

Potential Topics for Mentoring Sessions (Taken From Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary)

The following subjects are suggestions for discussion in regular mentoring sessions. Mentors and students may add to this list and adapt the issues to individual needs. However, it would be good to have each of these ministry areas addressed in some way, as part of the mentoring process.

Managing Ministry

- Local church organization/structures
- Leadership style
- Recruitment/training of volunteers
- Time management
- Goal setting
- Mission of the local church
- Church office staff
- Ministry staff
- Delegation of ministry tasks
- Conflict utilization
- Initiating change in the local church

Serving through Pastoral Care

- Visiting the homes of church members
- Hospital visitation
- Nursing homes
- Pastoral counseling
- Community resources for referral
- Funeral and memorial services
- Ministry to elderly
- Lay training in care-giving

Planning Programs

- New member class
- Leadership training
- Discipleship
- Evangelism training, outreach and events
- World missions education and short-term missions
- Youth ministry
- Ministry to young children
- Adult education
- Music ministry

Understanding Process and Procedures

- Sermon preparation and delivery
- Teaching all ages
- Weddings
- Baptisms and/or child dedications
- Communion
- Leading Sunday worship
- Mid-week services

Denominational polity
Moderating meetings
Local church finances
Stewardship
Building program
Minister's job description
Annual evaluation of the pastor

Reflecting on Personal Issues
Devotional life
Friendship
Family life
Finances
Leisure time; vacation
Continuing education
Minister's library
Personal ethics

Reaching out in Community Ministry
Determine community needs
Community service projects
Motivating others for outreach
Networking
Crossing racial/cultural barriers
Political issues
Social ethics