

## **Motvation Ministry Mentoring Covenant**

### **Some Basic Guidelines**

Every mentoring relationship will be different. Our Motvation Scholars are enrolled in various colleges and universities from coast to coast. They are artists and athletes. They are all different. Our mentors range in age from early twenties to mid-sixties. They come from all walks of life. Some are married. Some are parents. Others are single. But, they all share at least one thing in common- a professed belief and faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Therefore, a generic covenant (contract) that stipulates rules for where and when mentors and students meet or modes of communication is clearly not helpful. Our brief two years of experience does, however, suggest that setting up some form of participation covenant at the start of any mentoring relationship is useful. It makes sense that if everyone is clear about what they want (and what Motvation Ministry expects) it will avoid any confusion and create a focus on what the Motvation Scholar needs and is willing and capable of contributing to the relationship; and what the mentor is able to offer.

### **Expectations**

- Students and mentors should have some kind of face-to-face contact at least once every two weeks. College students are busy (as are adult mentors). But, we believe it is important to see each other on a regular basis. It is understood that conversations between students and mentors are confidential, and must not be shared with others without permission.
- Students and mentors should set a proper understanding about their meeting time(s) and not waiver from it without mutual consent. Talk about what each of you hopes to accomplish from this relationship. Always, set up a time and location for the next meeting before leaving the current time together. If the student and the mentor are engaging in any kind of joint reading or bible study activity, make sure both are coming prepared to their sessions.
- Mentors should listen more than talk. A mentor's "purpose is to guide students to understanding their faith for themselves and to help them process the information they are experiencing so they can make their own decisions regarding their faith. Mentors: Please share your experiences of faith when necessary; but it is the student's story of faith about which we are focused and that should take center stage during your time together. A great mentor is not someone who can answer all of a student's questions, but rather is one who can ask the right questions to help students find answers themselves."
- Mentors must know their limitations. "It is not uncommon for a student to experience a situation/issue in his/her life that may require professional help (depression, chronic anxiety, sexual violence, or an eating disorder, to name a few). A mentor's role is to gently encourage the student to seek help and walk with them through their journey of healing. However, it is important to NOT attempt to take on or solve the students' problems without proper training

and experience. In these instances, it is wise to refer the student to a professional counselor (often available through a campus counseling center).”

- Mentors should pray for their students constantly (1 Thess. 5:17). This may be the most important part of the mentoring relationship. As a mentor, remember that “your ears and advice are limited by what the Spirit is working”.
- Mentors should “live a life of integrity and integrated faith”. Part of being an adult mentor is mirroring...Who you are will make a far greater impact on your student than what you say.”
- Students should be willing to discuss personal, spiritual, and professional goals; and, they should be ready to receive and give honest and constructive feedback when sharing with their mentor.
- Students must be willing to share the responsibility for maintaining the scheduling of time together. Both the student and mentor must be open willing to explore ways to build the relationship. (Note suggestions in the Mentoring Manual).
- Student and mentors should read and agree to support the both the Mission Statement and Statement of Core values of Motivation Ministry.

### **Personal Commitments**

**I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student’s name), agree to participate in the Motivation Ministry Mentoring and Scholarship Program. I am undertaking participation in mentoring activities with an adult Christian mentor arranged by the staff of Motivation Ministry. I understand that participation in this mentoring arrangement is a condition of my scholarship from Motivation Ministry.**

**Student’s signature**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**I, \_\_\_\_\_ (mentor’s name), agree to participate in the Motivation Ministry Mentoring and Scholarship Program. I am undertaking participation in mentoring activities with a Motivation Ministry Scholar selected by the staff of Motivation Ministry. I understand that my mentee’s participation in this mentoring arrangement is a condition of his/her scholarship from Motivation Ministry.**

**Mentor’s signature**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_