

“The Urgent Nature of the Leadership Call”



God's heart to connect spiritual fathers with spiritual sons and daughters

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

MALACHI 4:5-6



Paul's fatherly heart

- “Nor did we seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, though we could have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.”

1 THESSALONIANS 2:6-8

- “For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel.”

1 CORINTHIANS 4:15

The 10 benefits that spiritual fathers bring. They:

1. provide a safe loving environment of love where empowerment takes place.
2. have first learned to be sons themselves.
3. carry personal integrity and authentic experiences in God to share.
4. create an atmosphere of freedom and a genuine belief in you.
5. bring spiritual oversight and protection.
6. help expand the way you think.
7. lead you into increasing maturity.
8. release a Holy Spirit impartation into your life.
9. bring accountability and correction.
10. release their legacy and spiritual inheritance upon you.

Source: <http://markdejesus.com/10-blessings-spiritual-fathers-provide/>

The 5 signs of those who are ready to become a spiritual son or daughter. You will:

1. know them by their hunger and passion to pursue growth.
2. know them by their heart to serve and rejoice as other's grow.
3. know as you watch how they honour and respond to authority.
4. notice how they handle honest, loving correction.
5. You will know them over the test of time; character is revealed.

Source: <http://markdejesus.com/5-signs-spiritual-sons-daughters>

Biblical meanings for the Greek word translated in Ephesians 4:12 as 'Equip'

- The Greek word for 'equip' is 'katartismos'. It's root can be found in many verses throughout the Bible and describe essentially 3 different functions:
 1. Mend or restore: EG:
 - Matthew 4:21 (*Mending* nets)
 - 1 Thessalonians 3:10 (Paul's passion to *restore* what was lacking)
 2. Establish or lay foundations: EG:
 - Hebrews 11:3 (Universe was *created* by the word of God)
 - 1 Peter 5:10 (We are to be *strengthened and established*)
 3. Prepare or train: EG:
 - Romans 9:23 (Vessels of mercy are being *prepared* for glory)
 - Hebrews 10:5 (A Body is being *prepared* for the Lord)

How does ‘...to Equip the saints...’ apply to us?

By availing ourselves of any and all of the following:

- Sozo/Caleb Freedom Ministry
- Specific counselling
- Truth encounters

Mend & Restore

Establish & Lay Foundations

- DNA Groups
- Discipleship teaching courses
- Biblical disciplines

Prepare & Train

- Joining a CLDC
- Caleb short courses
- Missional training
- Apprenticeships

**The Process of
DISCIPLESHIP!**

The Power of a Comma in two versions of Ephesians 4:11-12

- KJV (1611): “And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;¹ For the perfecting of the saints,² for the work of the ministry,³ for the edifying of the body of Christ.”
- NKJV (1982): “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”

No comma!

Some *Possible* Contrasts between the Dependency Model and the Equipping Model of Church

Dependency Model Churches

- Pastor dominated paradigm of ministry. Perceived as:
- Specially chosen and anointed
- Caretaker/ care giver/ spiritual medic
- Perpetual parent whose role is to satisfy a need-oriented people.
- Omni-competent preachers; teachers; social workers; hospital visitors; managers; DIY persons; administrators ~ plate spinners!
- Possible Outcomes: **Pastor Role:** Remain needed; **People:** Many stay as perpetual infants; **Church:** Stays largely unchanged.

Equipping Model Churches

- 5-fold ministry paradigm of equipping others to minister. Perceived as:
- Servants who facilitate the release of the anointing in everyone.
- Those who equip the people to care for and disciple one another.
- Spiritual fathers/mothers whose mandate is to become redundant by maturing and releasing people.
- Those who identify the gifts, skill and talents in others and delegate.
- Possible Outcomes: **Team Role:** Aim to be succeeded; **People:** Maturing, inter-dependent disciples on mission; **Church:** Becomes a movement.

The Ultimate Reason why we are to be equipped

To represent Christ in all His fullness by functioning as His Body on the earth.

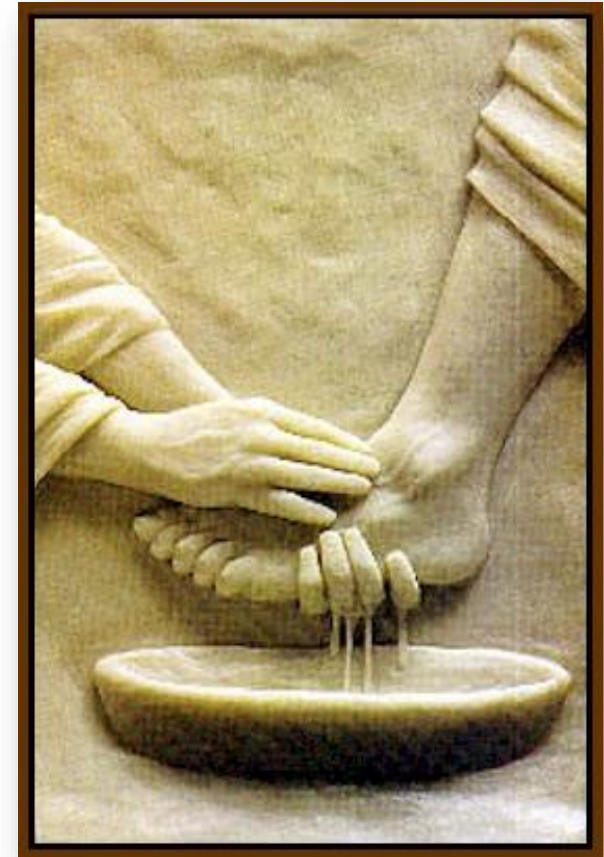
“...until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”

EPHESIANS 4:13

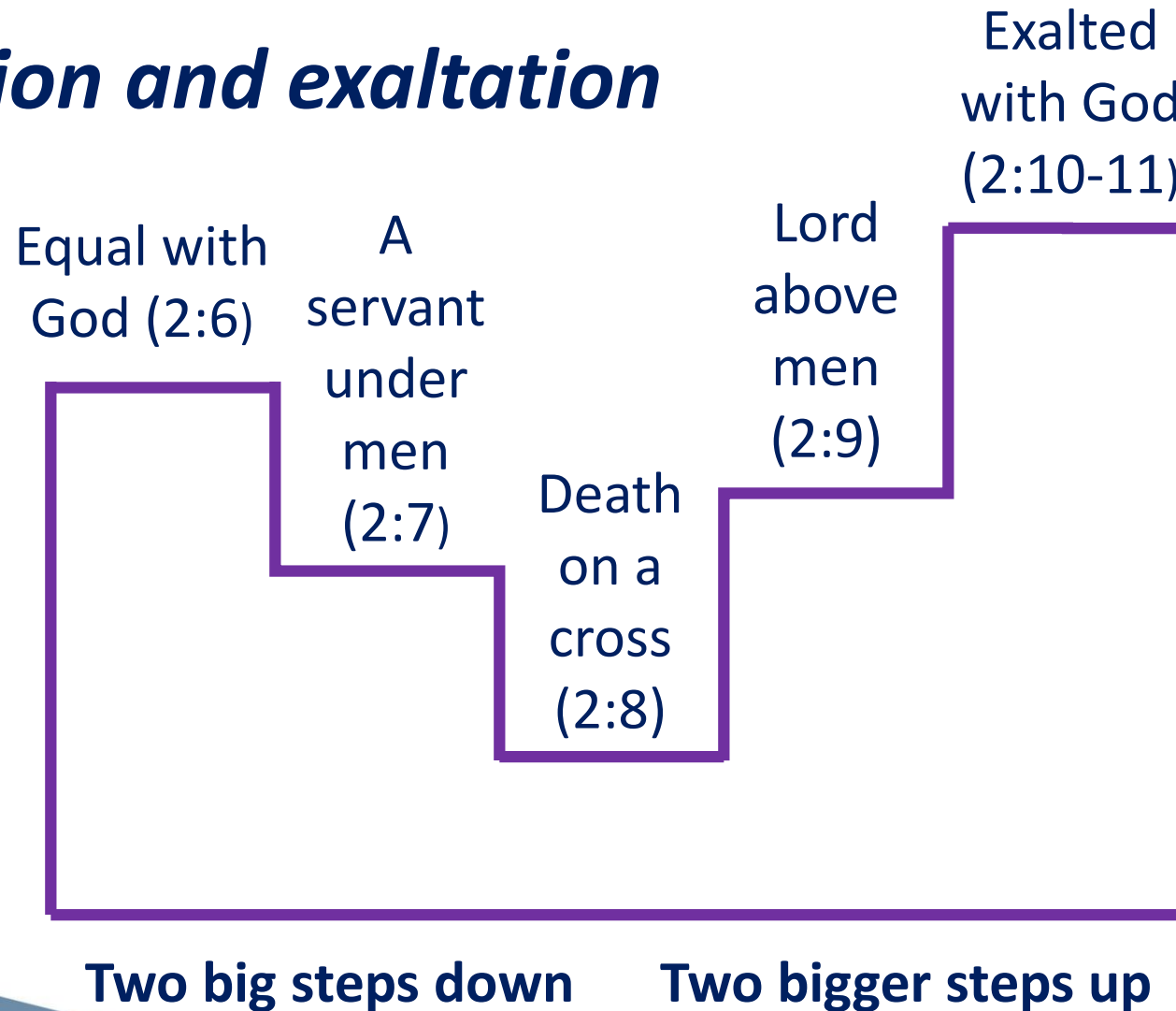
Have the same attitude as Jesus

‘Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant (*or better*) than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. For let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 2:3-5



The humiliation and exaltation of Christ



Leaders create an environment that empowers others

- ⦿ Equipping support given
- ⦿ Expectation ethos
- ⦿ Encouragement flows freely
- ⦿ Enhancement mentoring in place
- ⦿ Exponential release of potential

