



## SECTION V – LESSON #21

**SUMMARY:**

Part two of the lesson focusing on building our businesses on a relational foundation.

**MAIN LESSON IDEAS:**

- Mentoring or coaching requires that we instruct people, and help them get free from negative personal, organizational, and cultural attitudes and paradigms.
- “Slaves” live in bondage and fear while “sons” live in freedom and hope in their inheritance.
- Knowing when to intervene in a situation and when to let it alone for now is a continually important life skill.
- The “Son-Servant contrasts” give us helpful criteria to know how to discern where someone is in terms of how to relate to them and their appropriate level of assigned responsibility

## Building Our Businesses on a Relational Foundation, Part Two

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- I. Negative influences we need to watch for and keep our disciples “washed” from:

| POTENTIAL NEGATIVE INFLUENCES  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>NEGATIVE CULTURAL INFLUENCES</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Egalitarianism (rejection of authority)</li> <li>2. Pelagianism (rejection of external discipline)</li> <li>3. A “rights” v. responsibility attitude (the blame game)</li> <li>4. A primary concern for cultural correctness rather than principles of integrity</li> </ol> | <p><b>NEGATIVE COMPANY INFLUENCES</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gossip (illegal speech)</li> <li>2. Unresolved conflicts</li> <li>3. Negative agreements (watch you)</li> <li>4. An “us” – “them” mentality</li> </ol> |
| <p><i>All of these are faith-killers!<br/>Without faith it is impossible to please God or grow.</i></p>  |  |

- II. Let us now re-introduce the distinctive of the son-slave relationship.
- A. God's building pattern is to build on sons (Matt. 13:38; Gal. 4:1-4; 1 Cor. 4:17).
  - B. Christ came to deliver us from being slaves (Hebrews 2:11-15) and to take all men into sonship.
  - C. When we are self-protective, rather than operating out of the biblical admonitions of wisdom, we operate as slaves. When we are truly free, "perfect love casts out fear" (1 John 4:18).
  - D. Sons use love to reinforce the conversation (what we are building together), whereas slaves use intimidation.
- III. Some useful ways to sort out "people distinctives" relative to different levels of relationship:
- A. For starters, Jesus – the master people evaluator – properly discerned the nature of people and situations (Isa. 42:1-3; 11:1-5).
    - 1. God doesn't pick green apples.
    - 2. God doesn't try to solve everyone's problem now (Gen. 15:16; Lk. 12:13-14):  
And someone in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But He said to him, "Man, who appointed Me a judge or arbiter over you?"
    - 3. Some problems must "stink" before God touches them (John 11:39).
    - 4. God responds to those who draw virtue out of Him (Matthew 9:20).
    - 5. When God "visits," you need to respond (Matt. 23:7-9).
    - 6. God isn't working on everyone or everything at the same intensity level, nor should we (John 5:19,30).
  - B. Types and responses of relationships:  
  
(See chart on the following page)

**TYPES AND RESPONSES OF RELATIONSHIPS**

| ASSIGNMENTS   | COOPERATIVE ALLIES   | DISCIPLES  | “FRIENDS” & “SONS”   |
|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Slaves” (rights)</li> <li>• “Employees” (you have their bodies or brains, not their hearts or their minds)</li> <li>• Temporary and self-seeking; you must pursue them.</li> <li>• They look for “greener pastures.”</li> <li>• They live with you in a “truce” (rebellion-in-waiting).</li> <li>• They are “ringers”: they take up time and don’t change.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You are in the process of building relational bridges.</li> <li>• You can trust them in projects of mutual self-interest.</li> <li>• They will share life and resources on a limited basis.</li> <li>• They are “apprentices” for an agreed upon time.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They pursue you.</li> <li>• They consider it a privilege to be here.</li> <li>• Their will is pliant and open.</li> <li>• They are serving and learning and may move on.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Friends” will be discussed in the next lessons.</li> <li>• They are joined by God to you and yours.</li> <li>• They carry the same commitment for the organization as you do.</li> </ul> |

## Serving Son vs. Slave Who Serves

### THE HEART OF A SON

- 1) Holds Father's heart and success of Father's work as his own (Luke 16:10)
  - He identifies first corporately, then as an individual.
  - Thinks in terms of responsibilities
- 2) Uses the language of US, WE and OUR because he is family oriented
- 3) Honors headship and covers nakedness of Fathers— sons do not delight in the nakedness of a leader.
  - If we give ear to nakedness, we undermine our cause.
  - We need to guard the way we speak to each other.
  - We cover nakedness, not sin.
  - Difference in motivations will show up under pressure.
- 4) Naturally honors chain of command (Luke 7).
  - A good soldier takes orders from any officer
  - Recognizes real authority
  - Also recognizes lack of real authority
- 5) Secure sons don't focus on loyalty, but the joy of working together.
- 6) Shares inner conversations (doubts, fears)
- 7) Always entreats father and always comes with open hand for input

### THE HEART OF A HIRELING (SLAVE)

- 1) Tends to do his own thing
  - Ambitious and desires to begin prematurely, often independently. God always gives us the opportunity to seize what He wants to give us (i.e., a premature reality) (Mat. 4;1 Cor. 12:27)
  - Willing to settle for God's good vs. perfect will.
  - Thinks in terms of rights
- 2) Uses the language of ME, MY, and MINE because he thinks in terms of ministry, job, etc.
- 3) Trades in the coinage of revealed flesh; his wage is discovering nakedness.
  - Presses for equality and level speech
  - Offended by nakedness
  - Difference in Noah's sons' responses: ambition
  - Can't discern between intimacy and familiarity
  - Presses hard to define his or her "own" territory
- 4) Unwilling to honor authority; selective about whom they yield to.
  - Test of a hireling's heart: Ask him to submit to someone he doesn't "witness to."
  - Often confused
  - Continually needs re-definition of authority because it isn't in his heart to submit
- 5) Focuses on loyalty and reveals insecurity, need of position, desire for privilege (Matt. 26:33).
- 6) Shares only what he wants you to know
- 7) Carries offenses against leaders.
  - Cultivates rejection and mistrust
  - Results in slander

**THE HEART OF A SON**

- 8) Has generational vision (spiritually and naturally)
  - Wants to share life with fathers together down to third generation.
  - Willing to sow life into training next generation of leaders vs. pursuing his own glory.
- 9) Bonds new/weak people to family.
- 10) Focuses on welfare of the people
  - Conversation and time involvements reflect caring for the flock.
- 11) Can be secure to accept and welcome confrontation and change (Hebrews 12:1-15)
  - Responds to discipline
  - Reveals level of trust
- 12) Has “puppy feet” (i.e., you can see his potential for growth)

**THE HEART OF A HIRELING (SLAVE)**

- 8) Obtuse; self focused; “my ministry” vs. kids/grandkids in the spirit
  - Talks about finding his own truth and discovering his own ministry/calling
  - Always wants wages and to pick and choose involvement
  - Won’t produce Isaac and Jacob
- 9) Bonds new/weak people to self
- 10) Unfathered men tend to focus on appearance: meetings, numbers, events, success, “whom I know...”
  - The leaven of the Pharisees is “...to be seen of men...” (Matt. 6)
  - Negative manifestation: a critical spirit
- 11) Confrontation and correction offends
  - Reveals level of mistrust
  - Independent contractors—outside ministries
  - Put steel walls around whom you let them touch!
  - Confrontation and correction offends them.
- 12) Already appears to have matured by themselves and has no need of your input
  - Agenda: what he will add to you vs. what you can add to him

- Real sonship manifests itself through a spirit that is willing to be adopted into someone else’s house. When a father abandons his sons, those sons must be adopted elsewhere.
- One must cultivate the heart of a son and be anchored in Father’s heart and vision before one can be commissioned into the work of building the city of God.