

Some of my Heroes on my CLC office wall!



Dear Friend,

If you have been in my office you have seen the 8x10 pictures of some men that truly impacted my life and helped form me into the man I am today. God used all of them. Let me introduce them to you:

(pictures go from top left to right)

- Shelby Hadden, my dad. Do we look alike? He taught me to be a man.
- Joe Hadden, my oldest brother. He believed in me when no one did (not sure why people didn't believe in me!!!)
- Charlie Scott, Young Life Leader in high school. He was used in an awesome way to help me see a picture of a man that walked with Jesus.
- Mal McSwain, my Young Life work crew boss who disciplined me as a brand new believer, got me praying for my future wife, and was my boss in Young Life.
- Goose Gosling, my co-laborer in Bermuda with Young Life who stood with me through thick and thin.
- Dr. Robert Trainer, my main teacher in seminary who was used to help me appreciate and study the Bible.

One reason I show you these pictures is that I got to have dinner in Atlanta with Charlie and Mal last week. We laughed, told old stories and remembered YL skits. What a fun night with them. I was reminded of two things:

1. The huge impact one person can have on another. It has been 50 years since I received Jesus as my Savior, June 21, 1960, and I continue to see these two men as my heroes. They modeled the love of Jesus; they cared about me, spent time with me, and invested in my life. They pointed me to Jesus and encouraged me in my walk and frankly I had a very rough start because of my hell-raising background. They were true disciple makers. They have stood with me as a friend for many years. By the way, their ministries continue even as they get older. They are finishing strong.
2. They taught me the value of relationships. They pursued me in order to just hang out and be with me....no agenda. Of course they wanted to point me to Jesus but they just wanted to share life, pray for me, challenge me and come along side me. It caught. I took what I learned from them and try to apply it to my ministry in CLC. Two of our core values are everything we do is relationally driven and we value the person over agendas. This relationship building coupled with a Biblical foundation is essential to the CLC equipping. Dr. Trainer instilled in me the importance of Truth as revealed by our loving Father in Scripture.

My hope is that you will think of those that have impacted you and then take the time to call them or write a note, telling them how much you appreciate them. Also, ask God to give you some men to invest in and mentor. The legacy and results will be off the chart.

Sincerely in Christ,

Hal Hadden

