

## 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 exists at SPUR to encourage Delegates to move forward in having their whole lives lived under the Lordship of Jesus, in light of the urgency of gospel proclamation, and to consider a ministry apprenticeship for training. In other words, if Jesus is Lord and we all need to live for him, and if he is coming back soon and we need to warn others to submit to him, then how is this person living in light of these realities?

Please note that the aim of Mentoring is not necessarily to persuade this person to do an MTS apprenticeship as soon as possible, but it is always to encourage them to take up their cross and follow Jesus. For some people, this will mean not going into full-time ministry, but for others it will mean that we get to help them in thinking through their next steps towards pursuing gospel work. For some people, taking the gospel seriously will mean heading into full-time ministry, and we should challenge them to undertake a ministry apprenticeship as their next step.

## The What of Mentoring

### The Details

During SPUR, each Delegate will spend an hour in discussion with a Mentor who is currently training for or serving in full-time ministry. Each Delegate will have an opportunity to talk about ministry and training, and share about their current thought processes in a safe and relaxed environment. Mentors will be assigned between 1 and 3 Delegates to have discussions with during the day. Time will be available during the sessions immediately prior to and after Afternoon Tea (2pm-3pm, and 3.30pm-4.30pm) as well as the Lunch Break from 12pm-1pm.

## Pre-Mentoring Survey

Each Delegate will be given the opportunity to answer a survey before the conference. This survey is designed to help them start thinking through their current views about gospel ministry, and provide Mentors with background information to engage with them more deeply. 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.

## Meeting with your Delegates

Before meeting with your assigned Delegates, please take note of the following:

Pray for your Delegates before you meet, as you meet and after you meet.

Tell them why you are meeting and ask them if they have questions they want answered. Try to let the conversation be as organic and relaxed as possible

The questions suggested below are only a guide. Choose your questions wisely, remembering you have limited time.

You are not their counsellor.

Share your own wisdom and experiences when appropriate.

Prioritise talking about their next step to finish.

## Suggested Questions

### Questions

The questions prepared 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. Why did you decide to come along to SPUR this year? What do you want to get out of it?
2. Have the sessions so far 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 are some ways you are serving now?

- It is easy for the Delegate to answer Question 7 in terms of structured or official roles (eg. bible study leader), but probe further in helping them see that serving is not about being in a role or position, but about people. Try to work out what this looks like in the different spheres of their life, and note their incorporation of word and prayer in these.

8. What have you been reading from the Bible and praying about lately? What has God been teaching you? How do you grow personally as 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?

- For Mentors: 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?

- It is easy for the Delegate to answer Question 12 in terms of structured or official roles (eg. bible study leader), but probe further in helping them see that serving is not about being in a role or position, but about people. Try to work out what this looks like in the different spheres of their life, and note their incorporation of word and prayer in these.

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?

- For Mentors: Remember the purpose of mentoring for all of us to be transformed by and live under the Lordship of Christ, which may mean for some to train through a ministry apprenticeship.

## 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:

1. Meeting up with them twice before next year's SPUR
2. Calling them or chatting online
3. Introducing them to someone you trust who could follow up with them

# The How of Mentoring

## The Details

Everything you need for Mentoring at SPUR is available on your online Conference Page. You can access this by heading to [SPUR Queensland – Rego Page - MTS All for the Kingdom Conferences](#) 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, and
- two Mentor Training Videos with helpful tips and guidance on mentoring.

## Your Delegates

All Delegates will be assigned to their appropriate Mentors when registration closes, meaning you will not be allocated your Delegates until Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

When your Delegates have been assigned to you, you will be able to access their relevant contact information as well as their pre-mentoring survey which will help guide you as you meet with them.

Please note again, this information is private and is to be kept confidential.

Please do not send or share this information with anyone else.

Please contact your assigned delegates by the Saturday morning of the conference to arrange a time to meet during the day.

## Mentor Assistance

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact Emma Fooks on 0400116774.