



## **Ways To Build Team Teaching In ABF – November 03**

Most of us who have been in ministry for some time have experienced a good teacher that tells us that he has to move because of a job change or some other reason for leaving his teaching ministry in ABF.

Strong, popular teachers often leave with a large gap to fill for the teaching ministry they have.

How can we build “teaching teams” so that when a gifted teacher leaves our church, the ministry is not at all hurt by their departure?

### **Biblical Pattern**

The Bible has many examples of church leaders teaching and leading by teams rather than a ministry focused around an individual. Often it was Paul, Timothy and Silas teaching and training together.

#### **Philippians 1:1-2 says:**

*<sup>1</sup>Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons: <sup>2</sup>Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

#### **Titus 1:5 says::**

*<sup>5</sup>The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.*

The Biblical pattern is ministering/teaching together as a team rather than going solo in ministry. An ABF mentor/strong gifted teacher needs to be given the vision to train others in the teaching ministries. At Grace Baptist Church every class has at least two teachers and most have five per ABF. The Biblical model is:

#### **II Timothy 2:2 says:**

*And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others:*

### **Process of Team Teaching**

Teaching teams pray together and study together. About once a month, the team gets together to lay out the lesson plans and begins to study together. Newer teachers are given about 10 minutes of the lesson rather than the total lesson. Then, after evaluating the new teacher, they can teach the lesson totally.

At these team meetings teachers evaluate their lessons together and ask such questions as:

1. Did we clearly teach what the passage was saying?
2. Did we have a balance of Biblical context and application?
3. Were we creative in including our classes to interact together over the Biblical context?
4. Did we use good aids to help strengthen our teaching?
5. Are we seeing a “life change” in our class, or are adults inactive in their Christian walk?

As Pastors of ABF, part of our ministry in building team teaching is to train and equip. For us at Grace, we use Evangelical Training Association teaching material called “Understanding Teaching” and “Teaching with Style” from Walk Thru The Bible. Team teaching needs informal and formal teaching for the new and experienced teachers.

### **Benefits of Team Teaching**

There are many benefits to team teaching so let me communicate a few:

1. You honor and obey the Biblical model of team teaching/training
2. You develop a pool of teachers that allow you to start new classes with experienced teachers
3. You provide an informal mentoring model for the newer teachers
4. You sharpen the study skills of all teachers
5. You give your class a better Biblical model of church

For us at Grace, we believe in this principle so strongly that we have a "Preaching Team" in our church with about three or four men who preach in the larger church gatherings.

#### **Proverbs 27:17 says:**

*As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.*

Let's sharpen our ABF by team teaching Gods Word.

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