

Leadership and Ministry Development on a National/Denominational Level

This session will be geared particularly for those working in denominational or training roles, who have the responsibility to equip leaders on a broader level. Working with leaders is different than equipping workers; they need a special kind of investment and care. How do you mentor and equip other leaders? How do you maximize your impact, in spite of the challenges of time and distance? Ben will share insights gleaned from over 20 years of training young leaders in a European context.

Ben Williams began serving in Eastern Europe as a teenager on a short-term team to the Czech Republic in 1997. On that trip, God captured his heart for European young people. He and his wife Kristy moved to Ukraine in 2007, where they serve as the Josiah Venture Ukraine team leaders. Ben and Kristy are active in their local church, teaching in schools, leading evangelism camps, leadership training, and partnering with youth ministries across Ukraine.

A. Why is it important to equip leaders?

1. Eph 4:11-12 – the role of equipping
2. It is the unseen activity behind multiplication
3. People who equip are those who multiply
4. They are leadership magnets – others seek them out and want to work with them

B. How is equipping different than just teaching? How is it different than just training?

C. How much time do I spend equipping vs. personally serving?

D. What keeps me from doing more of it?

E. How did Jesus prepare the context for leadership training?

1. Jesus clearly appointed the disciples to positions of responsibility.
Mark 3:13-19
2. From Jesus' example, we see that four things need to be true of leadership appointment.
3. Public - The larger group needs to know of this person's role and responsibility.
4. With authority - They need to be given authority to lead.
5. A clear area of responsibility - the boundaries of their task need to be clear.
6. Appointed to serve - They need to not use their role to lord it over others, but rather to sacrifice and to serve others in a spirit of humility
 - a. Matt 16:13-19
 - b. Matt 28:18-20
 - c. Acts 1:8
7. It is important to recognize the difference between a "worker" and a "leader". A worker is someone who shares the work of the ministry. A leader is a shepherd who has responsibility for a portion of the flock and is accountable before God for the condition of that group of people.

F. How did Jesus equip his team of leaders?

1. By letting them be with him – Mark 3:14

2. By giving them jobs to do – Mark 6:36-44

3. By giving clear and detailed instructions – Matt 10:5

4. By asking and answering questions – Luke 9:18-20

5. By giving feedback – Mark 9:28-29 – 39

G. What were the stages in his leadership preparation?

1. We see four distinct phases in this leadership training process that took the apostles from raw recruits to the point where they are capable leaders of the early church.

L1 - Leadership Apprentice ("be with him" Mark 3:14)

L2 - Leadership Training ("He sent them out" Luke 9:1-2)

L3 - Leadership Delegation ("I confer on you" Luke 22:29)

L4 - Leadership Multiplication ("laid hands upon them" Acts 6:6)

