

**MENTORING  
LEADERS  
THROUGH THE  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

*A workbook for mentors and students*

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## USING THIS MANUAL

This manual is designed to be used as a workbook by the mentor . The basic concept for the mentoring project is for an Adult Sunday School class teacher to mentor a selected student from the class. There is a videotape “Mentoring Leaders Through the Sunday School” that can be viewed as an introduction to this manual.

The mentor is to be selected by the Pastor, Minister of Education, and/or Sunday School Director. Once the mentor has accepted the position of being a mentor he/she is to attend an orientation dinner with the church staff. Following the orientation training the teacher is to select a student. The person or group who is coordinating the mentoring program must approve the student before the student is enlisted.

The entire mentoring experience is to be conducted during a nine month time frame. This time frame is divided into three sections. There should be a training session for mentors prior to the starting of the first three month session. This first training session should give the mentor the details of the first 13 weeks of mentoring a student. A second training session for the mentors should be held just prior to the beginning of the second three month mentoring time. This second training should give the mentor the details for conducting the three mentoring sessions during this second time frame. A third mentoring training session should be conducted just prior to the beginning of the final three months of mentoring. During this training session the mentors and church staff should make decisions on how to train those who are being mentored in Sunday School work. One option is to identify someone in the area who could conduct a training program for the students for each age group. It may be the church has someone that is a member of the church that could conduct the training. In a rare instance the mentor may be the one to conduct the training. The first session of this final quarter will have the mentor and the student to meet together. During this session the mentor will administer a Potential Sunday School Worker Survey and generally outline the schedule for the sessions during this final quarter. Following the first session of this final quarter the mentor and church staff will examine the results of the survey and the needs of the church to finalize the details of the training for the student. The student should be informed of the details within one week of taking the survey.

In this manual Section A will focus on the work to be done during the first three months. The material to be covered in Section A is designed to help the student to deepen his/her spiritual life. The mentor and student should meet on a weekly basis during this section. The mentor should determine the length of time for each session. There is a worksheet at the end of each session that should be copied by the mentor and given to the student as a worksheet for the session.

Section B will focus on the work to be done during the second three months. The material to be covered in Section B is designed to help the student to understand and develop leadership skills. The mentor and student should plan to meet at least once a month while covering the material in Section B. The mentor may schedule more meetings if needed.

Section C will focus on the work to be done during the third three months. The material to be covered in Section C is designed to develop the student as a Sunday School leader. The mentor and student will meet together for the first meeting in Section C. Following the first meeting the mentor will meet with church staff and/or the Sunday

School director to determine where the student should be assigned in the Sunday School organization. During this assignment meeting the type of training and the persons to do the training should be determined. Once these decisions have been made, the mentor should relay the information to the student. Those doing the training should contact the student to establish the training schedule. The final meeting of Section C should be a closure time between mentor & student. During this meeting an assignment in the Sunday School organization should be extended to the student.

Following the completion of the mentoring program it is suggested the student be given recognition for the work that has been done. This recognition could be done in front of the entire congregation. The recognition service might include the presentation of a certificate commemorating the completion of the mentoring program. It would be wise for the church leaders to highlight the reasons for the mentoring program and a challenge for others to participate in future mentoring training.