

mentor journal

MENTORING

spiritual leaders



Developing Leaders to Fulfill the Great Commission

Mentoring Spiritual Leaders

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25W560 Geneva Road, Suite 30, Carol Stream, IL 60188

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Note: Each session includes “Just For You” pages that are not included in the Mentee’s Journal.

What Mentoring Spiritual Leaders is all about

Mentoring students in leadership is vital. They need someone with wisdom and experience to guide them through the complexity of growing as a leader. Students have a lot going against them as they walk down the leadership road. Many bad leaders have misused their skills, lacked integrity, and have rolled right over them. Your job is to take them along the road, sharing your experiences (complete with success and failures) and help students see the personal side to leadership. Leadership is not about top down decisions, but it's about caring for people and their dreams.

Ultimately, to be effective leaders, students need to learn the balance of doing and being.

We are in balance when we serve others, while realizing that our character speaks louder than our words. This book is about the being side of leadership or what we call spiritual leadership. When we lead from a heart of integrity and character, seeking to impart those qualities into our followers, our leadership reaches for greatness. When we focus on maintaining peace within the group, discovering God's mission for our lives, and building into others on a regular basis, we serve our team by giving an example of a leader who is consistently growing with Christ and desiring to share that growth with the world. We have chosen five leadership principles that deal with the being side of leadership. These principles will help students understand the importance of maintaining a solid relationship with Christ as they seek to impact the world through their leadership.

How this book is structured

There are seven sessions in this book. The first session and the last session deal with the Life Map, which is located on the inside back cover. The other five sessions cover topics to help your mentee move forward on his or her journey.

Most sessions follow this outline:

Check it – An opportunity for your mentee to share how he or she did on the goal set the week before.

Introduction – An introduction to the topic for that session.

Read it – A relevant Scripture passage to read together and questions to discuss.

Discuss it – A chance to talk through the session topic and how it intersects with your mentee's life.

Walk it – A specific application of the topic to your mentee's life. Encourage your mentee to set a measurable goal for the next week. Measurable goals always answer the questions: What? Where? When? How? (Additional information on goal setting is in the appendix.)

Pray about it – A prayer focus for the upcoming week. Since prayer is a conversation with our sovereign God – the One who has no beginning and no end – talking to Him, and asking Him for guidance on your journey is the best thing you can do.

Meditate on it – A Scripture to memorize or mediate on over the upcoming week. We recommend writing the verses on an index card and putting it somewhere you'll see it every day – the mirror in your bathroom, on your refrigerator, in your car or office, etc.

Checklist for getting started

- Pick a time and place to meet with your mentee. We recommend once a week for about one hour.
- Have a discussion about what you expect of each other. Some possible topics include:
 - How available are you both going to be in between meetings?*
 - How interested is your mentee in changing his or her life?*
 - How ready and willing is the mentee to be challenged and held accountable?*
- Review the instructions in Session 1 so you understand how to complete the Life Map with your mentee. (Additional information is provided in the appendix, if you'd like to go even deeper.)
- Invite God into your relationship with your mentee. Pray for discernment and wisdom.
- Show up at the first meeting with this book and your Bible, and get started.

Session 2

Check it

Begin this session by discussing how your mentee did on the character goal he/she set last time. What went well? What was difficult? How can they continue to incorporate this into their life?

When the word champion is heard, most people think of sports stars and war heroes, but many champions are unexpected. It doesn't matter if you are small or overlooked, when you rise to the challenge, others take notice. Becoming a champion for your cause is a great way to grow in your leadership influence.

Champions overcome obstacles. A basic component of being a champion is having a "never quit" attitude. All of us face obstacles in life. Champions look at these obstacles not as something holding them down, but as a way to make them stronger. They never give up.

Champions go beyond their limitations and achieve the unexpected.

Champions don't recognize limitations stopping normal people. Everyone has limitations set on their own life, but champions reach past the limitations and achieve what no one expected them to.

Champions carry their team. Teams need champions to help them do the impossible. When the chips are down, it is a champion who motivates us to keep trying. It is in the moments of despair that true leaders shine. They personally lift their team to new heights and empower others to reach beyond themselves.

Read it

Read Hebrews 11 and answer these questions:

Who in this list of heroes is your favorite? Why?

Could you ever live like them? Why or why not?

What difference did these people specifically make in the world?

Discuss it

Discuss the following with your mentee:

Have you ever taken a stand for Christ at your school?

What is something in this world that you would like to see change?

Do you have the potential to be a champion? Why or why not?

Look at the mountains in your Life Map. How can you overcome them and achieve the unexpected?

Walk it

(Remember, good applications always include a what, when, where and how.)

Take a stand. Identify one thing that is happening in your world that God does not like. Take action. What is one thing you can do to make people aware of it and what is one action you can take to stop it from happening?

Pray about it

Ask God to help you become a champion for Him, even in the midst of temptations, unknown challenges, and peer pressure.

Meditate on it

Memorize and/or meditate on Hebrews 12:12-13 this week.

Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. "Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

After You Meet With Your Mentee

Is there anything your mentee said that you want or need to remember, or something you need to follow-up on?



Ponder this

As you walk the road of life with your mentee, you may want to consider these questions:

What is your mentee struggling with right now?

What is his or her greatest need?

What are some things to pray about? This can be either specific requests he or she shared with you, or things you feel burdened to pray about.

How do you see God at work in and through your mentee?

What is one area of growth or strength that you see in your mentee? How could you encourage him or her in that over this next week?

Before Your Next Meeting With Your Mentee

{ These ideas are **OPTIONAL** but will take only a few minutes and have a big impact. }

In between meetings with your mentee, here are some FAST AND EASY things we recommend:

- Memorize and/or meditate on the verse from the last session. Write it on an index card and put it somewhere you'll see it every day. If you take this seriously, so will your mentee.
- Pray for your mentee.
- Read through the next session (5-10 minutes). Think about the upcoming topic and identify one example in your own life you could share, if necessary, to encourage your mentee.
- Make one contact with your mentee: Send an email, make a phone call, do something together, write a note. This could take as little as 5 minutes, but goes a long way to demonstrate that you genuinely care.

tip

As the mentor, your mentee will be looking to you for clues on how seriously to take these leadership principles. Remember, you're the guide; you set the standard. The more present these principles are in your life, the more likely your mentee will apply them also.

Remember this

Start your next meeting with your mentee by following up on the application goal he or she set last time. Following up demonstrates that you are serious about holding your mentee accountable to moving forward.