

# Mentor360!

## WHAT IS A MENTOR?

- Definition: “guide, counselor, teacher, instructor...provides experience, knowledge, achievements, position, and willingness to share”
- Secular vs Christian Mentoring
- Christian Friendship
- **Mentors guide others to the one true counselor: The Lord and His Word**

## WHAT IS A MENTEE?

- Could be any stage, age, or season of life.
- Someone who wants a Christian friend
- Someone who desires support and encouragement in her role as Woman, Wife, Mother, Daughter, Single-parent, Career Woman, Divorcee, New Believer, Doubter
- Perhaps there is a life decision to make, such as moving, changing jobs, becoming a stay-at-home mom, etc.
- Remember, Mentees are also Mentors!
- **Mentees want to be guided by others to the one true counselor: The Lord and His Word.**

## Mentoring Mindset

Begin with “What does a mentor relationship mean to you?” or “What do you hope to gain in this relationship?” From there, come together and set a goal for your time together.

Share your time availability and preferences. Discuss what times are best to connect with a phone call or text and to get together and find the best time and style that works for both of you.

“I may not be able to immediately get back to you, but I will when I am able to respond.” Have a soft approach and move with a non-judgmental, empathetic attitude. Be polite always; Avoid hot topics, politics, and potentially divisive social issues.

Share openly about both your successes and failures as opposed to “do this and don’t do that”.

It's okay for you to not have all the answers. Oftentimes we simply need to be heard and are not really seeking answers, fixing, or finding solutions.

Hold all things confidential.

Prepare ahead of time with prayer and ask God to bless your time together. Plan ahead with a variety of topics to discuss to establish both friendship and trust. Be slow to speak and quick to listen.

Practice Active Listening; tell me more; how did that make you feel? What else? Be encouraging.

If you find yourself underqualified in a specific situation, speak to your pod leader, as there are additional resources available.

Pray together, and share requests and praises! Ask, "How can I pray for you?"

\*Note the location of your meeting and if your mentee is comfortable or uncomfortable praying out loud. Prayer is simply a conversation with God, and there is no right or wrong way to do it. This will be a wonderful time to grow together! Start with gratitude, such as, "Dear God, I am so grateful for...."

## **Mentee/Mentor Mindset**

- You are journeying this mentor/mentee relationship throughout the 2023-2024 school year.
- Decide on a goal for your time together.
- Maintain consistent communication.
- Be considerate with timely responses to calls and texts.
- If you meet at a coffee shop or restaurant, no one party is responsible for picking up the bill. Splitting is best.
- Decide on an ending time together BEFORE you get together.
- Meeting times may vary. Decide what works best for you as a duo.
  - Plan the next meeting at the end of the current connection time. This keeps the flow of meeting together consistent.
- Every duo team is different. This is good. Find what works for you.
  - Go through a book.
  - Walk the beach.
  - Enjoy a meal.
  - Grab a coffee.
- Mentors are alums of SFC, not experts on the current events of the school.
- Have fun!

## Getting to know your Mentee

- Tell me about yourself.
- Where did you grow up, go to school, etc?
- Tell me about your family. Birth order?
- How has your family shaped you?
- How do you enjoy spending your free time?
- Share one thing you are passionate about.
- What is your favorite place to travel? Or where would you like to travel?
- How would you describe yourself? How would your family describe you?
- Do you consider yourself more of an extrovert or an introvert?
- Do you have a favorite verse? What is it about the verse that speaks to you?
- Is there something you have always wanted to do and haven't? For example, start a new hobby, behavior, or tradition?

## Going deeper with your Mentee

- Share about your faith journey.
- When or where do you feel closest to God?
- What is your biggest challenge right now?
- When do you feel most loved?
- Share something significant a Grandparent or Mentor taught you.
- What would you say you value most in relationships?
- Are you a goal-setter? Have you set any recently? How is that going? Is there a new goal you feel you would like to establish?
- Describe what your relationship with Jesus is right now...Is it smooth sailing, rough waters, or lost without a compass? Or something else...?
- Looking back, what would you say to your younger self?
- What prayer have you been praying for the longest?

## Suggested Resources

Collection of books for optional reading on your own or with your Mentor/Mentee partner.

There are many wonderful Christian books available to help us walk with Christ and with other women. This small list contains a mixture of classics alongside recent best sellers to help spark discussion and ideas.

### Mentorship Books

*Becoming a Woman of Influence: Making a Lasting Impact on Others* by Carol Kent  
-” Discover the power you have in Christ to influence others as Jesus did. Learn seven simple, life-changing principles Jesus used to disciple His followers-such as asking questions,

extending unconditional love, and telling stories.” Includes a 9-week Bible Study in the back half of the book.

*Mentoring For All Seasons: Sharing Life Experiences and God’s Faithfulness* by Janet Thompson

-Practical “how to” guide for mentoring women in all seasons of life. Through true life mentoring examples, helpful hints, and Scriptures to study together, this resource book provides valuable information for both the mentor and mentee.

*Walk With Me: Simple Principles For Everyday Disciplemaking* by Bill Mowry

-” Return to the essential biblical practices that help people grow as Christ-followers in simple, slow, and deep ways.” Through the use of 5 simple principles, the author encourages us to invite others to walk with us as we walk with God.

## **Bible Studies**

*Face to Face Bible Study Series--Mentoring Relationships in the Bible--M&M’s* by Janet Thompson

-found on <https://womantowomanmentoring.com>

-Seven studies exploring the mentoring relationships of women from the bible. Some examples are Mary & Martha, Naomi & Ruth, Elizabeth & Mary, and Priscilla & Aquila.

*Discipleship Workbook: Christian Foundational Truths* by Craig Caster (Family Discipleship Ministries)

-found at [fdm.world](http://fdm.world) website under resources

-Simple and straightforward discipleship workbook that teaches the basic foundations of the Christian faith in an easy-to-understand format. Teaches “how to become one with Christ and how to live a life that glorifies Him”.

*How to Be a Godly Woman in Today’s Culture: A Study in the Book of Titus* by Margy Hill

-Seven-week study teaching “how to live godly lives in the midst of an ungodly culture”.

*In Step with the Spirit: A Six Week Topical Study on the Holy Spirit* by Margy Hill

-This study is designed to encourage, equip and empower the reader to “keep in step” with the Holy Spirit. Learn “ how to be sensitive to His voice, listen for His commands, heed His warnings, and follow closely after Him”.

*Victorious: Lessons from Old Testament Women Who Walked Victoriously with God* by Margy Hill

-Study using the examples of women in the Bible who “didn’t have it all together, but loved God. His love saw them through trials, painful circumstances, and struggles and brought about His perfect will in their lives.”

*Esther: It’s Tough Being a Woman* by Beth More

-A ten-session study on the Old Testament story of Esther. “Women will learn strong lessons of faith, providence, and hope to equip them to live courageously ‘for such a time as this’.”

### **Holiness/Devotional Books**

*The Christian’s Secret to the Happy Life* by Hanna Whitall Smith

-First written in 1875 by Quaker Hanna Whitall Smith, this relevant and beautiful classic dives into the relationship between grace and faith. It explains the chief characteristics of the higher Christian life as “complete surrender to the Lord; a perfect trust in Him, resulting in victory over sin; and inward rest of soul”.

*Because We Love Him: Embracing a Life of Holiness* by Clyde Cranford

-Clyde spent several years before his death disciplining young men one-on-one and wrote down his deep yet simple lessons in book form. “Love is the well from which practical holiness springs: love for God, then love for men. This love is our humble response to God’s great love for us. If we truly love Him, attaining to His likeness will be our heart’s desire.” This life-changing guide offers “how-to” sections on daily quiet times, memorizing scripture, witnessing, worship, forgetting self, dealing with temptation, and knowing God’s will.

*Be Still My Soul: Reflections on Living the Christian Life* by Elizabeth Elliot

-Elizabeth Elliot was a missionary along with her husband, Jim Elliot, to the Auca Indians in Ecuador in the 1950s when he, along with four other missionaries, were speared to death after a friendly contact with the tribe. She inspired generations of Christians by returning and living among the tribe with her young daughter and sharing the gospel with them. The book addresses “being still” and leaving our anxiety, worry, and impatience in God’s capable and loving hands.

*A Path Through Suffering: Discovering the Relationship*

*Between God’s Mercy and Our Pain* by Elizabeth Elliot

-From her own experience with pain, grief, and loss, Elizabeth guides the reader through asking hard questions and reflecting on the nature of God. “Through it all, there is only one reliable path. If you walk it, you will see the transformation of all your losses, heartbreaks, and tragedies into something strong and purposeful.”

*Seeing and Savoring Jesus* by John Piper

-The book discusses what it means to see Jesus for who he really is and enjoy him. Each of the 13 chapters looks at an attribute of God and ends with a prayer.

*Identity: Who You Are in Christ* by Eric Geiger

-An enjoyable and easy read using 1 Peter 2:9-11 to teach us about our new identity once we become followers of Christ. “So we have a choice. We can bounce from relationship to relationship, possession to possession, or career to career in a frustrating quest for our

identity. Or we can embrace God's invitation to lose our lives and find our new identity in Him."

*Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World: Finding Intimacy with God in the Busyness of Life*  
by Joanna Weaver

-An invitation for every woman who feels she isn't godly enough... isn't loving enough... isn't doing enough. The life of a woman today isn't really all that different from that of Mary and Martha in the New Testament. Like Mary, you long to sit at the Lord's feet... but the daily demands of a busy world just won't leave you alone. Like Martha, you love Jesus and really want to serve him... yet you struggle with weariness, resentment, and feelings of inadequacy.

### **Apologetic Books**

*Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis

-From a BBC radio broadcast during the challenging days of WW2 in London, C.S. Lewis takes the reader through his thinking process as his spiritual journey traveled from atheism to Theism and ultimately to Christianity.

*Talking to Your Kids About Jesus* by Natasha Crain

-Using story illustrations that parents can understand, Natasha will give you the confidence to talk to your child about faith conversations in today's skeptical world. Topics include Jesus's identity, teachings, death, and resurrection. Tailored for any age, each chapter covers questions skeptics are asking and provides clear and concise responses for discussion with your child.

*The Reason for God* by Timothy Keller

-Described as the C.S. Lewis for the 21st century, Timothy Keller uses real-life conversations, literature, philosophy, and reasoning to explain how the belief in a Christian God is a sound and rational one. He provides a solid platform on which to stand firm against a backlash to religion during our Age of Skepticism.

### **Marriage Books**

*Love and Respect: The Love She Most Desires; The Respect He Desperately Needs* by Emerson Eggerichs

-Already being described as a classic among books on marriage, the reader will learn how to communicate effectively to deal with conflict quickly, easily, and biblically.

*The Power of a Praying Wife* by Stormie Omartian

-Stormie shares how God strengthened her marriage once she began praying for her husband in all areas of his life.

*Sacred Marriage: What if God Designed Marriage to Make Us Holy More Than to Make Us Happy?* By Gary Thomas

-” This is a book that looks at how we can use the challenges, joys, struggles, and celebrations of marriage to draw closer to God and to grow in Christian character”. A refreshing view of marriage.

### **Parenting Books**

*Praying the Scriptures for Your Children* by Jodie Berndt

-Learn how to make the Bible a book of prayers and how to pray specifically and expectantly for your children’s faith, character, safety, relationships, and future.

*Missional Motherhood: The Everyday Ministry of Motherhood in the Grand Plan of God* by Gloria Furman

-Gloria searches the scriptures for the mission of God in motherhood, discovering His promises to empower us as we make disciples in our homes, neighborhoods, and around the world.

*Parenting with Love and Logic: Teaching Children Responsibility* by Foster Cline and Jim Fay

-Establishing healthy control through easy-to-implement steps to teach responsibility, establish boundaries and grow character.

*Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family* by Paul David Tripp

-Embrace a grand perspective of parenting overflowing with vision, purpose, and joy. Takes a fresh look at grace and parenting.

*Boundaries with Kids: How Healthy Choices Grow Healthy Children* by Henry Cloud

-Help and guidance for raising kids to take responsibility for their actions, attitudes, and emotions.

## Mentor's Prayer

Lord, you know I am not worthy or capable of mentoring on my own. But through You, I can do all things. “Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty” (Zech 4:6). Please remind me not to try to mentor from my own power, but let the Holy Spirit indwell me daily and inspire my words and thoughts.

Lord, please give me patience when I feel frustrated, love when I feel angry, grace when I want to condemn, mercy when I want to judge, courage when I want to avoid, hope when I think it will never change, perseverance when I want to give up, acceptance when I feel rejected, clarity when I feel misunderstood, discernment to detect right from wrong when I am confused, humility when I think I can do it on my own.

The woman You have entrusted to me as a mentee is one of Your children, and You love her in spite of her past and future mistakes. She is a sheep that You do not want to go astray. You have great plans for her future. Help me guide her footsteps down the path that leads to You in all areas of her life.

Please give me energy, time, wisdom, knowledge, compassion, understanding, faith, and hope. Thank You for using me to teach the next generation Your ways. Protect me from the evil one. Clothe me daily with the armor of God as I put on the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the gospel of peace. Protect me as I take up the shield of faith, put on the helmet of salvation, and take up the sword of the Spirit, which is Your Word (Eph 6:14-17). The battle is Yours, and I am Your willing soldier, ready to bring victory out of defeat and survivors out of victims.

Fill me, Lord, with the Holy Spirit, and let me honor You in all that I say and do today. Amen.

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