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# *“E-Team E-Zine”*

*Encouragement and Equipping for Evangelism  
That Extends the Kingdom*

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## *“The Ministry of Coaching... How to Spell “C\*O\*A\*C\*H”*

*August, 2002*

Coaches come in all shapes, sizes and styles. We're most often used to thinking of them prowling the sideline of a sports venue, barking out orders and scowling at officials, trying to guide his or her team to victory. Faces of famous coaches come to our minds, like Vince Lombardi in football or John Wooden in college basketball. One face that comes to mind for me is Don Boelter, who guided our high school baseball team (for good old Sleepy Eye, MN High) to a state championship game. The memories of our team and his influence continue to linger with me these many years later.

All through life, we have people who “coach” us...some who bring out the best in us, some who leave us with memories of frustration and opportunities lost. Today, we are rediscovering the value of coaching in ministry in many ways... in planting new churches, turning around existing churches, helping young leaders reach their full potential and assisting organizational leaders plan strategically. A good coach can make a huge difference in the fruitfulness of a ministry!

So...what makes a great ministry coach? Here are the essentials when it comes to spelling “C\*O\*A\*C\*H”...

**C***omes alongside...as one who wants the best for both the person and the project.*

**O***bserves carefully...with the objective view of a specialist.*

**A***sk questions wisely...and resists being a “teller.”*

**C***ommunicates options and resources...helping think beyond first “visible” impressions to other viable options.*

**H***olds accountable...cares for the Heart...*

*...to improve performance and solve problems  
for maximum ministry effectiveness.*

A great coach walks with his coachee to “plan his work and work his plan.” As my friend and team mate Steve Ogne says, “A mentor pours into a life...a coach pulls the best out of a life.”

Who’s coaching you on your journey? Who are you coaching?

*Next edition:* Great coaching resources.