



LOCAL CHURCH MENTOR PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Mentoring: “Mentoring” is one way of describing the important biblically based concept of learning from one another. Often it is demonstrated when those who are more mature in faith or in experience teach or encourage those less mature or experienced. An example found in the Scriptures is when Priscilla and Aquila encouraged Apollos to new understanding in his faith:

“And he (Apollos) began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly” (Acts 18:26).

Mentoring will take numerous forms within a church body. Some of the most effective examples of mentoring relationships happen almost daily and without notice. This mentoring appears in the form of loving relationships of believers encouraging each other through life. However, there could also be times when a more formal approach to mentoring might be warranted, and a church might want to set up a program tailored specifically to help ensure the needs of the entire congregation are being met. Please consider the following thoughts and questions in order to best visualize how a more formalized program of mentoring might be beneficial within your church.

Mentoring Program Objectives: Any local church mentoring program should consider the following questions in order to help determine their objectives.

Mentor Program:

- What is the goal of your church mentoring program? What need(s) are you trying to meet?
- How will you evaluate the program to determine if it is being “effective?”

Elder/Lead Minister and Mentoring Program Coordinator:

- What will be the role of the elder/lead minister in the program?
- What will be the role of the mentoring program coordinator(s)?

Mentors:

- Who are to be the mentors? Are they selected or do they volunteer?
- What are the expectations of mentors (training, ongoing communication, specialization, etc.)?

Mentor/Mentee Relationships:

- Who initiates mentor/mentee pairings and how is this communicated to all parties?
- What are the expectations of a mentoring relationship? Who is responsible for monitoring the progress of a mentor/mentee relationship and its effectiveness?

Mentor Program Diagram: The following represents the typical relationships and responsibilities within a local church mentor program.

