

RESTore Point

ICCM 2019
Session One

Since ICCM 2017

- Been to Zambia second and third times to teach as part of a training program for pastors/leaders in Central Africa.
- Started learning and doing travel agent services. (BOF?)
- Started a publishing company.
- Wrote three books and edited a fourth.
- Wrote curriculum for churches/small groups for instituting a mentoring program for youth.
- Conducted a pilot project of a mentoring group for middle school boys.
- Had a daughter start and finish 52 Godly Women mentoring project.
- Had a son begin 52 Godly Men (4th child).
- Spoke at a home business conference with two of my children on the topic of mentoring.
- Written skits for church and helped with puppets in children's ministry.
- Worked on IT projects. Migrated to a new colo facility. Continued to operate a business.

ASKING for Wisdom

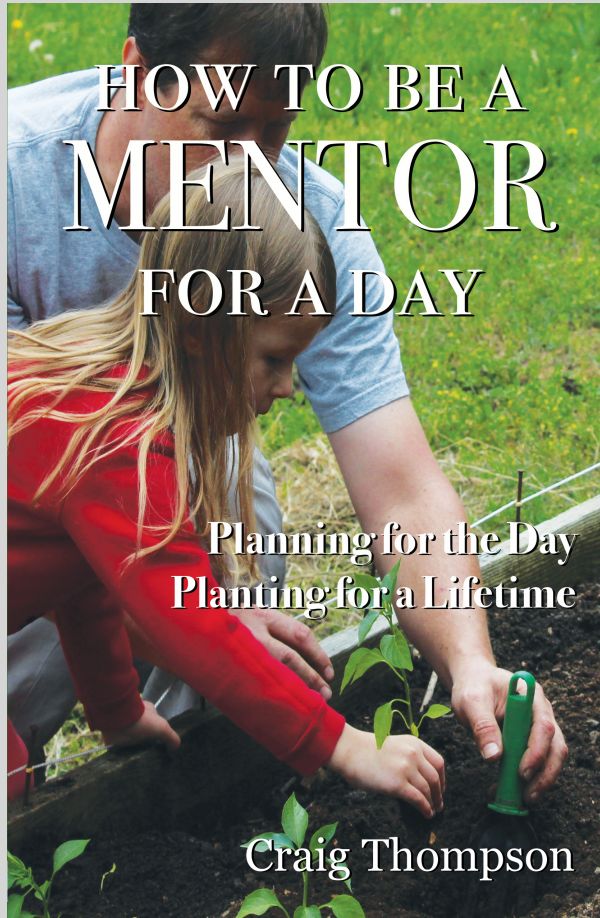
Maximizing Your Time with Mentors



Craig Thompson

HOW TO BE A MENTOR FOR A DAY

Planning for the Day
Planting for a Lifetime



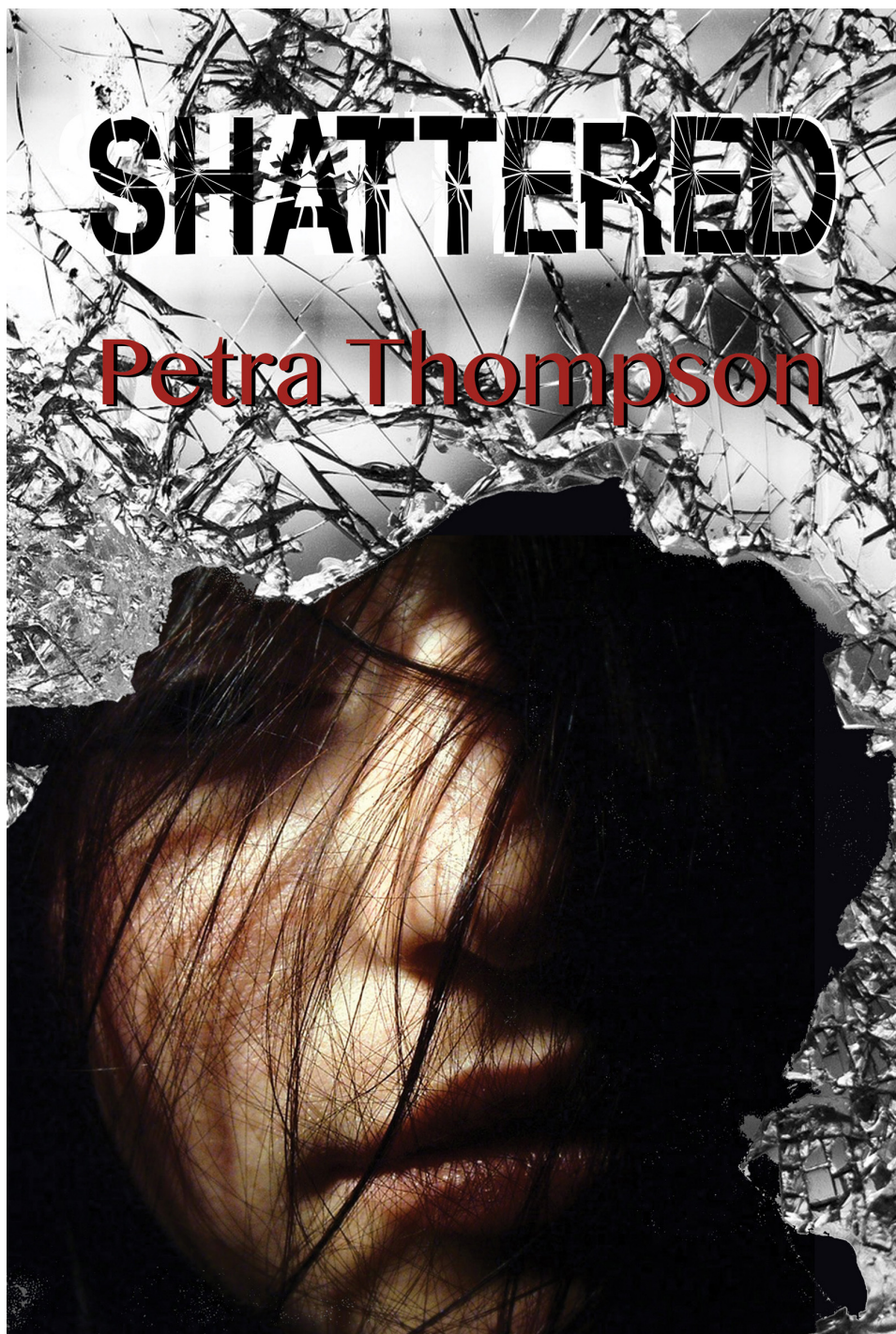
Craig Thompson

NURTURING YOUR CHILD



with Mentors

Craig Thompson



How to Tell if God Is Speaking to You

- It will be an echo or confirmation of what you have been hearing in other places.
- You might get mad.
- You might be drawn to inexplicably criticize the messenger.
- You might feel the need to withdraw or hide.
- You possibly will feel a sense of freedom or liberation.
- As you search the scriptures, you realize that they bear witness to the message you are hearing.

Proper Responses

- Say “Amen” to the echo.
- Examine your emotions. Don’t let them sway you from what God wants to do in your life.
- Don’t shoot the messenger.
- Be transparent. Find someone and talk it out. Ask for prayer during Prayer Pals.
- Ask God to establish in you the revelation He gives to you.
- Submit to God’s Word. Commit to obedience.

Three Types of People God Is Dealing with This Conference

- The broken.
- The burdened.
- The bellicose.

What God Intends To Do

- Broken
 - The Lord *is* near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit. (Psalm 34:18)
 - He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. (Psalm 147:3)
- Burdened
 - “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; (Luke 4:18)
 - So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom satan has bound — think of it — for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath? (Luke 13:16)
- Bellicose
 - Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you.” (Jonah 3:1-2)
 - And He gave them their request, But sent leanness into their soul. (Psalm 106:15)

RESTore Point

- In order to restore something, you need a restore point.
- A restore point is the original design or set of parameters which existed prior to daily use which may alter the details or data.

RESTore Point

What is yours?

- Your starting point can determine your ending point.
- Your starting point can influence (constrict or expand) your journey.

In the beginning...

- There was a big mess called sin or “The Fall.”
- Before the Fall, humanity lived in innocence.
- Before the Fall, humanity had dominion over creation.
- Before dominion was given, woman was created from Adam’s rib.
- Before the woman was created, Adam was created.
- Before the man was created, an environment (for work and creativity) was created.
- Before the Garden was created, animals, plants, water, the heavens and the Earth were created.

Your Viewpoint Determines Your Perception of Reality

- Fall -> Forgiveness
- Innocence -> Holiness
- Dominion -> Power/Authority
- Creation of Eve -> Feminist/Equality Theology
- Creation of Adam -> Paternalistic Theology, Eminence of Man
- The Garden -> Nature/Nurture, Stewardship of Earth
- Creation -> Man is no more important than a plant or animal

Why am I still hungry?



Imbalanced theological diet

- Because we have a wrong starting point, we develop a false point of reference.
- Because we focus on one part as if it were the whole, we develop a fatal near-sightedness.
- Because we start wrong, our procedures are wrong and our progress is off-course. We have no proper point of coordination.

(Fromke: The Ultimate Intention p24)

The Prevalent Theme

- What is man supposed to be doing?
- What has God done for man?
- What is God doing in man?

**In all of these, man
is still the center.**



Before the beginning

- Before the creation of the Universe, God had a plan to form a family of people who would bear the image of His dear Son. Eph 1:4-5, 1:22-23, Rom 8:29
- Before the plan, God existed in completeness, love and unity as the Trinity.

God-centered theology vs. man-centered

- God, in eternity, determined to create a family of people who would bear the image of His Son.
- The family would have a home. He created the heavens and the Earth.
- The family would understand their role and stewardship by exercising dominion over created things.
- The family would have an environment for work and creativity.
- The family would have order in equality (Father/Son, Man/Woman).
- The family would be created in innocence with the opportunity to have their character declared righteous through obedience. (Trials are not a chance to fail; they are a chance to obey.)
- In disobedience, God's righteous standard could not be ignored. Sin brought punishment.
- In His foreknowledge, God had prepared a solution to sin: the cross.
- Having provided forgiveness, humanity is given the right to return to the original plan of being part of a family conformed to the image of Jesus Christ.
- Eternity is not sitting on a cloud playing a harp and eating heavenly doughnuts. It is a future of living out God's original purpose to bear the image of His Son in everything we say and do in relation to Himself, to the rest of the family and to all of His creation — all for His glory.

“Either God is the center of our universe and we have become rightly adjusted to Him, or we have made ourselves the center and are attempting to make all else orbit around us and for us.”

—Devern Fromke

Reflection Questions

- What is God really getting out of my life?
- Have I committed to aligning every area of my life with the Father's ultimate design?
- What is central to my restore point? Am I trying to revert to a man-centered starting point?
- What is the starting point for my mission organization or company? Man-centered or Christ-centered?
- Does my daily life reflect a Christ-centered viewpoint in
 - my service to others
 - my family relationships
 - my worship of God
- What needs to change in my life for Christ to be the center?