

2019-2020

8th Grade

Mentor Book

Name: _____

Mentor: _____

You Are My Disciples

Welcome!! This booklet is meant to be completed with your mentor in correlation with confirmation at Bethel Lutheran. 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 meeting at the church.

Wednesday, March 4, at 5:30 pm – Funeral Mentor Event

*Meet with student at least four times during their 8th grade year to complete the three modules.

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

*Attend worship together.

*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 (8th 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 four times during your 8th grade year to complete the three modules plus one mentor event. Mentor event is scheduled for:

Wednesday, March 4, at 5:30 pm

*Call to set up the five times to meet.

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

*Return your completed mentor booklets to Lisa by April 29.

There are three “modules”—conversation guides and short projects, to complete in 8th grade. They are listed below with a short description or tips for completion of each step. There could be some prep involved with each, so read this overview first before you dive in.

Modules – 8th Grade Year

1) Daily Living

- Talk about prayer and devotion practices.
- Discuss the way your church ministers to its members.
- Attend a regular meeting of the Planning Council together.

2) God, Jesus, Holy Spirit—The Trinity

- Questions will walk you through questions about Jesus and why we follow him.
- Discuss your questions about the Holy Spirit.

3) Death & Dying: Funeral Mentor Event

- Attend the mentor event together at Vertin Munson.
- Debrief and follow the questions in this book to talk about your experiences of death and dying.

We appreciate you! Thank you for your willingness to share and learn together. May God bless your conversations.

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 – DAILY LIVING - Life in the Trenches as a disciple

- 1) Share with each other how and when you normally pray:
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 2) How might daily prayer affect your attitude toward the events of the day?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 3) Is it difficult to maintain the practice of daily prayer? If so, why?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 4) Decide together on a time each day when both of you can set aside a few minutes for prayer.
Time: _____
- 5) How does it feel when you pray?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 6) What might make it easier or more comfortable to pray?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 7) Read Matthew 25:31-46. What do you think Jesus was saying in these verses?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 8) How is being a disciple important after you leave the church building?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 9) What are some ministries that Bethel does within its walls?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 10) What are some ministries Bethel does beyond its walls?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 11) Is there overlap between the two?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____

- 12) What are some ways that you minister to others already?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 13) What are some new ways that you could minister to others?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 14) Read Ephesians 4:1-6. What is it that we share as Christians in this congregation?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 15) Why do people go to a church?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 16) Have you ever gone "church shopping?" What did you learn?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 17) Discuss how you would respond to this statement: "Somebody can be a good Christian without being part of a church."
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 18) Attend a regular meeting of the Planning Council (the first Tuesday of each month.) Discuss what you experience there, your impressions, your thoughts, your questions.
Mentor: _____
Student: _____
- 19) What board would you most enjoy serving on?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 20) Does the church do more or less "behind the scenes" work than you thought it would do?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 21) Bethel's mission statement is...

What does it mean to you?

Student: _____

Mentor: _____

What does it mean for your daily life?

Student: _____

Mentor: _____

Close your time together with the following prayer:

Dear God, we ask that the Holy Spirit 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.

➔MODULE TWO – GOD, JESUS, HOLY SPIRIT – THE TRINITY

1) Jesus is the Son of God. (Circle number)

I doubt it! 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 I totally agree!

To say that Jesus is the “Son of God” means that...

2) Jesus is the Lord and Leader of my life.

I doubt it! 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 I totally agree!

To say Jesus is the “Lord and Leader” of my life means...

3) After dying on the cross, Jesus came back to life and is alive in the world today.

I doubt it! 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 I totally agree!

This is what I believe about the resurrection of Jesus...

4) Jesus is the one who helps us know more about who God is.

I doubt it! 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 I totally agree!

These are some of the things we learn from Jesus about the nature of God...

5) In Luke 9:23 Jesus invites disciples to follow him. Here’s what I think it means to “follow Jesus” in modern times...

6) Four words I would use to describe Jesus and qualities I admire about him include:

Student 1

2

3

4

Mentor 1

2

3

4

- 7) If someone asked me to describe the Holy Spirit, I'd say that the Holy Spirit is:
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 8) Jesus described the Holy Spirit as a wind blowing in the trees (John 3:8). The Spirit of God is like wind in the following ways...
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 9) Jesus also described the Holy Spirit as a comforter (John 14:16). Knowing that God is present during difficult times can help to comfort us because...
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 10) Describe a difficult challenge or relationship you have had recently.
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 11) If I'm to follow and obey Jesus, one thing God might want me to change about my life right now is:
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 12) When I think of a person who is a good example of one who has many of the qualities (fruit) of God's Spirit, I think of _____ because _____.
Student: _____
Mentor: _____

Close your time together with the following prayer:

Dear God, we ask that the Holy Spirit 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.

➔MODULE THREE – DEATH AND DYING: FUNERAL MENTOR EVENT

- 1) What emotions do people experience when someone they love has died?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 2) How might these emotions be expressed during a funeral service?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 3) Attend the Funeral Mentor Event together. This will be held at the funeral home. Did anything happen that you didn't understand?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 4) Why do you think we have funerals instead of just burying or cremating people who die without a public gathering?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 5) Share your thoughts about what you would like your own funeral to be like.
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 6) Have you experienced the death of a loved one? Who? How old were you? Talk about the experience and what you learned from it.
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 7) What are things that we can do to remember loved ones who have died?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 8) What are some things you would like others to remember about you after you die?
Student: _____
Mentor: _____
- 9) Make sure you allow time to talk about all the emotions and thoughts that come with talking about death.

Close your time together with the following prayer:

Dear God, we ask that the Holy Spirit 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.

THE END

Congratulations on completing this mentor booklet for the 8th 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 April 29, please remember to put your name on the cover!