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WHY TEACH MEN TO PREACH?

Pat Cowden

Paul shared this with his son in the faith Timothy, “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2). Paul was rightly concerned about how the gospel would be taken to other places and other generations. He wanted to provide Timothy a game plan or a blueprint for how to do so effectively while preserving the integrity of the message taught. His answer:

- Take the things you have heard from me (an inspired writer given his message directly from God)
- Commit <para ti the mi> - to deposit, to entrust, to place down to men who will be faithful with the message
- Instruct these faithful men to pass it on to others who will pass it on faithfully to others.

This process continues down still today and it does not just involve men. I read a bulletin from Jim Waldron this week which mentioned the memory work that some of the ladies in India were doing. After two years of study, at graduation, they had ten hours to write down as many memory verses as they could. A 16 year old girl, Diya, wrote for almost 12 hours and she was able to complete from memory 585 verses. There were 27 women in the class and they averaged memorizing then writing 349.5 verses each.

That is why we support the work in Srikakulum, so that Christians will be entrusted with the pure message of Christ, will commit it to memory, and will pass it on to others. May we all be so diligent as our coworkers in God’s kingdom. God bless!