

YOUR FAMILY, CHURCH, AND COMMUNITY LEGACY

MENTORING THE NEXT GENERATION

Mentoring is a process—either formal or informal—of helping someone develop specific goals and skills through conversations and learning activities. Look back on the role models in your life. What did they teach you? Think about your testimony. How has your relationship with Jesus Christ molded you into the person you are today? Consider your own skills and abilities—how has the Lord gifted you?

As you think through these questions, write down a few ideas of the ways you could invest in someone else—someone younger in years or someone who is lacking in an area in which you have experience.

- ▶ Use the list below to identify where and how you can invest relationally or spiritually in another person, including someone in your own family.
 - I can teach these vocational skills:
 - I can coach in these areas:
 - I have professional experience in these areas:
 - I am really good at:
 - I am best suited to work with this age group:
 - I can donate this equipment or service:
 - I can volunteer or serve on this committee:
 - I can serve in leadership in this area:
- ▶ Then consider the following questions:
 - How many hours can I commit each month?
 - What are the goals of this relationship?
 - Will this be a formal or informal relationship?
 - How will progress be measured?
 - Is this something my spouse (if applicable) and I can do together?
 - What barriers—if any—should I be aware of?
- ▶ Some skills to successful mentoring include:
 - Active listening
 - Consistent meeting schedule
 - Mutually shared goals and objectives
 - Constructive and motivating feedback

After evaluating these questions, identify how, when, and where you can offer your talents, time, and treasure. You can be as broad or as specific as you like—even if you aren't ready to begin a formal mentoring relationship. Identify needs, develop goals, and then revisit what you've written in a few weeks.

“O God, do not forsake me, until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to everyone who is to come.” —Psalm 71:18, NKJV