

Mentors Want to Know: Part 2 (July 2011)

By Michelle Olson

There are so many questions; we needed to have a Part 2.

Especially as you begin a mentorship relationship, you may have a lot of questions. Here are some questions you may be asking... But before you go further, please notice that some have answers and some do not have answers. But we at least know that these are some of the questions, and you are not alone in asking them. 😊

-Am I doing or saying the right things? Sometimes. 😊

-Why am I not feeling satisfied with my work with this mentee?

-What do I do if I'm going on vacation? Bring your mentee... or probably just plan accordingly. There are definitely seasons in life and seasons in mentorships. You may need to miss from time to time or get creative in your time together.

-Can I give my mentee money or a gift? Yes. 😊 But obviously do not feel like you must. Money is definitely not a requirement for being a mentor.

-How do I answer questions about sensitive issues (sexuality, drug use, etc.)? Pray to God for wisdom. Look to His Word. And ask for help if and when you need it.

-What should we talk about? Whatever your mentee needs to talk about.

-Why doesn't my mentee open up to me? It takes time!

-How do the parents feel about their child getting a mentor?

-How might the family respond to me?

-Do I contact the mentee's parent? It is highly recommended!

-How can I know I'm helping them when I feel their parents are telling them the opposite of what I am telling them?

Again there are many, many questions you may be asking. Keep asking. But don't get paralyzed by the questions. Trust Jesus with the answers!