



STORIES **AND** RITUALS

Meaningful **MENTORING**

LESSON 3

Stories & Rituals: Meaningful Mentoring

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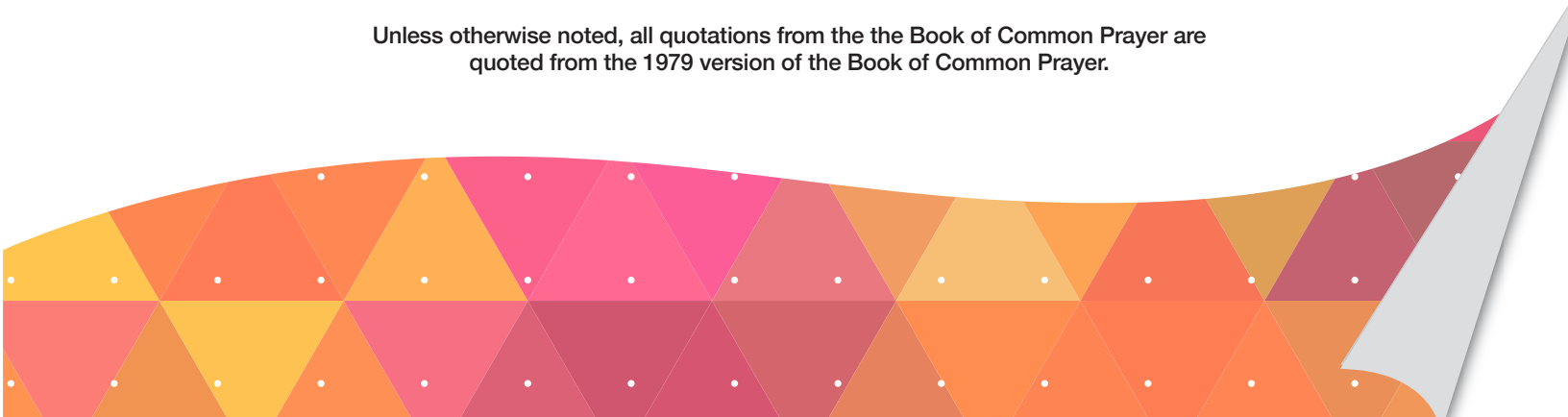
Editor

Victoria Hoppes

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MEANINGFUL MENTORING

Grab a Cup of Coffee

Lesson Focus: Intentional Community (Matthew 18:20)

Lesson Goal: To build trust and deepen the relationship between mentor and mentee.

Activity: Take your mentee out for a cup of coffee.

Duration of Lesson: 60-90 minutes

Materials Needed

- Lesson Sheet 3.1 (*Coffee Questionnaire*)
- Pencils or pens
- Camera or phone with the ability to take pictures (*optional*)

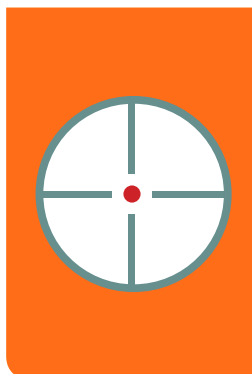
LESSON OVERVIEW



The Story and the Ritual

This lesson will provide both yourself and your mentee the opportunity to share stories with one another that will deepen your relationship with each other. This lesson will continue to build upon the relationship of trust and transparency that you have created through your other meetings.

The Coffee Questionnaire will invite both you and your mentee to think beyond basic facts about yourselves. The Questionnaire will invite you to think deeper about your lives by answering deep questions and articulating your answers about life and faith. As you complete this activity, make yourself transparent and watch as your mentee reveals their life and relationship with God to you.



What's the Focus?

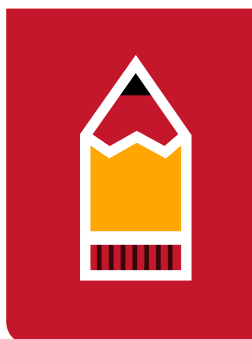
It is not necessary for your mentee (or you) to like or drink coffee for this mentoring session to be successful. Coffee shops have much more to offer customers than just coffee. The focus of this mentoring session is the intentionality of coffee shops. Something special happens when two people sit down at a coffee shop and take time to deepen a relationship together. During this session, you are saying to your mentee, "You are important to me. I am stopping my day and my life to be with you and learn about you." We also know from Scripture that when we intentionally gather in community together, Jesus is present with us (Matthew 18:20).



What's the Point?

God is all around us, especially when we gather in intentional community with one another. This mentoring session will help you and your mentee "get to know" each other. The Coffee Questionnaire will go beyond where you live, where you go to school or work, and which service you attend. You will learn about each other's fears, dreams, hopes, likes, and dislikes. All of these things affect our relationship and our view of God.

In most cases, your mentee either has made (or will eventually make) the decision to explore being a part of an intentional church community. The decision to be a member of the church includes a commitment to many different communities; the Christian community, your denominational community, and more specifically, your congregation's community. As a mentor, you are a face of these communities to your mentee. Ten years from now, your mentee will remember you and these moments you had together. These mentoring sessions are the moments that you are intentionally chiseling the foundation of a life-long relationship.



Preparing for Your Lesson

Find a coffee shop where you and your mentee can meet for this session. Connect with your mentee to arrange for transportation to and from the location *(if you are transporting your student, follow all Safe Church guidelines and procedures)*.

Make two copies of Lesson Sheet 3.1 (*Coffee Questionnaire*) to bring with you. Look over the questionnaire and familiarize yourself with the material.

THE LESSON

- Meet with your mentee on your designated date and time. If you are travelling the coffee shop together, follow all necessary Safe Church policies and procedures (*see the Suggested Safe Church Guidelines supplement for sample policies and procedures*).
- Order your coffee (*or other beverage*) and find a place to sit. Ideally, you should pick a spot where it will be easy for you to sit and listen to each other talk.
- Open your conversation together with a prayer. Ask God to be present in your relationship as you get to know each other better.
- Give your mentee one copy of Lesson Sheet 3.1. Keep the second copy for yourself.
- Complete the questionnaire using pens or pencils. Complete the sheet by taking turns and asking the questions of each other.
- After you complete the questionnaire, discuss your answers. If you need some starter points for your discussions, here are some ideas:
 - 1. Were there any similarities between our two questionnaires? What were they?**
 - 2. Were there any of my answers that surprised you? Why?**
- If possible, plan the next date and time you will meet and write these times in the space provided on Lesson Sheet 3.1. Also set a date that can serve as a “Plan B,” or backup, meeting (*just in case something happens and you can’t meet on the first date you picked*).
- Close your time together in prayer. Thank God for the opportunity to build an intentional relationship with one another.
- If you want to document your time together, take a photo of you and your mentee before you leave the coffee shop.
- If you are transporting your mentee home, follow all necessary Safe Church policies and procedures.

WRAPPING UP

Take a few moments to reflect on your mentoring experience. Ask yourself the following questions. You may wish to write your answers down in a journal

- 1. Were both you and your mentee able to be open and honest with each other during this session?**
- 2. Were there particular moments in this mentoring session that impressed you or surprised you?**
- 3. Where did you see God during your session?**
- 4. Based on your conversations and experience, do you have any new insights on your mentee? What are these insights?**

If necessary, report any new insights, issues or concerns to church leadership.

LOOKING AHEAD

The location for your next mentoring session is flexible. You and your mentee will explore the traditions of Advent together by creating an Advent wreath. Once a date is set for your next meeting, agree upon a location for you to meet. If you decide to meet in someone's home for your next session, invite another mentor/mentee pair to join you, or follow additional Safe Church guidelines for choosing and reporting a meeting location.

MENTORING BRUNCH

Coffee Questionnaire

Lesson Sheet 3.1

Circle One:

I prefer to be surrounded by people.

I like to be part of the crowd.

I like to live in the moment.

I'm a passionate person.

I like to be warm.

Coke

Favorite part of a meal:

I like to be by myself.

I like to be the leader of the crowd.

I like to plan and prepare for the future.

I'm more consistent with my emotions.

I like to be cold

Pepsi

Appetizer

Entrée

Dessert

What...

What are the last three books you read (by choice)?

What ministry interests or intrigues you the most at church? Why? _____

What scares you? _____

What do you hope for? _____

What are your dreams? _____

Favorites

Favorite type of movie: _____

Favorite quiet place: _____

Favorite season: _____

Who...

Who inspires you? _____

Who is your mentor? _____

Who is your favorite person to be with? _____

Who is your hero? _____

Descriptive Words: Pick a descriptive word to explain how you feel about the following things. Each descriptive word can only be used once.

Sports: _____ Education: _____

Politics: _____ Social Media: _____

Libraries: _____ Friends: _____

Church: _____ God: _____

About You:

How do you say "I'm sorry?" _____

What embarrasses you? _____

How do you let others know they are important to you? _____

Would You Rather: Circle one option.

Lose something you value

OR "get lost" when traveling?

Find \$10,000

OR solve world hunger?

Vacation at the beach

OR in the mountains?

Spend the day at church

OR spend the day at work or school?

Church Stuff:

Why is going to church important? _____

Where is God in your life? _____

When do you know that God is near? _____

How would you describe the face of God? _____

Next meeting:

Date:

Time:

Location:

"Plan B" meeting:

Date:

Time:

Location: