

2016-2017

9th Grade

# Mentor Book

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# You Are My Disciples

**Welcome!!** This booklet is meant to be completed with your mentor in correlation with confirmation at Bethel Lutheran. By now, you are probably looking forward to spending your third year together with your mentor growing in faith. Thanks for your willingness to learn together. This booklet is designed to facilitate conversation and help you both learn about aspects of your faith life. Here's what is expected of you:

## Expectations of Mentors

\*Attend future mentor meetings at the church.

\*Meet with student at least three times during their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year to complete the two modules and one mentor event. The mentor event is scheduled on:

**Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**

\*Be the adult in the relationship – if you have not heard from the student - check in with him or her.

\*Realize that the student has picked you as an important, trusted and admired Christian adult. Please, take that seriously. If you can, attend their extra-curricular events at school, write them a letter or postcard to encourage them (9<sup>th</sup> grade is not an easy time), take them out for ice cream, pray for them, etc.

## Expectations of students

\*Meet with your mentor at least three times during your 9<sup>th</sup> grade year to complete the two modules and one mentor event. The mentor event is scheduled on:

**Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**

\*Call to set up times to meet with your mentor.

\*Realize that your mentor may be unsure how to be comfortable with a senior high youth. Greet them when you see them, smile and wave. Keep your mentor in your prayers.

\*Return your completed mentor booklets to the pastors by your final confirmation interview.

There are two “modules” to complete in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. They are listed below with a short description of each step. There could be some prep involved with each, so read this overview first before you dive in. Students – you will also complete a Faith Statement Paper. This is to complete the confirmation program. Guidelines are listed in the back of this book.

## Modules – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Year

1. The Bible: A Daily Dose of God's Grace and Guidance – the Book of Mark

\*This module is designed to accompany your mentor event on Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>. This event is designed to help your reading of Mark, so it would be helpful to do this *after* the event. Take good notes, there will be great information which will make your reading of Mark more rich.

\*While Mark is not long, it may take you awhile to read through. This module asks you to fill in your thoughts by chapter. Why not spread your reading over several weeks with your mentor and trade notes via email, Facebook messenger, or text?

\*Answer a few questions about why reading the Bible is important to you.

2. Saints: A Lifetime of Discipleship

\*This module has you talking about “saints”. You will also be interviewing a “saint”; preferably any elderly person who has lived a long life of faith. If you are stuck on coming up with someone to visit, ask your pastors, they would be glad to help you out.

## PRE-MODULE ONE- GETTING TO KNOW YOU

If you're working with the same mentor as last year, skip to page 5.

- 1) Full Name  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Six words that describe me pretty well include:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) My favorite food  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) One of my favorite places to go:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) If I want to relax, I:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) A person I enjoy spending time with  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Something I like about my church:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) Something I like about myself:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) Something I like about the age I am:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_

*"And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us." 1 John 3:23-24*

- 10) One of the best days of my life was:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) If I could travel anywhere in the world (all expenses paid), I would go:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
I would bring \_\_\_\_\_ with me (name a person):  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) So far, on life's journey, one of the biggest challenges I've had to face was:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) Living the Christian life can be a challenge because:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) One question I have about God is:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) Name someone you trust:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) To trust someone is to:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 17) Have you always been a churchgoer?  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) If not, how did you get involved in a church:  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6*

19) What do you hope will happen during this time?

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

20) What are you worried about regarding this process?

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

## PRE-MODULE TWO – GETTING BETTER AQUAINTED

1) What is your favorite memory? Why?

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Who are the three most important people in your life right now?

Mentor: 1

2

3

Student: 1

2

3

3) If you could have one super hero ability, what would it be?

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

4) What do you think is the coolest/most fun job?

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

5) When you were a kid, what did you most want to be when you grew up?

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

6) Has that changed?

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

7) If you knew today was your last day on earth, what would you do?

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

8) If you could relive one day of your life, what would it be and why?

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

- 9) What's your favorite activity to do? Has this changed since last year?  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) What do you look for in a friend?  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) What's your favorite part of church?  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) If you could ask God one question and get an answer, what would it be?  
Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) When was one time you got angry at God or questioned whether God existed?  
Mentor  
  
Student
- 14) What helped you get through that time?  
Mentor  
  
Student

## **➔MODULE ONE – THE BIBLE: A DAILY DOSE OF GOD’S GRACE AND GUIDANCE: THE BOOK OF MARK**

1) Read the Gospel of Mark together. Decide together what your reading schedule will be. Will you read one chapter a day? Will you do all of it at one time?

Jot down comments, reactions, and questions for each chapter.

CHAPTER 1

CHAPTER 2

CHAPTER 3

CHAPTER 4

CHAPTER 5

CHAPTER 6

CHAPTER 7

CHAPTER 8

CHAPTER 9

CHAPTER 10

CHAPTER 11

CHAPTER 12

CHAPTER 13

CHAPTER 14



CHAPTER 15

CHAPTER 16

2) Why do people read the Bible?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

3) What makes you want to read the Bible?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

4) What makes it difficult to read the Bible regularly?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

5) How can reading the Bible help your relationship with Christ?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Close your time with each of you saying a short prayer asking God to be with you in the confirmation journey and thanking God for your partner in this process.

You may use the following prayer if you are uncomfortable with spontaneous prayer:

**Dear God, we ask that the Holy Spirit would guide and direct our relationship. Help us develop a relationship that is grounded in you. Thank you for this time together. Be with us each day, at school, at play, at home, at work. Keep us safe until we come together again. Amen.**

You may also use the prayer phrases at the back of this book to complete a prayer.

## ➔MODULE TWO – SAINTS: A LIFETIME OF DISCIPLESHIP

1) Me, a Saint? Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-9. According to what you read in the last half of verse 2, what is a saint?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Are you a saint?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

3) Identify people in your life who have been important in the development of your faith in God, people you might call saints. After each name on your list, make a brief note as to how they affected your spiritual life, your relationships with God, and include at least one quality with him/her that you admire.

Student 1

2

3

Mentor 1

2

3

4) Prepare to visit a lifelong saint from your congregation who lives in a retirement or nursing home.

What fears or concerns do you have about making the visit?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

5) Do you feel awkward or uncomfortable about making such a visit?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

6) Make a list of questions you would like to ask this individual that will help you learn more about his or her faith, life, and church experience over the years.

Student 1

2

3

4

5

Mentor 1

2

3

4

5

7) Visit the individual. Reflect on your visit. Was it what you expected? What surprised you about the individual you visited?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

8) What did you learn about the development of his or her Christian faith?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

9) How can saints, both those with us and the great Christians of the past encourage us in our faith?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Close your time with each of you saying a short prayer asking God to be with you in the confirmation journey and thanking God for your partner in this process.

You may use the following prayer if you are uncomfortable with spontaneous prayer:

**Dear God, we ask that the Holy Spirit would guide and direct our relationship. Help us develop a relationship that is grounded in you. Thank you for this time together. Be with us each day, at school, at play, at home, at work. Keep us safe until we come together again. Amen.**

You may also use the prayer phrases at the back of this book to complete a prayer.

## **THE END**

Congratulations on completing this mentor booklet for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year! Thank you to both of you for your time and energy in beginning this very important relationship. Be sure to thank each other for the time you had together, and for the ways each of you were gifted by the other's presence.

**Students:** Your final task is to return only your booklet to the pastors at the church by your final confirmation interview. Please remember to put your name on the cover and to write your Faith Statement Paper!

**REFLECTIONS...**

Use the following words and phrases to start a prayer. You can make it as long or as short as you would like; as elaborate or as simple as you would like. Hopefully these words will help you when you're stuck!

Choose one word from the 'Attributes of God' column, the next word from the 'Images of God' column, and then a phrase from the 'Personal Feelings' column.

**Attributes of God:**

Awesome  
Dear  
Eternal  
Loving  
Holy  
Tender  
Healing  
Heavenly  
Understanding  
All-knowing  
Precious  
Everlasting  
Saving  
Forgiving  
Caring  
Wise

**Images of God:**

Teacher  
Shepherd  
Counselor  
Father  
Mother  
Parent  
Savior  
Creator  
Life giver  
God  
Jesus  
Abba  
Yahweh  
Friend  
King  
Light of the World

**Personal Feelings:**

|                   |                     |                  |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| I am hoping...    | I am humbled...     | I am angry...    |
| I am fearful...   | I am confused...    | I am thankful... |
| I am wondering... | I am embarrassed... | I am sorry...    |
| I am awed...      | I am sad...         | I am hurt...     |
| I am joyful...    | I am curious...     | I am eager...    |
| I am honored...   |                     |                  |

## **Faith Statement Paper**

At the conclusion of your Confirmation year, you have the opportunity to share your faith story. Parents, family, friends, other adults, Sunday School, Confirmation, youth group experiences, etc. have influenced your life. Take some time over the year to think how these life experiences have affected your faith. (Please note: a portion of your Faith Statement Paper will be reprinted in the Confirmation Sunday Bulletin)

Your Statement of Faith paper should focus on your faith journey. Be sure to include:

- Why you wish to be confirmed? Why is it important to you?
- Your experiences through the church and with your family
- Those who have been influential and encouraging during your faith journey
- What your baptism means to you
- Who Jesus is in your life
- What Jesus' death and resurrection means to you
- How being a Christian makes a difference in how you live
- The importance of Holy Communion in your everyday life
- How important prayer is
- How you see yourself serving Christ in your life
- Please include one important Bible verse to you

You can share so much. As an individual, think about what is important for you to include. These papers will not be judged, but they will be discussed. Be honest and truthful. Include the struggles you still have.

### **Paper guidelines:**

- No less than one page in length
- Double-spaced, typed
- No larger than 12 point font Times New Roman text

Your paper is due at the time of your Confirmation interview and will be the focus for that interview with your teacher or pastor.