

# Christian Mentors

## WHAT IS A MENTOR?

### Definition

- "a relationship in which a more experienced or more knowledgeable person helps to guide a less experienced or less knowledgeable person." (Wikipedia)

### Mentoring in the Workplace

- over 71% of Fortune 500 companies
- shares knowledge & advice
- employees feel less isolated
- listens to concerns
- smaller turnover
- greater loyalty to company

### Mentoring in the Bible

- sometimes one on one
- sometimes in a group setting
- examples:
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- study Bible examples & ask questions:
  - How does God prepare mentors?
  - Does mentoring require perfection?
  - What are the risk & rewards?
  - How is mentoring a two-way street?
- further Bible study:  
*<http://www.holston.org/media/ministry/resource/BiblicalReflectiononMentoring.pdf>*

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

### WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?

- share life experiences
- pray with and for
- share problems, burdens, ideas
- accountability
- developing leaders
- transfer of knowledge
- building relationships

### WHO NEEDS TO BE MENTORED?

### WHO SHOULD BE A MENTOR?

### WHAT DOES MENTORING LOOK LIKE?

- **Types of mentoring**
  - formal or informal
  - one-time event
  - long term
- **Purpose**
  - not becoming one's parent
  - more than just a friendship
  - more than just hanging out
- **Qualities**
  - good listener
  - trustworthy
  - willing to speak the truth
  - "walk the walk"
  - model Christ-like behavior
- **Ideas**
  - share life stories
  - ask questions
  - accountability
  - do not give up

## HOW TO BEGIN

- develop your spiritual foundation
- pray & look for opportunities to mentor
- pray for God to place mentors in your life

Studying to gain a greater understanding of the Bible and be changed by it.

## Youth Bible Study

### Be . . .

- prayerful
- real
- genuinely interested
- a good listener
- listening for God's direction
- open to sharing
- trustworthy

**I**f your mentors only tell you that you are awesome, it's time to find other mentors.

Cosette Gutierrez

"The Bible knows nothing of solitary religion — watch over one another in love."  
—John Wesley

### Stabilizing a Young Tree

**C**onsider for a moment a young tree. It easily bends and sways, thrashing about in a storm. In contrast, an old oak stands strong amidst the changing seasons. One method to secure and stabilize a young tree is to tether it to an older, more mature tree. In a similar way, the mentoring relationship is one where a younger believer is tethered to a more mature believer for a season so that she might grow firm in her faith and be equipped for ministry.

(Mentoring: A Call to Spiritual Growth by Melissa Kruger)



*"I became a mentor because I wanted to give. The thing I didn't realize is how much I'd get."*

**Mentoring is not about a carefully outlined curriculum. It's about life-on-life relationships.**

**"You don't have to have all the answers, you just have to be willing to share what you know."**



**"People want to grow up in Christ, but they don't know how. Mentoring is simply pointing them in the right direction and walking with them on the journey."**

(Good Mentoring by Mark Engelthaler)

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