

1:1 Mentorship, What to Expect

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another ~Proverbs 27:17

In Christian mentoring, you can expect:

- Discussing specific areas of life to grow in.
- Praying together.
- Finding and celebrating evidence of becoming more conformed to the image of Christ.
- Addressing areas of ongoing struggle or ungodly thinking and behavior.

The Roles of the Mentor:

- Be an encouraging model of godly living
- Be a good listener, asking honest questions
- Pass on relevant lessons the God has taught you
- Be humble and teachable
- Pray for the other person regularly
- Do not think you are responsible for spiritual growth in another person's life. This is the role of the Holy Spirit

The Roles of the Mentee:

- Have a desire to grow and mature in your faith
- Being open and honest about life
- Be humble and teachable
- Pray for the other person regularly

Keys to a productive mentoring relationship:

1. Effective mentoring occurs when no topic is off limits. While the mentee will drive this, be open to talking about anything—job issues, parenting concerns, sin struggles, relationship difficulties, etc.
2. Transparency is a key to growth. Without it conversations remain superficial. Admitting failures, by both parties, often opens the pathway to eventual progress. An effective mentor is willing to share openly about his life—the good, the bad and the ugly.
3. Mentoring requires confidentiality. Your conversations are just between the two of you. Mutual trust between mentor and mentee can only be built upon shared information that remains confidential.
4. Mentoring involves consistent meetings. Agree on a schedule and stick to it as much as possible. That might mean meeting weekly, bi-weekly, or even monthly. Get together over coffee, a meal, or find a shared interest that you can do together.
5. Remember, mentoring is usually not a teacher/pupil relationship. Rather it is “life on life.” So, the relationship should not become one of duty or obligation to fulfill the mentor's requirements.
6. Most importantly, keep the focus on Jesus. Spend time talking about things that are happening in your life, but keep the conversation rooted in faith. When talking about issues and struggles find passages in the Bible that speak to the topic. Spend time praying for an issue, don't just talk about it, give it over to God.