

# ***WE NEED EACH OTHER!***

**(Importance of Relationships, Accountability & a Support Network)**

## **ACCOUNTABILITY**

**What is an accountability relationship?**

**What are some important elements to a successful accountability relationship?**

*(vulnerability, teachability, availability, honesty, other?)*

**Some biblical concepts:**

- a. **Accountability to God is inescapable and inevitable (Mt 12:35-37; Rm 14:10-12; I Cor 3:10-15; II Cor 5:10; Heb 4:13).**
- b. **Accountability to spiritual leaders is commanded and is profitable to us (Heb 13:17; I Cor 16:13-16; I Thes 5:12-13; I Tim 5:17-18).**
- c. **Accountability to one another is helpful and healthy (Rm 12:9-16, 15:1-2,14; Gal 5:25 - 6:2; Eph 5:21).**
- d. **Biblical examples:**
  - Jesus → God the Father**
  - David → Nathan**
  - Joseph → Potipher**
  - Disciples → Jesus**
  - Timothy → Paul**
  - Paul & Barnabas → Church @ Antioch**
- e. **Benefits:**
  - 1. We gain wisdom and are less likely to fall into a trap (Pv 13:14,20, 15:31-32)**
  - 2. We can have our character molded (Pv 27:17)**
  - 3. We are not likely to get away with sinful and unwise action (Pv 27:6)**
  - 4. We can confess and receive help (Pv 28:13; James 5:16)**

## **ADVISORS/SUPPORT NETWORK**

### **Biblical concepts:**

- 1) **God has given us “equippers” to help us be spiritually successful and to grow more like Christ (Eph 4:11-13).**
- 2) **Each of us is an important member/part of the body of Christ. We need to make a contribution and we benefit from the contributions of others (I Cor 12).**
- 3) **It is wise for us to have “advisors” and listen to the advice of others (Prov 11:14, 12:15, 13:10, 15:22, 19:20, 20:18, 24:6).**
- 4) **There are times when we all need a “partner(s)” to get things done and/or a “friend(s)” to encourage us (examples: Paul & Barnabas, Silas, Timothy, Titus, etc.; David & Jonathon; Jesus & Peter, James & John )**

### **Case Studies:**

**Joseph & Potipher (& God!) (Genesis 39)**

**Paul & Titus (II Cor 2:12-13, 7:5-7)**

**Moses & his father-in-law Jethro (Ex 18)**

## **DEVELOPING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS**

**Developing positive relationship is obviously essential to be successful in life. Loving people and doing good to them are important strategies to follow (I Thes 4:9-12; Gal 6:9-10). What are some other keys to developing positive relationships?**