connect on a deep level as never before. A first date goes well, and time stops as you realize that this is the person you're going to marry. You rock your child to sleep and set her down in the crib, tearing up as you smile. You climb to the peak of a ridge and look down on perfect, natural beauty while completely at peace. Your heart feels as though it's going to break free of your ribcage as you feel a perfect, whole sensation.

Jesus' disciples reflected on their walk with Jesus from beginning to end and recognized that feeling of wholeness in the discovery, slowly at first, but then all at once. As a mentor, there is no greater



feeling than knowing that your influence has led to a recasting of priorities or direction for someone you care for. A lightning bolt of realization in a mentoring session can be as powerful for the mentor as it is for the mentee. I suggest that this type of experience has addictive properties. If you find yourself addicted to mentoring, please consult a physician!

It's easy to point the finger back thousands of years and wonder why they didn't get it. But do we get it today, truly? Do we truly understand the fullness of the experience of Jesus? Yes, we have the benefit of scripture, but I sometimes struggle to completely understand the full depth of Philippians 2:6-11:

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

There's no shame in growing in the Spirit and allowing God's truth to unfold before you, but walking humbly in that knowledge seems to be the challenge. I know many churches that offer "open" communion, but hold back the beautiful, God-given symbols of Christ's sacrifice and love to the youngest in the flock, who may be most impacted by such a symbol. If your excuse for withholding communion emblems from children is because "they're too young

to understand,” might I remind you that you, too, have a long way to go? As for me, when I was 8, I had a very basic understanding of God’s love through Christ. When I was 25 that love was clearer to me, but still seemed immature to me from where I stand today. And furthermore, I hope to look back on my current self in 20 years and marvel at how much God has grown me over the years! Prayerfully, we’re all on a journey, just like those disciples. We understand bits and pieces as the Holy Spirit works on our stubborn hearts and reveals increasingly more to us over time. Praise God that He has me on this journey!

## POST-CHAPTER ACTION PROMPTS

- The role of a coach is a bit different from that of the mentor, although there is overlap. Since a coach’s role is to ask questions rather than offer advice, how could you incorporate a coaching mentality into your dialogue with mentees?
- Coaches ask great questions. What are 2 or 3 great questions you can ask in your next mentoring session?
- When was the last time you had such a powerful conversation that you felt as moved as the disciples on the road to Emmaus? What can you learn from that experience that will give you more powerful connections consistently?

