

MENTORING BRIEF

The Why of Mentoring

Mark 8:34-35

And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it."

The Purpose

Mentoring aims to contribute to the main purpose of MTS Recruit, that is to encourage delegates to have their whole lives lived under the Lordship of Jesus and to stir hearts to the urgency of gospel proclamation. In light of this, MTS Recruit encourages delegates to consider gospel ministry and consider undertaking training through an apprenticeship as one way of living this out.

Mentoring provides the unique opportunity to encourage this on a personal level and to get a better understanding of where the individual delegates are at. Delegates come to MTS Recruit for many different reasons; for some an apprenticeship is not even on the radar, for others an apprenticeship may not be appropriate. That's ok, mentoring is an opportunity for them to ask questions and to help them think through next steps in a safe and relaxed environment. We would love for each delegate to walk away from mentoring being encouraged to continue taking up their cross and following Jesus.

The What of Mentoring

What's Involved in a Mentoring Session?

During MTS Recruit, each Delegate will spend an hour in discussion with a Mentor who is currently training for or serving in full-time ministry. A mentoring session should be relaxed and an informal conversation. You don't need to be their counselor or be too prescriptive. The conversation shouldn't only be future focused but also explores what has led the delegate to this point and what is going on for them in their lives now.

Here are our top tips for a great mentoring session:

- Pray for your Delegates before, during, and after your session.
- If possible, try meeting them before your session to build the relationship.
- Let the conversation be organic, it's not an interview.
- Tell them why you are meeting and ask them if they have questions they want answered.
- Focus on the big picture as you ask questions, remembering you have limited time.
- Share your own wisdom and experiences when appropriate, and direct them to more suitable help if needed.
- Listen well and ask follow up questions to ensure you understand what they are sharing.

Suggested Questions

These following 'suggested questions' act as a guide for your conversation with your Delegates, and cover their past (Q1-4), present (Q5-11), and future (Q12-15). This helps trace out their trajectory, leading them to consider how they are aligning themselves to God's trajectory for the world (Luke 24:46-47, Acts 1:8).

1. How have you found the conference so far? Why did you come to MTS Recruit? What do you want to get out of this weekend?
2. Has MTS Recruit raised any questions for you?
3. How did you become a Christian?
4. What are some ways you have been serving in the past?
5. Over the past years as a Christian, how has God shaped you and those you've been serving (in convictions, character and competencies)?
6. What does a normal week look like for you now?
7. What ministries are you involved in now? What do you like about it? Why do you do it? Who grows through that ministry?

Q7 Mentoring Tip

It is easy for the Delegate to answer Question 7 in terms of structured or official roles, but probe further in helping them see that serving is not about being in a role or position, but about people.

8. How do you grow personally as a Christian?
9. Have you shared the gospel recently with a non-Christian? How did it go?
10. If you had to explain what God's plan for the world is, what would you say?

Q10 Mentoring Tip

This is to see how the Delegate articulates theology, also the basis for next two questions.

11. How do you think that affects you now?
12. What are your future plans in light of this? Where do you think you might be in 5 years time?

Q12 Mentoring Tip

Help the delegate think about how they will serve people in word and prayer, rather than serve in a particular role or position. Try to work out what this looks like in different spheres of their life. Start with the next year, then think about the future. Help the delegate make some concrete goals and work out how they can serve God in light of his plan for the world.

13. Have you thought about a ministry apprenticeship? What are some reasons you would consider one? What might be some obstacles that hinder you from doing a ministry apprenticeship?
14. Has anyone encouraged you to think about a ministry apprenticeship before? What hesitations might your family, friends or ministry leader have if you were to do one?
15. What is the next step for you?

Follow Up

Part of the next step for Delegates is encouraging them to talk to someone they know – this could be their minister, the staff at their university Christian group, or a mature Christian friend they trust.

If none of these options are available, could you follow up with them? Please consider your own capacity and limitations in pursuing this option, but it could look like:

- Meeting up with them twice before next year's MTS Recruit
- Calling them or chatting online
- Introducing them to someone you trust who could follow up with them

These conversations not only happen at MTS Recruit, but occur throughout the year in your own ministries. Who can you keep 'mentoring' to encourage them in the next steps towards having their whole lives lived under the Lordship of Jesus and understand the urgency of gospel proclamation?

The How of Mentoring

The Details

Mentors will be assigned between 2-4 Delegates to have discussions with over the weekend.

If you or your delegate's circumstances change and it is not possible to meet during the conference, please let MTS Recruit know as soon as possible by emailing kitty.it.chan@gmail.com or visiting the MTS Info Desk at the Conference. This will allow us to find a different mentor to serve the delegate.

Everything you need for Mentoring at MTS Recruit is available on your online Conference Page. You can access this by heading to mtsrecruit.com and logging into your account using the details you created during your registration.

From here, you will be able to access:

- your Mentoring Brief
- details of who you are mentoring, including their pre-mentoring survey if they have completed it
- two Mentor Training Videos with helpful tips and guidance on mentoring

You delegates won't be confirmed until Friday 29 September. Please contact your assigned delegates by the Saturday morning of the conference to arrange a time to meet.

The Pre-Mentoring Survey

A survey is filled out by delegate prior to the conference, it is designed to help them start thinking through their current views about gospel ministry, and provide Mentors with some background information to engage with them more deeply. Not every delegate will fill out a survey. Should your assigned Delegates complete this survey, you will be able to access it via your online Conference Page, but please keep all information received confidential.

Mentor Assistance

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact kitty.it.chan@gmail.com