



MENTORING MOMENT: Watching Where Others Are Going

Tim Elmore, in his classic book on Mentoring, tells the story of a little boy and his father who were taking a walk down a rocky road one evening. After stumbling and falling to the ground, the boy looked up at his father and said, “Dad – why don’t you watch where I am going?” What an apt description of mentoring: **watching where others are going.**

Now for that to happen, a mentoring relationship must consist of 3 realities: 1) Somebody needs to **CARE ENOUGH** about where another person is heading... 2) Somebody needs to be **CLOSE ENOUGH** to see where the person is going... 3) Somebody needs to be **CONNECTED ENOUGH** to provide a little assistance along the rocky road.

One thing I know about life: it’s a rocky road. You are going to stumble and fall. Maybe that’s why we all need a mentor and why we all need to be mentoring. Mentoring is about caring and accepting care. Mentoring is about getting close and letting others get close. Mentoring is about connecting and being open to connections, so that somebody is there to help when the road gets rocky.

Dr. Blair Ritchey is Executive Director of ISF, a non-profit foundation dedicated to providing scholarships, mentoring and leadership development for young people who have aged out of orphan or foster care, as they pursue their dream of a college education and a successful life. Mentoring Moment is a weekly message of encouragement and inspiration to those committed to the mentoring process. If you prefer NOT to receive Mentoring Moment, simply reply to this email.



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