



small groups

Discussion Guide



BE Faithfully Present As a Mentor

1 Thess. 1:4-10

Ice Breaker

(10 minutes)

Discuss

- Did you have a favorite coach, teacher or mentor when you were a kid? Who was it and how did they impact you?
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Lesson Review

(40 minutes)

Read 1 Thess. 1:4-10

In this passage, Paul calls the Thessalonians both "imitators" and "models." They followed Paul and led others in a line of discipleship that stretches all the way to our day.

Discuss

- Who are you imitating? Is there someone at IBC you look up to?

Andy gave us three tips for mentoring: accept your call to mentor, acknowledge your ability to mentor, and be intentional in your mentoring.

1. ACCEPT YOUR CALL TO MENTOR

Andy used several examples of mentoring

- Howard Hendricks and Chuck Swindoll
- Deb Smith and Susan Laukoter
- Mr. Holland and his students

Discuss

- What examples of mentoring relationships can you find in scripture? Pick one and find a passage about those people. See if you can identify one thing that describes their relationship.

2. ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR ABILITY TO MENTOR

Pouring into someone else doesn't require a classroom or textbook. It doesn't mean being part of a program or having a seminary degree. Andy Stanley says the key to his mentoring is for him to remember that he isn't called to fill every need his mentee has. His job is just to pour himself out.

Discuss

- Where are you pouring yourself out?

3. BE INTENTIONAL IN YOUR MENTORING

Andy talked about the Journey Bible Community and their intentional decision to connect with the Tree. There many are other opportunities to serve as a mentor. Here are two:

IBC's Single Parent Ministry needs mentors. To volunteer or learn more, contact Marsha Tribbett at mtribbett@irvingbible.org.

SchoolWorks is an independent ministry that began at IBC. It provides mentors for public school students. To volunteer or learn more, contact Lindsay Hamilton at lhamilton@irvingbible.org.

But Andy noted that mentoring doesn't have to be programmed to be intentional. It can be as simple as asking for coffee with someone older than you, or adding that young couple to your list of dinner party guests. Mentoring doesn't have to mean big changes, but it does mean taking small steps intentionally and faithfully.

Application

(10 minutes)

Discuss

- What small steps can you take this week to make a connection with someone a few steps ahead or behind you in the Christian journey?

