A Tool For Personal Discipleship

Mentee Assessment

These are two diagnostic tools to help you as the mentor discern the spiritual maturity level of the mentee and possible gaps in their understanding, so that you may be better prepared as you go through Phase 1 with them.

It will also help you to develop thought-provoking questions, based on where the mentee is in their “spiritual walk”.

It will help you avoid the pitfall of assuming the mentee is more spiritually mature based on observations of external behavior – especially if you are mentoring a believer who has been in the church a long time.

Note, this is an optional step.

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Discussion and Explanation for the Mentor

We have found that there are gaps in understanding of many Christians, gaps that are not immediately evident by just interacting with them for 1-3 hours once a week during a Sunday meeting. These gaps will only come out in intentional, deeper conversations based on Biblical truths.

While these gaps in understanding will usually become evident as you go through Phase 1, you can also discern them now, using these two tools. Then as you begin to meet using Phase 1 you can pray for wisdom in developing questions that will lead the mentee to think deeply about “What am I supposed to be doing in my Christian life and what is God’s purpose for me?”

CAUTION: this is NOT an occasion for you to preach at them!

5 BIBLICAL CONCEPTS EVERY BELIEVER NEEDS TO KNOW

- The Five Concepts covers Salvation, Lordship and Abiding, which are the critical ideas you will dig deeper on in Phase 1.
- Read the scriptures in each point (alternating with the mentee) and discuss, using open-ended questions to stimulate conversation.
- Based on the discussion, evaluate what gaps they may have and use that information as you proceed through Phase 1.
- This tool can also be used when you have only 30 minutes to an hour with someone you may never see again, such as in a prison ministry.

WHERE AM I AS A CHRISTIAN?

- Have the mentee read each of the descriptions for Groups 1-4. Then ask “Where would you place yourself on this diagram?” “Which one of these groups best describes you?” Follow up with, “Why do you think that?”
- Your response to their answer for each of the four groups could be as follows:
  Group 1. “We recognize new Christians require personal guidance in their walk with the Lord, and that’s why we are meeting.”
  Group 2. “Unfortunately, many Christians find themselves in the desert experience, not because they chose to be, but because it was never explained, that God wants you to live in your Spiritual Promised Land, not the spiritual desert, and that’s why we are meeting.”
  Group 3. “I’m glad you’ve said to the Lord in one way or another that you want Him to be in charge of your life but now we need to help you learn how to consistently abide. And that’s why we are meeting.”
  Group 4. “I’m excited that you have a hunger to know more, and it may be that you have the pieces to the puzzle illustrating the Christian life, but now it’s a matter of putting them in order so that you see the ‘big picture’. And that’s why we are meeting.”

Throughout the mentoring process, follow the guidelines found in Lesson 2-5.
Five Biblical Concepts Every New Believer Needs to Understand

(To Help Maximize Spiritual Growth And Help Minimize Frustration!)

(Important - Underlined words/phrases may require further discussion.)

1. As my Savior – Jesus wants me to know that all my sins have been forgiven, and I now have eternal life.

   John 5:24 “I assure you: Anyone who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.”
   Rom. 4:7-8 How joyful are those whose lawless acts are forgiven and whose sins are covered!
   Rom. 8:1 Therefore, no condemnation now exists for those in Christ Jesus.
   Rom. 8:16 The Spirit Himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God’s children.
   Rom. 8:31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?
   Rom. 10:13 For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
   1 John 3:24 … the way we know that He remains in us is from the Spirit He has given us.
   1 John 5:11-13 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. The one who has the Son has life. The one who doesn’t have the Son of God does not have life. I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

2. As my Lord – Jesus wants me to know that I have been bought with a price, and I am no longer my own.

   John 13:13 You call Me Teacher and Lord. This is well said, for I am.
   Romans 11:33-12:1 … For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things… Therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your spiritual worship.
   Rom. 14:7-8 For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.
   1 Cor. 6:19-20 Don’t you know that your body is a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body.
   1 Cor. 7:22-23 … he who is called as a free man is Christ’s slave. You were bought at a price; 2 Corinthians 5:15 And He died for all so that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for the One who died for them and was raised.

NOTE: Point # 2 could be threatening, if it were not for the absolute truth that God loves me and will always do what is in my best interest.

So, if God loves me, can only do what is in my best interest, and never makes mistakes, what would be a logical reason for not embracing Him as my Master?
3. I am very special and God has a marvelous, unique design for my entire life, and He wants to manage His plan for me.

Psalm 139:16  Your eyes saw me when I was formless; all my days were written in Your book and planned before a single one of them began. 

Prov. 3:5-6  Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; think about [acknowledge] Him in all your ways, and He will guide you on the right paths.

Jer. 29:11  “For I know the plans I have for you”—this is the Lord’s declaration—“plans for your welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”

Matthew 11:28-30  (Jesus said) “Come to Me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. All of you, take up My yoke and learn from Me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for yourselves. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

Romans 8:31-32  What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He did not even spare His own Son but offered Him up for us all; how will He not also with Him grant us everything?

4. God wants me to know that the Holy Spirit alone is capable of guiding me and revealing God's plan to me.

Isa. 55:8-9  “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not My ways.” This is the Lord’s declaration. “For as heaven is higher than earth, so My ways are higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

Jer. 10:23  … a man’s way of life is not his own; no one who walks determines his own steps.

John 14:26  But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit—the Father will send Him in My name—will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you.

John 16:13-15  … the Spirit of truth … will guide you into all the truth…. He will glorify Me, because He will take from what is Mine and declare it to you….

1 Cor. 2:9-14  … What eye did not see and ear did not hear, and what never entered the human mind—God prepared this for those who love Him… no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who comes from God, so that we may understand what has been freely given to us by God.

5. God wants me to know that the Holy Spirit will train me to recognize, follow and obey His guidance.

Psa. 32:8  I will instruct you and show you the way to go; with My eye on you, I will give counsel.

Luke 9:23-24  Then He said to them all, “If anyone wants to come with Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow Me…."

John 10:27  (Jesus said) “My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me.”

John 12:24-26  (Jesus said) “… If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me. Where I am, there My servant also will be.…”

Rom. 11:36-12:2  … Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.
GROUP #1
I am a new believer. As a “little child” in the “family” of God, I need a spiritual mentor to walk alongside of me to answer questions and help me understand how to listen and follow the Lord and grow spiritually.

As a new Christian I have a learner’s disposition making this the ideal time to spiritually mentor me; otherwise I may learn to adapt my behavior to match what other Christians are doing.

The danger is I may end up defeated, living in the “spiritual desert”. (Group #2)

GROUP #2
As a Christian, I have been living defeated, in a desert experience. This is often characterized by ongoing spiritual symptoms such as lack of peace, worry, anger, irritability, unbelief, addictive behavior, a critical attitude, a sense of defeat, disobedience, complaining and dissatisfaction.

My attitude has been that God is there to help me with my plans, rather than my fitting into His plans for my life. I rely more on my own understanding and wisdom, rather than relying on God’s character.

Will God allow a crisis in my life to humble me, so that I will be willing to acknowledge His authority and Lordship over my life?