

Necessary Connections

You Need Mentors

A model is someone you look to for inspiration – someone you want to be like in some way. But the truth is, a great model can only go so far in helping you achieve your best self. If you really want to reach the pinnacle of success in any area of your life, you'll have to take it to the next level. You need a mentor. However, the art of getting a mentor has a two-fold problem. First, it can be difficult to find someone who's willing to mentor you. But second, having a mentor means inviting them to tinker with your life, to ask uncomfortable questions, and to call you on your stuff. In fact, it's easier to go through life without a mentor than it is to submit to someone's tutelage. The only question is ... are you happy with who you are now, or do you aspire to more?

John 1:35–42

1. It's difficult to get a mentor today on 2 levels: (1) _____
One; (2) _____ to One.
2. Mentors _____ their _____ into others.
3. Mentors have permission to _____ with your life, to ask the _____, and to call you on your _____.
4. Mentors care enough to not allow you to _____
_____.

My Count Me In! Commitments

- I'll be here next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I'm willing to be a mentor
- I need a mentor in _____
- I'll attend next week's Getting Acquainted Lunch to learn more about RCC

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper, Going Further

Scripture: John 1:35–42

Introduction: No one disputes that Jesus was a fine model for moral decency. Models are inspiring. But it takes more than a fine model to change a life. Jesus modeled his ministry to thousands of men and women and he even called twelve to follow him closely. However, he only chose to mentor three of those twelve followers and he left the church in their capable hands. In this study, we're going to look closely at how Jesus mentored Peter. His mentoring provides us with a model for mentoring others ... and God has called all of us to be mentors.

1. What is the difference between a model, a teacher, and a mentor?
2. Read John 1:35–42. This is the first time Simon Peter met Jesus. How do you think Simon might have responded to Jesus giving him a “new” name?
3. Read Matthew 4:18–20. What do you think Jesus saw in Peter that made him willing to be Peter’s mentor?
4. Several times Jesus took Peter, James, and John aside for private mentoring sessions. Search the Gospels and read these encounters. For each one, what do you think Jesus was trying to teach his apprentices?
5. Read Matthew 16:13–23. In this passage Jesus questions Peter, praises and encourages Peter, and chastises Peter. Why are each of these necessary in a mentoring relationship? How does each help bring transformation to an apprentice?
6. Read John 21:15–17. After Peter denied Jesus thrice prior to the cross-resurrection event, Jesus chose to “restore” Peter to leadership. How did Jesus handle this mentoring moment?
7. Dr. Bill said that mentors care too much to let their followers remain the same. What are some of the tools a mentor needs to bring about change in their disciples?

Who will you invite to worship with you this week?
