

# INTENTIONAL MENTOR RELATIONSHIPS



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# INTENTIONAL MENTOR RELATIONSHIPS

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Adapted by Riverside Church of Christ

We become like those we spend time with. That's why mentor relationships are important for everyone. Use the following suggestions whether you are seeking someone to invest in you or find yourself ready to pour into the life of someone else.

## FINDING THE RIGHT MENTOR

The ideal mentor is someone who is further along in their faith journey. They do not necessarily need to be older, but life experience usually brings greater wisdom. Here are a few ideas on finding a mentor:

1. Ask God to help you identify someone whom you respect enough to speak into your life.
2. Ask the person to consider mentoring you for a specific season rather than leaving the time frame open. If they are unable or unwilling to meet your request, approach someone else in the same way. If they are open to mentoring you, schedule your first meeting to occur within 10 days.

## FINDING SOMEONE TO MENTOR

Who can you encourage and coach toward becoming a more Godly man or woman? Look for someone who is F.A.T. (Faithful, Available, and Teachable).

**Faithful:** They've demonstrated maturity and you see greater potential if given the right encouragement and coaching.

**Available:** They seem hungry to learn and would take your investment in them seriously.

**Teachable:** They usually respond well to coaching and instruction.

When approaching someone to mentor, use similar guidelines to those you would use asking to be mentored:

1. Ask God to help you identify someone who would benefit from your encouragement and coaching.
2. Decide what specific areas that you would like to invest in this person (i.e. marriage, ministry, finances, spiritual growth, parenting, etc.).
3. Don't feel awkward about making the offer. Your goal is not to say, "I'm so brilliant - I think you need me to mentor you." Rather, it is to say that you see potential that you would love to help unleash. For example, "Would you consider having me mentor you in this specific area for this certain amount of time? I will set the meetings and will provide you with a list of things to be thinking about before we meet."
4. At the end of the specified mentoring season, reassess whether both of you would like to continue for another specified period of time.