

Theme: Paul's ministry to the Galatians provides an excellent model for Christians today as they lead others.

I. Intro – Principles of Great leadership

- A. Many books written about great leadership
- B. Certain traits mark great leaders
- C. Same is true of biblical leaders & ministry
- D. How did Paul lead the Galatians?

II. Four Characteristics of Godly Ministry

- A. The process of ministry
 - 1. Godly ministry is a sharing of truth
 - a. v16 – enemy because spoke truth?
 - b. Tough truth in letter – 1:6-9; 3:1
 - c. The truth – justification by faith alone!
 - d. Paul's pattern – Acts 20:20; 26-27
 - e. Even if it costs – vv 13-16
 - 2. Godly ministry is a sharing of life
 - a. v12 – I became like you Gentiles
 - b. 1 Thess 2:8 – shared our lives with you; dear to us
 - c. Paul the parent – v19; 1 Cor 4:15; 1 Thess 2:7,11-12

d. Also includes weaknesses – vv13-15

B. The goals of ministry

- 1. To see Christ formed in others
 - a. v19 – In labor until Christ formed in you
 - b. Paul the example – v12; Phil 3:17; 4:9; 1 Cor 4:16; 11:1
 - c. Follow leaders as they follow Christ
 - d. This is why leaders must be godly in character
 - e. Goal: they follow Christ & become like Jesus
- 2. To see them walk in freedom of maturity
 - a. vv9-11 – returning to slavery; wasted efforts
 - b. v12 – become like me – free from law
 - c. Godly ministry desires maturity & freedom

III. Conclusion & Summary

- A. Do you desire to submit to godly ministry?
 - 1. Do you want truth – or scratched ears (2 Tim 4:2-4)?
 - 2. Do you want a shared life – or seclusion?
 - 3. Do you want a shared life – or a fake hero?
 - 4. Do you see Christ is formed in community?
 - 5. Do you want to become mature – or remain a child?

B. Are you exercising godly ministry? – **Parent**; teacher; boss

1. Do you speak truth – even if it hurts?
2. Do you share life – or just words?
3. Are you vulnerable – share weaknesses?
4. Do you want to see Christ – or you – formed in them?
5. Will you release them as they mature?

Paul's Ministry to the Galatians

Galatians 4:8-20

March 13, 2005

???????

Impromptu - Christ formed in us

20 You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house... 26 Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of all men. 27 For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.
Acts 20:20, 26-27

8 We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us. 1 Thessalonians 2:8

15 Even though you have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for **in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.**
1 Corinthians 4:15

7 but we were gentle among you, **like a mother caring for her little children....** 11 For you know that we dealt with each of you **as a father deals with his own children,** 12 encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.
1 Thessalonians 2:7, 11-12

¹⁷ Join **with others in following my example,** brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you. Philippians 3:17

9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me-- put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:9

16 Therefore I urge you to imitate me. 1 Corinthians 4:16

1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. 1 Cor 11:1