

Necessary Connections

You Need Apprentices

Over the past few years, there's been a random act of kindness knock-off called "Pay it Forward" based on the movie by the same title. In practice, it tends to look like this. You're in the Starbucks drive through and pull forward to pick up your skinny vanilla latté. The attendant hands you your drink and tells you, "The couple just in front of you paid for your latté. They paid it forward." Naturally, you're grateful, so you offer to pay for the guy behind you. Getting a "free" latté is great, but the paying it forward the world really needs right now is people who are willing to pour their lives into the next generation.

2 Timothy 2:1-2

1. Timothy was key to Paul's _____.
2. Paul was committed to _____ the whole culture.
3. We're tasked with being more than just a mentor. We must be _____.
4. I want my legacy to be: _____

My Count Me In! Commitments

- I'll be here next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I'll show up on at least one Thursday per month
- I'll invite others to the Raytown Coffee Connection
- I'll attend the Getting Acquainted Luncheon today at 11:45
- I'll attend the Work as Worship event

Additional Notes

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Digging Deeper, Going Further

Scripture: 2 Timothy 2:1–2

Introduction: A very powerful visioning and life management tool is to write your own obituary. Besides the who survives whom, the main obit contains an overview of what you accomplished and what you did to make a difference in people and the world. Step two is to look at your life now and write what has to change in order to reach those lofty goals. The legacy you actually leave will be somewhere between what you hope to achieve and what you've already achieved. The apostle Paul was determined to leave a legacy that would change the world as he knew it ... and he was successful, otherwise we'd not be having this conversation! Although his writings are a part of his legacy, without his investment in Timothy, Titus, Priscilla, Apollos, and other church leaders there would be no church today. The most important legacy we leave are those we've apprenticed ... people we've poured our whole lives into.

1. Who was your favorite elementary school teacher? What made him/her so special?
2. In your understanding, what's the difference between being a teacher, a trainer, and a mentor?
3. Read 2 Timothy 1:3–14. From this passage, describe what kind of a person you think Timothy was prior to Paul's mentorship.
4. What are some of the characteristics Paul identified in Timothy that might have enticed him to choose Timothy as an apprentice?
5. Read 2 Timothy 2:1–2. Why do you think Paul calls Timothy his "son"? What does he expect his apprentice to do with what Paul taught him?
6. What are some characteristics you would look for in a potential apprentice?
7. What are some of the most pressing issues the residents of Raytown are facing these days? What are some ways that a group of committed mentors could relieve some of those issues?

Who will you invite to worship with you this week?

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