
LEARN TO BE ACCOUNTABLE

The phone rings. On the other end is a friend who has something that he wants to tell you. He won't exactly tell you what it is, other than it is a great business opportunity. He invites you to go with him to the meeting tomorrow night. The last thing that he says is, "I'll pick you up at 6:30." You hang up the phone, wondering what you have gotten yourself into.

Your friend picks you up promptly at 6:30. On the way to the meeting, your conversation is very upbeat and energetic. You arrive at the meeting and the room is filled with friendly, positive and successful looking people.

As the speaker makes the presentation, people laugh at the jokes, as the excitement of being financially free begins to build.

The presentation is finished and your friend, who just last night invited you to this meeting, turns to you and gives you the opportunity to sign on the dotted line. All you have to do is take your pen out of your pocket and write a check for \$189.00 and sign the contractual agreement.

You leave the hotel conference room and get in the car and start your trip home. This proves to be a very interesting trip. After stopping for a cup of coffee and pie, you arrive at your front door. You and your friend have been brainstorming about people that you want to invite to the meeting Thursday evening.

You begin the process of writing down names that you want to contact about the incredible opportunity to achieve financial freedom. The phone rings and you pick it up and it's your friend. He asks you if you have contacted anyone for the meeting tomorrow night. He challenges you, again telling you about the potential of just finding others to take this opportunity to make a lot of money.

So you put your game plan together and begin to work your plan. You start the process by calling the first person on the list. Your purpose is to get someone to catch your excitement and come with you to the meeting tomorrow night. Your agenda is to expose them to this great opportunity of financial freedom. What you ultimately want to happen is for them to sign on the dotted line.

Your friend had a real keen interest in you, for if you were successful he would be successful. So he kept calling back to see how you were doing in your new business. Let me ask you a question...

When was the last time that someone asked you how your were doing spiritually?

How did you respond?

Were you disheartened and upset that they would ask you about your spiritual life? "After all, what is going on in my spiritual life is my business." Or were you thankful that someone cared enough to ask?

I can remember going to church and hearing people ask each other, "**Do you have the victory?**" As a youngster that was a very common greeting. It was a question that expressed concern about what was going on in your spiritual life. When asked that question the person could either respond, "Yes, I do" or "No I don't", but it required a response.

As a young person growing up, my Dad would often ask me how I was doing spiritually. You see, I had the privilege of being raised in a preacher's home. What I heard preached from the pulpit, I also saw lived out in my home. Both my Mom and my Dad "walked the talk" living a godly example in front of our family. How very fortunate I have been to have such a Godly heritage.

The picture that has been etched into my mind is one of my Dad, early in the morning spending time with God in the living room. It was his custom to spend time reading God's Word and praying on the sofa. Many mornings as I would make my way upstairs, I heard Dad praying for his family.

As a teenager, in the summer, I would get out of bed and hurry off to the golf course. Many of those mornings, as I was leaving, my Dad would hear the door open and he would ask me if I had read my Bible today. When he asked me that question I would hurry back down to my room and quickly read a chapter and then I would be off to the golf course.

Dad was concerned about what was happening in my life and my relationship with God. Throughout my life God has allowed me to be accountable to

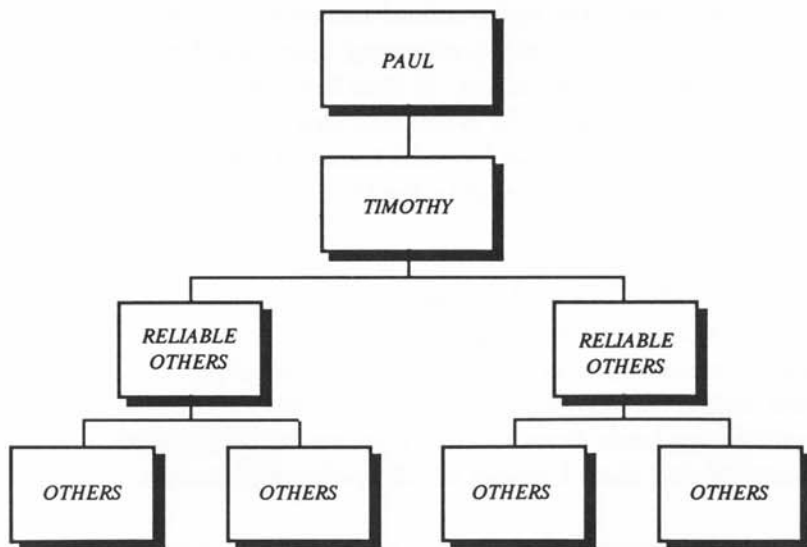
someone spiritually. Accountability has been a key to developing a relationship with my Heavenly Father. It all started because my parents cared enough to ask me a pointed question, "Dan, how are you doing in your relationship with God?"

Now, years later, I have learned the importance of accountability. I realize that you can be as accountable to someone spiritually as you want to be, but the big question is, "Do you want to be?" It has been important for me to learn to be accountable **to** someone so that I can learn to be accountable **for** someone.

II Timothy 2:2 says,

These things that you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will be qualified to teach others.

In the early days of my ministry I was challenged with that verse. Paul told young Timothy to teach what he has been taught to reliable men and women that can teach others. ***That is discipleship!***



Barry St. Clair says, Discipleship is...

One maturing believer pouring their life into another maturing believer to the degree that they can pour their life into another."

Throughout my years of ministry it has been my desire to pour my life into others. Teaching them to learn to prioritize their time. Helping them to learn to have a daily quality quiet time. Challenging them to record their Christian walk by keeping a journal. Trying to show them how to live a life of joy in the difficult times of their life. Teaching them to learn to share their faith. Instructing them in the importance of accountability in their spiritual life.

I have had the privilege of doing this with many young people, leaders and business men. I have asked these people how they were doing in their relationship with God. What have they been reading in God's Word that has challenged them? What has God been speaking to them about in their life? I have done this because I learned how others have helped me grow in my relationship with God and now I want to encourage and help others to grow in their relationship with God.

**ACCOUNTABILITY
THE KEY TO
DISCIPLESHIP**

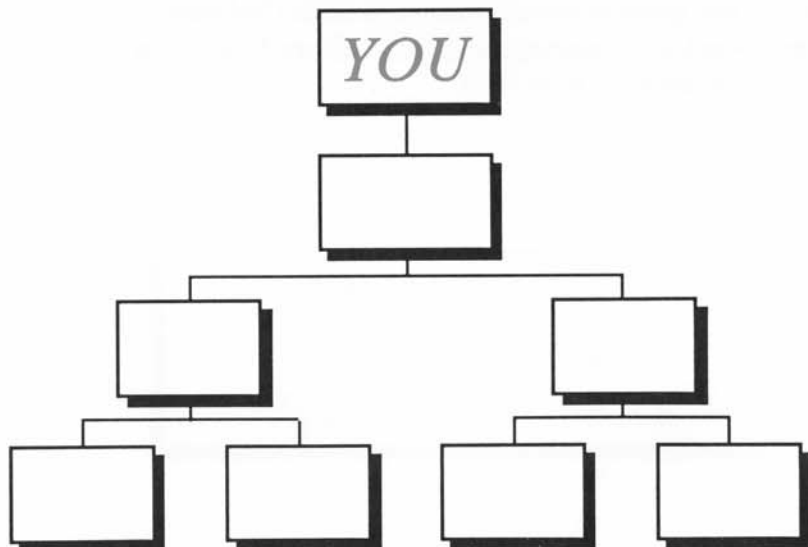
Notes

You have now taken The 21 Day Challenge. I now challenge you to not only continue to grow in your relationship with God, but to pour your life into others and help them grow in God.

The challenge has been written as a springboard for you to develop a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and to challenge you to help others grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Find someone in you church, neighborhood or work-place that you can challenge to take The 21 Day Challenge **with you**. You be Paul and discipled Timothy, and then instructed Timothy to continue to teach what he has learned to reliable others, who can teach others. Don't delay, get started today with your spiritual downline.

**LET GOD USE YOU TO
REACH YOUR WORLD!**



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WON BY ONE Friend To Friend

WON BY ONE...Friend To Friend is a beautifully designed workbook for young people. This 13 week, 122 page, two color book will challenge, train and equip young people to help their friends find hope through Jesus Christ. Young people will relate and enjoy the graphics, stories and illustrations.

Chapter titles like:

- *It's Your Choice*
- *The Cost*
- *Living Life On The Offense*
- *The Battle Is The Lord's*
- *How To Destroy Boring Christianity*
- *When God Invades Your World*

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