



# STORIES **AND** RITUALS

## *Meaningful* **MENTORING**

### **LESSON 6**

#### **Stories & Rituals: Meaningful Mentoring**

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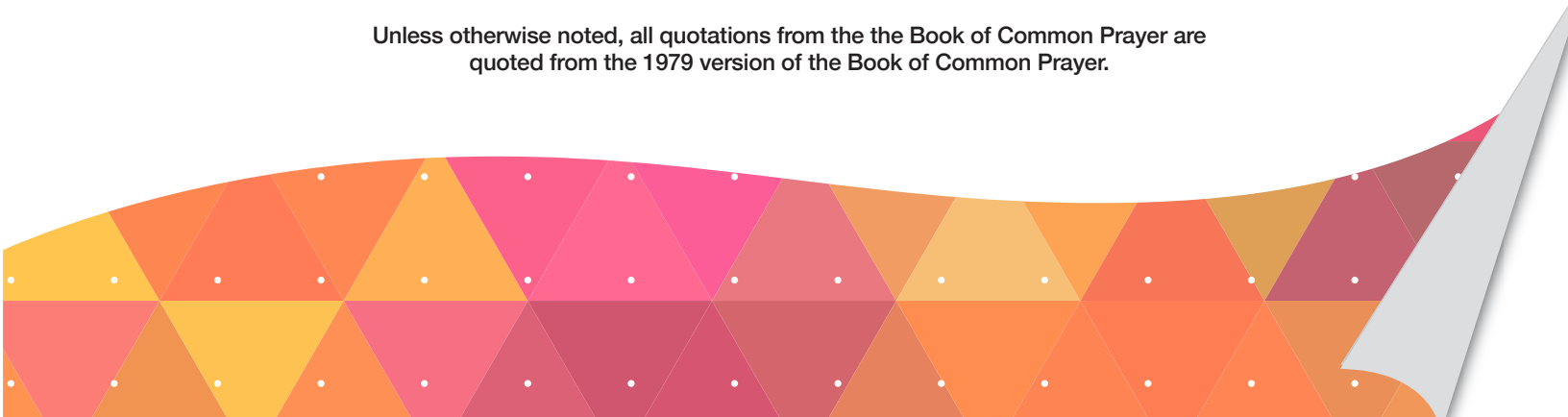
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# MEANINGFUL MENTORING

## Outreach

**Lesson Focus:** **Serving Others (Matthew 25:31-40)**

**Lesson Goal:** **To live out the call to serve others.**

**Activity:** **Participate in an outreach event with your mentee.**

**Duration of Lesson:** **One hour minimum** *(will vary depending on length of service)*

## Materials Needed

- Camera or phone with the ability to take pictures *(optional)*

# LESSON OVERVIEW



## The Story and the Ritual

This lesson will invite both you and your mentee to explore the stories of others and share your stories through a service or outreach opportunity. By partnering with an outreach ministry or organization, you will be challenged to open your hearts and minds to new settings and experiences.

You will ask your mentee to arrange for both of you to participate in an outreach or service day with your church or other ministry. There are no questionnaires to complete with this lesson; instead, you and your mentee will be invited to just have an open and honest conversation.



## What's the Focus?

As Christians, we are called to the service of others. We are told to be servants of one another. When we serve others, we also serve God (Matthew 25:40).

There are many different words to describe outreach. Many times we associate outreach with service, but it can also be so much more. Love, action, respect, compassion, vulnerability, and much more are all involved in the practice of outreach ministry. As you prepare for this lesson, take a moment to think about the meaning of outreach to you.



## What's the Point?

This lesson will encourage your mentee in two different areas: developing independence and openness. Your mentee should be encouraged to make contact with your outreach partner or organization themselves. As you make arrangements, ask your student to cc you on emails or keep you in the loop about what's going on. There is no need to panic if your student is slow to make contact. The result might be that you find a different ministry or organization to partner with. Use your best judgment to determine how much prodding and reminding your mentee will need throughout the month.

This lesson will also encourage openness. Both you and your mentee will see, hear, and experience many new things during this mentoring session. Encourage them to have open eyes, an open mind, and an open heart. This activity will help alter the lens through which they (and you) see the world and how we as Christians can serve others.



## Preparing for Your Lesson

Work with your mentee to identify different outreach and service opportunities provided through your church. If you do not have any opportunities available, find other nonprofit organizations with which to volunteer. Invite your mentee to contact the outreach partner or organization directly and set up a time for the two of you to volunteer. Allow your student to take the lead in preparing for this lesson.

# THE LESSON

- Work with your mentee to choose a mutually agreed outreach ministry to participate in together.
- Have your mentee contact the contact person for that particular ministry and set up a date and time to volunteer.
- Meet with your mentee on your designated date and time. If you are travelling to your outreach location together, follow all necessary Safe Church policies and procedures (*see the Suggested Safe Church Guidelines supplement for sample policies and procedures*).
- Complete your outreach activity. Once you complete your activity, reflect, discuss, and ask questions about your experience. Ask your student the following questions:
  1. What did you learn about yourself?
  2. What did you learn about others?
  3. What did you learn about the ministry?
  4. Where did you see God?
- Share your answers to the above questions with your mentee. Be transparent and honest as you answer them.
- If possible, plan the next date and time you will meet and write these times in the space. 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).
- If you want to document your time together, take a photo of you and your mentee before you leave your meeting.
- 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. What did you observe in your mentee while at the outreach event?
2. What did you observe of yourself?
3. How did your student answer the questions you asked?
4. Were there particular moments in this mentoring session that impressed you or surprised you?
5. Where did you see God during your session?
6. 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

Your next session will be experiencing the Stations of the Cross with your mentee. Many churches have Stations of the Cross available during Lent, if not year-round. Find out if your church has Stations of the Cross available for prayer and reflection. If not, identify a location in your community that does.