MAS Mentoring

Assignment Three

Instruction

You have completed your first two assignments with your student. Of course, you may have been mentoring your student before these two assignments, so maybe you are more acquainted with them. It has been mentioned how listening is so important during the times you meet.

Some of the students are more talkative than others but occasional questions can help spark some comments, even conversations. Here is one question you can ask your student:

"What has been occupying your mind and heart lately?"

Sometimes, I may ask other questions, like these three.

- What are you enjoying most right now?
- What do you look forward to each week?
- What do you love learning about?

Certainly, as you talk about their devotion time, you can ask:

- How is your relationship with Christ these days?
- What has God been showing you through Scripture?
- When do you feel closest to God?
- What has been encouraging or discouraging spiritually?

Now, too many questions, especially if you ask them in a rapid-fire way, may sound like an interrogation. So, be careful of too many questions.

Preparation

- *Read chapter three in The Holiness of God by R.C. Sproul and answer the questions at the end of the chapter. Be prepared to discuss with your mentor. I suggest you pick two to three questions to discuss with your student.*
- *Read the section of **Devotion** below. You may want to share how your devotion time is going. Has the holiness of God impacted your devotion time in any way? Is there anything specific you have "done" in your devotion time that helps you to be in "awe"*

of God? Is silence before God difficult? What makes it a challenge? The same questions have been asked of the students, so feel free to exchange answers.

- *Contact your student ahead of time and confirm meeting time and place. Let them know you look forward to getting with them.*

Meeting

1. *Either you or the student can open with prayer. Sometimes, you can ask them to.*
2. *You may ask you, "Is there anything you want to make sure we talk about today"?*
3. *Discuss "The Holiness of God" (chapter three). You can share with the student your answers from the chapter.*
4. *Discuss with them* ***Devotion*** *(see below).*
5. *If there are specific things you are praying for, you can ask for an update.*
6. *When you do an assessment at the end of each term, you are asked if you spoke with your student about a practicum. (Some programs require a practicum, and if your student's program does, you can ask how that is going.) Typically, I will ask about it at least once an eight-week term.*
7. *Close in prayer. Again, either one of you can pray.*

Devotion

In our devotion time, we have mentioned spending time in the Word and prayer. When looking at spending time in the Bible, it could be chapters, passages, or a particular verse. There is no specific rule here. Regarding prayer, the Lord's Prayer is a type of model for praying, though Scripture does not say one must pray only that way.

In my devotion time, I have a plan. It in involves a portion of Scripture, praying through the Lord's Prayer, and journaling. This is what I do most days. Now, there's nothing wrong with a plan but I try not to be dictated by it. After all, this is about a relationship with our God. I don't want to look at the time with God as something I check off my list, a task I have accomplished. Of course, there are days I "feel" like that but remembering it is about relationship can help me approach the time with a different attitude.

Is there something you could "do," which would remind you it's about a relationship? For me, I try silence. I will take time to be silent rather than just jumping into my plan and that silence reminds me I am in the presence of my Father. In being silent, I seek to be still, to not think about things or let my mind wander. I understand for some of us, that may be difficult, because life right now does not feel silent or still. Yet, I would encourage you to try it, even if it is for a minute. Of course, putting silence into my devotion time may suggest it's just another part of my plan. Perhaps it is, but maybe I am pausing my agenda (even if it's

for one minute) to remind myself, God is here. And, in knowing that, in “experiencing” that to some degree, may we be people in awe, people who live in awe of the Holy God, who still can have confidence to enter His presence. (Heb. 4:16)

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