

Mentoring Is . . . Arranged by Mom Ann Domsch

Mentoring does not mean the same thing to everyone. Today, mentoring is a buzz word. Consequently, many people have a shallow understanding on the purpose of mentoring. For Acacia, mentoring means a relationship where a mentor helps a student reach his true potential.

Mentoring is like having an ideal aunt or uncle whom you respect deeply, who loves you at a family level, cares for you at a close friend level, supports you at a sacrificial level, and offers wisdom at a modern level. It is not like having another parent. Mentoring is more “how can I help you?” than what should I teach you?” Does that make sense to you?

*Mentoring is a
Relationship with
Someone You Like,
Enjoy, Believe in, and
Want to See Win in Life.*

Mentoring is a relationship, not primarily a contract, a deal or a legal issue if something goes astray. It’s a relationship between two people, with high levels of disclosure and ease. Relationships allow for both sides to drop the masks often worn in public communicate at a behind-the-mask level about personal and professional struggles. Ideally, the relationship gives a bonding of hearts, with a commitment to care, support, encourage and provide security. Every person is different, so every mentoring relationship will be unique since it involves two people with diverse backgrounds, leadership styles, fears, interests and ages.

Relationships may begins with the mentor is considerably more experienced than the student, with time the friendship should grow to be a more balanced and progressively equal. Ideally the pair becomes friends, pals or even buddies over a period of several years.

Most mentoring is informal, simply two people who enjoy each other and want to see each other win. The relationship becomes significant the moment a person with experience asks a less experienced person, “what are your priorities, and how can I help?” Bottom line: help each other mature and grow over a lifetime.

The following issues serve as starting points for the relationship:

- * List three measurable priorities to accomplish in the next ten years making a significant difference by the end of your life.
- * List some relationships where you excel and others where you find struggle.
- * List three things you would like to achieve through mentoring.
- * List three things about yourself that might get in the way of you being able to make the most of the mentoring opportunity.