

# Mentoring



with Debbie Gould  
Ministry Conference 2012

The word 'mentoring' comes from Greek mythology. In Homer's Odyssey, Mentor was the wise and trusted companion and friend of Ulysses and the guardian of his house during his ten year absence at the Trojan wars. He acted as teacher and adviser of Ulysses' son Telemachus, helping him to develop sound values, attitudes and behaviour so that he would mature to be an upright, wise and courageous adult.

What would a Mentor expect from the mentoree?

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What would the Mentoree expect from the Mentor?

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**Definition:** *'Christian mentoring is a dynamic, intentional relationship of trust in which one person enables another to maximise the grace of God in their life and service.'*

John Mallison

Matthew 28:19,20 ".....Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

'Disciple' literally means learner. Christian disciples take Jesus Christ the Son of God as their teacher.

## **Jesus is our Prime Model**

Jesus provides our one and only true model, message and method to direct our mentoring under the guidance and empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Mark tells us that 'He appointed twelve that they might be with him.....'He moulded the lives of his disciples by sharing the whole of his life with them. By his life, he demonstrated how to bring pleasure to God, how to best serve and honour him so that others might take God seriously and give him his rightful place in their lives.

The following verses show us the character lessons that the disciples were being taught by Jesus as they walked with him.

### **His Being:**

Mark 1:41, Luke 7:13                    *genuine compassion for the poor and sick*

Matthew 9:36                            *the crowds with their varied needs*

Mark 10:21                              *those with status*

Matthew 23:37                         *any who rejected him*

Matt 9:10, Luke 22:27, John 13:5-17, 2 Cor 8:9, Phil 2:7,8

*they were almost overcome ;*

*with his servant leadership and humility*

Matthew 7:29                            *awed by his authority and teaching*

Mark 1:23-26, Matt 8:23-27, Matt 9:18-26

*awed by his power to perform miracles*

Matt23:1-26                             *stunned by his vehemence of his righteous*

*indignation at hypocrisy*

Mark 11:15-18                         *and injustice*

Mark 10:13-16                         *he had concern for the weak and marginalised like*

*these children who had ready access to him*

Luke 10:25-37                    *marginalised Samaritan in the parable rather than the religious*

Galatians 5:16-25                *Life by the Spirit taught by Paul is in a description of the 'fruit of the spirit' - fortunately we are not left to generate these in our own strength. We seek to 'live by the spirit...keeping in step with the Spirit'*

### **His Words:**

Jesus spoke plainly so that all understood, always enabling the practical application. He used everyday events as real life case studies and when they weren't available he used parables. He never compromised the truth even when he knew it would offend.

Matt 17:14-21                    *The disciples were admonished when they made mistakes*

Matt 18:21,22                    *Disciples were corrected when they thought wrongly*

Matt 16:17-19                    *They were affirmed for their increase in knowledge and discernment*

Luke 10:1-24                    *and encouraged when they were they were successful*

Jesus also stressed to his disciples the indispensability of the empowerment of the Holy Spirit for every aspect of their being, words and deeds. John 14:15-17,25,26; 15:26; 16:5-15; Acts 1: 4,5,8

### **His Deeds:**

The Disciples would echo the crowd's response to his miracles. 'We have never seen anything like this' Mark2:12 The Disciples soon became convinced that all Jesus' ministry was motivated by divine love. So he instructed them that love must be the badge of their discipleship, 'the very spring of all their actions.' they must love as he loved. John 13:34; 15:12,13,17; 2 Cor 5:14

All Biblical mentoring then is under-mentoring. Jesus Christ is the real and decisive agent in Christian mentoring. We cannot bring about change in our mentorees, yet we can influence them to be changed by Jesus Christ.

**Other Biblical Models for Mentoring:**

Jethro and Moses - Exodus 18

Moses and Joshua - Deut 31:1-8; 34:9

Moses and Caleb - Num 13; 14:6-9; 34:16-19; Josh 14:6-15

Samuel and Saul - 1 Sam 9:15

Samuel and David - 1 Sam 16; 19:18-24

Jonathan and David - 1 Sam 18:1-4; 19:1-7; 20:1-42

Elijah and Elisha - 1 Kings 19:16-21; 2 Kings 2:1-16; 3:11

Barnabas and Paul - Acts 4:36; 11:23,24; 9:27; 13:50; 13:2; 15:36-39; 2 Tim 4:11

Paul and Timothy - Acts 16:2; Phil 2:19-23

Priscilla and Aquilla with Apollas - Acts 18:26; 18:2; Rom 16:3; 1 Cor 16:19; 2 Tim 4:19

Eunice and Lois with Timothy - Acts 16:1-3; 2 Tim 1-5; 3:14,15; 4:5

## **How would one get started?**

- ★ Coffee and Prayer
- ★ Setting Boundaries
- ★ Setting Goals
- ★ Nature of contact
- ★ Frequency and duration of contact
- ★ Expenses
- ★ Keeping Records

## **Things to Consider**

- ▲ Prayer
- ▲ Scripture
- ▲ Spiritual gifts
- ▲ Conversational techniques
- ▲ Questioning - Some suggested questions are on the last page
- ▲ Listening
- ▲ Replying
- ▲ Journaling

## **One page template for Mentoring Notes**

Mentoree name:

Date and Time:

Setting:

### **UNDERSTANDING**

Current circumstances - how are things?

Mentoree's wellbeing - how are you?

God's fingerprints - what is God up to?

### **FOCUS**

Review of assignments from last session

Revisit goals - do they need adjustments?

Action steps - what will you do by next session?

### **REFLECTION** - private to mentor

Mentoring process

Insights into the Spirit's activity

Impact on me personally

## **LOCATION, DATE AND TIME OF NEXT SESSION:**

### **Some suggested Questions:**

How have you spent time with God recently and what insights have you learnt?

What is your pattern of prayer?

How is your ministry affecting your own relationship with God?

How is your own sense of God's calling being clarified?

Where are your skills being tested?

Where is your character being tested?

What are your hopes and dreams for future ministry?

How can I help you?

What evidence can you point to of the presence and power of God in your ministry?

What are some things you can try?

What are some things we could do that would help you to be more a person of integrity?

What pain have you experienced and what were some of the effects of that pain?

How has that shaped who you are?

How might God use your past to prepare you for ministry in the future?

As you assess your growth, where do you see areas you need to work on?