

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church
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Detroit, Michigan 48208
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Lesson 9: Pooling Our Wisdom¹

Goal: *Build Authentic Relationships by Reestablishing the Art of “One Anothering.”*

Objective: *Provide Scriptural support for pooling Our Wisdom for God’s purposes*

Overview:

Sunday School Class, Bible study, church meetings, and committee meetings are natural places where God’s Word can transform our life experiences to shared biblical wisdom—a powerful tool of growth and transformation for believers. How many of us have taken the initiative to share with our brothers and sisters what they have learned through the careful application of God’s Word to their thinking, beliefs, and lives. Perhaps, a young mother may need some advice on how to manage some behavioral difficulties with her children. Possibly, a husband might benefit from the wisdom of another man on how to help his wife feel cherished and helped at home after a long day’s work.

God’s Word is comprehensive enough to cover every life circumstance and experience! The fellowship of believers was designed so that we can learn, encourage, and nourish each other. Application of biblical truths to our lives becomes a source of strength and growth for all. When we share the insights and biblical life lessons learned, the church grows as a result. Have you taken advantage of the opportunity to share what God has provided?

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another...”
(Colossians 3:16)

Jacobsen uses the illustration of a flock of geese that fly in a precise V-formation. Flying in an exact spot allows each bird to fly in smoother air with less effort. If one goose falls out of position, it immediately feels the added stress of flying on its own and moves back into position. Scientist estimated that flying in this fashion enables the geese to fly 71 percent farther than each of them could fly on their own. It is incredible that the stronger birds in the flock rotate in the lead position so that no one bird wears out. According to NASA, “This allows a flock of birds with differing abilities to fly at a constant speed with a common endurance.”²

This example from nature has some powerful implications regarding the amount of accomplishment that could be ours when wisdom and dependence on others and God is united. When there is shared responsibility, no one wears out. To the contrary sparrows never fly in V-

¹ Jacobsen, W., & Jacobsen, C. *Authentic Relationships: Discover the lost art of “one anothering”*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Publishing Group, (2003). Print.

² Jacoben, 103

formation because they are not going anywhere, but they just flit from yard to yard and from one tree to another.³ “If Christianity is just about rituals, routines, and morals, our fellowship will suffer. When Christianity is a life of growing dependence on God through the joys and challenges of our circumstances, pooling our wisdom becomes as natural an extension of that life for us as it is to fly in formation.”⁴ We do not share this Christian journey by conforming, confronting, or manipulating others to what we think is best for them, but by working together and encouraging them to live by God’s Word and to lean on Jesus who is the head of our lives.

I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me. (John 15:5, HCSB)

Discussion Point #1

How does *pooling our wisdom for God’s purpose* strengthen our fellowship and ministry among believers?

How amazing and beautiful our lives become as we grow to totally depend on God. We enhance our growth by sharing our Christian experiences with others and encouraging their spiritual lives to flourish. “Christianity is a journey into ever-deepening levels of relationship and ever-widening space of freedom”⁵. When the Word of God nourishes and dwells within us, it becomes evident throughout many aspects of our lives. We feel free to talk about God’s goodness to everyone we meet. “For instance, when we read a passage of scripture that has blessed us, we become eager to share that scripture with someone that it may be a blessing to them also”⁶. Moreover, our lives ought to reflect a change as a result of studying and meditating on His Word. People should notice that there is something different about us. The Bible says that we are living epistles. The way we live our lives ought to instruct and impact others spiritually. We are called to be salt and light to this dark and dying world.

“By obedience to the truth, having purified yourselves for the sincere love of the brothers, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again _not of perishable seed but of imperishable through the living and enduring word of God.” (1 Peter 1: 22-23, HCSB)

God endows us with His wisdom and knowledge, which empowers us to teach and instruct others. This serves to strengthen the fellowship among the Church body. In the book of Acts (8:26-40), Phillip served as an evangelist by teaching the Ethiopian eunuch who could not interpret the Scripture from the book of Isaiah. As a result of Phillip’s act, the eunuch accepted Christ and was baptized. We bring joy to God when we support others by pooling Godly wisdom and sharing our Christian journey. How many of us would be where we are today if others had not shared their wisdom of the Word and positive wisdom from life experiences with us?

“But you [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;” (1 Peter 2:9 NKJV)

³ Ibid, 103

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⁵ Jacobsen, W., & Jacobsen, C. *Authentic Relationships: Discover the lost art of “one anothering”*. Page 102

⁶ Jacobsen, W., & Jacobsen, C. *Authentic Relationships: Discover the lost art of “one anothering”*. Page 107

Discussion Point #2

How does family prayer and Bible study help each family member maintain a confident readiness to pool their wisdom for God's purpose?

Family prayer and Bible study enables us during fellowship at home to *pool our wisdom for God's purposes*. This strengthens our family members to daily anticipate and value God's presence and His endowment of the Holy Spirit within us. This time of fellowship through prayer, study, and sharing enables us to connect and unify with one another and to increase our relationship with God with our closest loved ones.

"Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:19,20 NKJV)

Biblical Exercise:

As you Identify, Pray, Witness and Invite (IPWI) people to experience a closer relationship with God, practice ways to *pool your wisdom* to focus on God's purpose for their life.

Monthly Biblical Lessons

Month	Year	Monthly Biblical Lessons
October	2011	<i>Introduction to Authentic Relationships</i>
November	2011	<i>Loving Others Like God Loves You</i>
December	2011	<i>A Soft Place to Fall</i>
January	2012	<i>It's Not All About You</i>
February	2012	<i>Initial Contact</i>
March	2012	<i>Sharing God's Kindness</i>
April	2012	<i>Lightening the Load</i>
May	2012	<i>Cheerleading</i>
June	2012	<i>Pooling Our Wisdom</i>