

Demonstrate the Paul–Timothy mentoring chain.

- Ask everyone to stand and form four groups, separate from each other. Explain that each group is a separate city.
 - Ask someone to read 2 Timothy 2:2. Explain that this verse reveals four links in this chain of reproducing new congregations: 1) Paul in Antioch, 2) Timothy in Ephesus, 3) ‘faithful men,’ some of whom were in Colosse, and 4) ‘others also,’ some of whom lived in Laodicea.
1. Antioch. Paul and Barnabas carried God’s Word first from Antioch. Ask two people from the first group to carry a Bible to the second group, which is Ephesus.
 2. Ephesus. Paul mentored Timothy, whom he left in Ephesus to carry on God’s work.
 3. Colosse. Timothy mentored “faithful men.” These were other elders in Ephesus and in Colosse, including Epaphras (Colossians 1:1–8).
 4. Laodicea. Epaphras from Colosse mentored “others also” in Laodicea (Colossians 4:12–13).

Tell or act out how Jethro mentored Moses, Exodus 18.

Ask for **reports** of mentoring that believers have done recently.

Have the children present the poem and drama that they have prepared about Elijah who mentored Elisha. The children might also ask the adults prepared questions about the drama

Discuss plans in groups of two or three. Pray, plan mentoring and encourage each other.

To introduce the Lord’s Supper, read Romans 16:3–5 and explain that Aquila and Priscilla hosted congregations in their home in Rome, in Ephesus (1 Cor. 16:19) and probably in Corinth. This reminds us of where the believers in the apostles’ time celebrated the Lord’s Supper. They broke bread in small groups where each believer could have close fellowship with everyone else.

Aquila and Priscilla Mentored New Leaders

Those who teach children should read study #101 for children.

Prayer: “Father in heaven, help me to mentor new leaders, to help them edify the people they serve. Help those whom I mentor to mentor other newer leaders, so that your kingdom on earth will continue to spread.”

1. Prepare your heart with God’s Word to mentor others.



Find how Aquila and Priscilla mentored Apollos, Acts 18: 24–28.

- When did Aquila and Priscilla mentor Apollos, before or after listening to discern his need?
- After listening carefully to discern Apollos’ need, where did Aquila and Priscilla mentor him?
- What did Apollos do after Aquila and Priscilla mentored him in their home? (See verses 27 & 28)
- Aquila and Priscilla worked together in harmony as a team to serve Christ. What can you do to help married couples work together the same way in your flock?

Train leaders in two ways:

- 1) Speaking to a group like Jesus did when He taught the crowds,
- 2) Mentoring a small group like Jesus did to prepare His apostles.

Keep these two training methods in balance.

- New leaders and new congregations, like newborn babies, have urgent needs. They need someone with a little more experience to mentor them.
- Older congregations and mature leaders no longer require so much attention. Paul, like Jesus, stopped mentoring his trainees as soon as they could continue serving without his constant help.
- Provide workshops and short courses for those who need them, but these do not meet all the needs of new leaders. Mentor them the same way Jesus and Paul mentored their trainees.

How does one leader mentor another?

Memorize these seven things to do:

- Keep the group small. You must take time to help each trainee.
- Model shepherding skills. Work in a way that is easy to imitate.
- Listen to each trainee's report. Each trainee must report on what he and his flock have done since your last meeting, and on what are the needs of his flock.
- Help each trainee to plan activities. Write down what he and his flock will do to meet their needs. Develop activities that the New Testament requires and are still lacking or are weak. Avoid spending much time on negative problems. Aim in every mentoring meeting to add something new that builds up the new congregation.
- Ask trainees to tell to you what they read. What did they learn from the reading assigned last time?
- Assign new reading. Look carefully over the list of available studies and choose studies that fit each student's plans. The learners will not all study the same thing.
- Pray for each other. Pray for guidance and power, and for the people you are serving.

Biblical Mentoring 'Chains' (arrows show who mentored whom)

Jethro → **Moses**, → **Israel's elders**, who shepherded a nation.

Moses → **Joshua**, who commanded an army.

Deborah → **Barak**, whose soldiers to defeat idolatrous Canaanites.

Eli → **Samuel** → **King Saul** and **King David**.

Nathan → **David** → **Solomon** → **the Queen of Sheba**.

Elijah → **Elisha** → **King Jehoash**.

Daniel → **Nebuchadnezzar**.

Mordecai → **Esther**.

Jesus → **His apostles** → **elders of new congregations**.

Philip → **Ethiopian official**.

Priscilla and Aquila → **Apollos**.

Paul → **Timothy** → "faithful men," → "others also" (2 Tim. 2:2)

2. Plan with your co-workers activities they will do during the week.

- Visit any believers in your flock who should begin training to serve as leaders. Arrange for a trainer to meet with them regularly to mentor them.
- If other congregations in the area have leaders who need mentoring, visit them to arrange it.
- Visit any believers or friends who need instruction of any kind. Listen to them to discern their needs and opportunities for serving.

3. Plan with your co-workers the upcoming worship time.

Choose activities that fit the needs and local customs, and pray for power to mentor new leaders and others who need help.

Tell or act out how Aquila and Priscilla mentored Apollos. Discuss the things you learned about them in part 1.

Explain how to balance the two ways of training (from part 1) and tell about people in the Bible who mentored others (Part 1).