



BUILD HIS KINGDOM

Mentor Process Guide

Version 1.6



www.mentorlink.org

Dear Mentor,

Welcome to BUILD HIS KINGDOM. This module is part of the MentorLink Institute. This is intended to be a voluntary process available to all who want to participate in a Mentor Group. Mentors may use this with anyone who may want to grow in leading like Jesus.

As a fellow Mentor, I trust this will be a life-changing experience as you grow to be more like Jesus in the way you serve. It is part of a process to take you and the others in your Mentor Group into the heart of what Jesus wants from those who lead in His Kingdom.

Our heart really is to serve you and to assist you to succeed in facilitating your Mentor Group. We are doing our best to make this a mentoring process that will make a difference in your life and mentoring of leaders to lead like Jesus.

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Overview: Build His Kingdom

In This Module You And Your Mentor Group Will . . .

1. Better understand the nature of Christ's present kingdom.
2. Better understand what it means to affirm Jesus as Lord of your ministries as well as your personal life.
3. Become more effective as a leader in Christ's Kingdom.

Responsibilities . . .

1. Complete assignments for sessions before you meet together.
2. Meet with your Mentor Group weekly.
3. Pray for each other daily.

SESSIONS . . .

1. The Kingdom of Jesus
2. Kingdom Values and Leadership
3. Kingdom Values Enfleshed
4. Our "In Secret" Relationship
5. Hindrances to Kingdom Ministry
6. Finding Freedom to Respond

Session Goals

1. The Kingdom of Jesus

The goal of this session is to realize that Jesus is Lord of a unique form of the Kingdom of God and to realize that to experience his Kingdom power we must relate to him as Lord and King of our ministries as well as our lives.

2. Kingdom Values and Leadership

Leaders are especially vulnerable to buying into the world's value system. In this session you and your Mentor Group members will examine how values that actually conflict with Jesus' kingdom values may have shaped their leadership styles. Each of you will decide to look for opportunities to consciously apply one kingdom value this coming week.

3. Kingdom Values Enfleshed

The outcome of living by Jesus' values is character. The bible makes it clear that character, rather than gifts or training, is essential for Christian leadership. In this session your Mentor Group members will discover the link between values and character, and be challenged to go on to maturity.

4. Our "in Secret" Relationship

Only by nurturing our personal, private "in secret" relationship with God can we find the courage to act on what we believe is the will of God in our ministry. And only by evaluating how much we have been responding to other's expectations can we commit fully to Christ as Lord in our ministries.

5. Hindrances to Kingdom Community

Exercising true Kingdom Leadership is likely to be misunderstood and to bring criticism. It's important to identify and to face the fact of possible opposition and even persecution when we commit to pleasing God rather than acting so as to please people.

6. Finding Freedom to Respond

We are called to lead in Christ's present kingdom under his Lordship. As we do Jesus is free to exercise control in our ministries. If we attempt to take control—even though we tell ourselves everything we do is for God's glory, and even though we ask God to bless our plans—our actions deny the truth that Jesus died and rose again that "he might be Lord, of the living and of the dead." As leaders in Jesus' kingdom we must cede him control of our ministries, organizations or career and live out this commitment daily.

Build His Kingdom

[Mentor]

Using the “Build His Kingdom” Module

- 1** The ***Build His Kingdom*** module is intended for Christians operating in the church, para-church ministries, organizations and the marketplace. Its intent is to help leaders evaluate the style of leadership exercised in their organization and bring it into harmony with the New Testament pattern.
- 2** Other MentorLink modules provide training in values, character and heart required for effective servant-leadership in an organizational setting.

Study Material And Assignments

- 3** It is essential that each Mentor Group member, including yourself, read and complete assignments **before** you meet. This is so important that you may wish to establish a rule that anyone who has not completed the reading and assignments may listen, but may not participate when you meet.

Like other MentorLink modules this one has two aspects: (1) assignments which you and your Mentor Group members complete before group meetings, and (2) group meetings at which you all share experiences and insights.

Leading The Group

- 4** This Mentor Guide provides suggestions that will help you conduct the group sessions. As a mentor it's important that you view yourself as a co-learner with your group members, that you also complete the assignments before group meetings, and that you set an example of open and honest sharing.
- 5** Significant sharing takes time. For this reason we suggest you plan to meet for a minimum of 1.5 hours.

The process you will follow when you meet typically will involve four stages:

- Check up Brief reports of what's happening in each person's life.
- Content A discussion of the topic studied in preparation for your meeting.
- Impact Personal sharing designed to explore the impact of the truth on each of your lives and ministries.
- Prayer Prayer for each other's growth and any special needs.

Session 1: The Kingdom of Jesus

The goal of this session is to realize that Jesus is Lord of a unique form of the Kingdom of God and to realize that to experience his Kingdom power we must relate to him as Lord and King of our ministries as well as our lives.

Check up

If this is a newly formed group, encourage each person to share his or her name and briefly tell "what makes him tick."

Content

Thoroughly discuss each of the questions on page 9 of the Mentor Group Module.

Impact

Christian leaders are called to minister in the context of Christ's Kingdom. Our challenge is to minister so that we are building his kingdom, not simply building an institution. This calls for us to make ministry decisions in conscious response to Christ's leading, which may at times conflict with other's expectations.

Invite each member to share two times in his/her ministry when he/she was conscious that others were pressuring them to make a choice that he/she knew was in conflict with God's will.

Together list possible reasons why a person might not be ready to say, "I'm ready to commit fully to Jesus as King of my life and ministry." [Possible reasons your Mentor Group members may give are: "I'm not strong enough to keep that commitment," "I'm afraid of what I might have to give up," "My supervisor or board understand." "I might have to violate others' expectations." Etc.]

When the list is complete point out that determining to lead as kingdom ministers may call for radical change in our decision-making process. But it will lead to God working even more in our lives and circumstances, and to a greater dependence on the Lord.

Prayer

Share prayer requests. Then have each person pray for the person on his or her left. Close by praying Colossians 1:9b-12.

Session 2: Kingdom Values and Leadership

Leaders are especially vulnerable to buying into the world's value system. In this session you and your Mentor Group members will examine how values that actually conflict with Jesus' kingdom values may have shaped their leadership styles. Each of you will decide to look for opportunities to consciously apply one kingdom value this coming week.

Check up

Invite Mentor Group members to share two "highlights" of the past week.

Content

On a chalkboard write down the "leadership characteristics" your Mentor Group members wrote down, and any thoughts they initially had after reading Matthew 5:3-12. (page 5, Mentor Group Member Resource materials).

Then work together to add values to the chart on page 12.

Impact

"Values" is defined in the American Heritage dictionary as "qualities regarded by an individual or group as important or desirable." As such, our values consciously or unconsciously shape our choices and behavior, and are expressed in what we do.

Have everyone share responses to items 1 and 2 on page 13. Take all the time you need to discuss how the world's values may have affected an individual's leadership style, and how adopting the contrasting kingdom value might—or has—changed leadership style.

Prayer

Have each group member pray for one other person, being sensitive to what has been shared in this session. Again close by praying Colossians 1:9b-12 for yourself and your Mentor Group members.

Session 3: Kingdom Values Enfleshed

The outcome of living by Jesus' values is character. The bible makes it clear that character, rather than gifts or training, is essential for Christian leadership/ In this session your Mentor Group members will discover the link between values and character, and be challenged to go on to maturity.

Check up

Utilize up to half of this session sharing experiences of focusing on one kingdom value all week. If some do not have a chance to share, promise them time to share next week. Encourage each participant to continue focusing on building his chosen value into his life and work.

Content

Read Paul's qualifications for Christian leaders aloud. Ask each to select one character trait and explain why this is important for leaders in his or her own field.

Then make a single list of character traits by combining the traits the group members listed in the chart on page 15. Discuss each trait listed and ways that it is rooted in one of Jesus' Kingdom values.

Impact

Take ten minutes, during which you and your Mentor Group members write in an evaluation of his or her own strengths and weaknesses as a Kingdom leader.

When finished, you may want to ask for volunteers to read what they have written. If you judge this might be too threatening to members of your group at this time, discuss the potential values of this type of self-evaluation.

As your session nears an end encourage your Mentor Group members to keep focusing on Kingdom Values and the expression of those values daily.

Prayer

Encourage your Mentor Group members to express their own desire to be men of character, living out Christ's Kingdom values as leaders.

Session 4: Our “In Secret” Relationship

Only by nurturing our personal, private “in secret” relationship with God can we find the courage to act on what we believe is the will of God in our ministry. And only by evaluating how much we have been responding to other’s expectations can we commit fully to Christ as Lord in our ministries.

Check up

Let any who did not have a chance to share their experience in seeking to live by Jesus’ values tell about what happened to them.

Content

First share responses to the first description of Pastor Bob’s ministry (page 16). Then share responses to the description of the changes Bob felt the Lord was leading him to make (page 17).

Read Matthew 6:1-7; 6:16-18 aloud, and discuss the defining characteristic of hypocrites and of one who leads as a citizen of Christ’s kingdom.

Impact

Honestly explore the impact of other’s expectations on how you and your Mentor Group members function as leaders. Ask:

1. Who do you identify with most: Pastor Bob before, or Pastor Bob after? Why?
2. How driven have you been by the expectations of others, or by a desire to please others?

Share the “one thing” that you do in your ministry simply to please others rather than to please God (page 19).

3. Focus together on each individual’s “one thing.” This may be something God wants you to do, despite your motivation. But honestly share with each other whether you believe this is or isn’t something God wants you to do—and what you intend to do about it.
4. How do you each respond to the following?

Leading in Jesus’ kingdom involves being so aware of my Father’s presence and his love that I choose to please him in everything I do.

Prayer

Invite each Mentor Group member to pray aloud for himself, that his or her in secret relationship with God might be deepened daily. Then close praying Colossians 1:9a-12 for yourself and each group member.

Session 5: Hindrances to Kingdom Living

Exercising true Kingdom Leadership is likely to be misunderstood and to bring criticism. It's important to identify and to face the fact of possible opposition and even persecution when we commit to pleasing God rather than acting so as to please people.

Check up

Invite each Mentor Group member to share one experience of living out his "in secret" relationship with God this past week.

Content

Read aloud Jesus' Matthew 13:1-9 parable. Looking back on the initial reading of the parable, what were your first thoughts and questions (see page 20). How did the group members think this parable might apply to them?

Then explore Jesus' own interpretation of the parable (page 21). Compare the lists you and your Mentor Group members developed of "opposition and persecution" and "the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth." Be sure to explore this in depth, rather than superficially.

Impact

Discuss:

Which hindrance to kingdom living do you believe is a greater danger to those in leadership today. Why?

and

In your own experience, which hindrances have most troubled you in your ministry as a leader?

Be sure each Mentor Group member has time to share personal experiences and to receive feedback from the others.

Prayer

Ask each Mentor Group member to share a specific prayer request based on this exploration of hindrances to kingdom living. Let each person pray for each of the others. Then close praying Colossians 1:9b-12 for yourself and each group member.

Session 6: Finding Freedom to Respond

We are called to lead in Christ's present kingdom under his Lordship. As we do Jesus is free to exercise control in our ministries. If we attempt to take control—even though we tell ourselves everything we do is for God's glory, and even though we ask God to bless our plans—our actions deny the truth that Jesus died and rose again that "he might be Lord, of the living and of the dead." As leaders in Jesus' kingdom we must cede him control of our ministries, and live out this commitment daily.

Check up

Share one thing you accomplished as a child that gave you a sense of achievement.

Content

Take a few minutes to review the five preceding sessions [see Review, p 22]. Then work through the verses taken from Matthew 6:19-33, giving each Mentor Group member a chance to share insights and questions.

When you've worked through all the verses, emphasize the fact that our freedom to respond as kingdom leaders hinges on our trust in God as Heavenly Father, who truly cares for us and will provide as we "seek his kingdom and his righteousness."

Impact

The material each Mentor Group member has received includes a final "self-check." You may or may not want to invite group members to share their responses.

In any case, point out that we are all learning to minister as leaders in God's kingdom. This module has focused on basic attitudes that reflect the level of our commitment to Jesus as Lord. Other modules focus on leadership skills. The fact is that the skills, without a honest commitment to Jesus as Lord, will become nothing more than tools to manipulate others. But a commitment to Christ as Lord without a biblical understanding of how leadership functions in Christ's kingdom is frustrating. So encourage your Mentor Group members to stay together as you lead a relevant, how-to module.

Prayer

This week you close in prayer, mentioning each Mentor Group member by name. Conclude by praying Colossians 1:9b-12 for yourself and your group.

In Closing

Dear Fellow Worker in the Kingdom,

Thank you for facilitating your Mentor Group. Around the world there is a need for people just like you. We praise Him that you answered His call. We also know that around the world emerging leaders are crying out for people just like you. For those in your Mentor Group, we thank you as well. You were there to make a difference in their lives and hearts.

Our heart is to continue to serve you as you continue your existing Mentor Group or start additional Mentor Groups. Let us know what your needs are and what resources you might need.

*Could you also send (email: info@mentorlink.org) us a few sentences or paragraphs and share with us what God is doing in your life and leadership as a result of your experience through the **BUILD HIS KINGDOM** Module?*

Dr. Stacy Rinehart for the MentorLink Institute



What is your vision for “passing it on”?

You are now a steward of the heart issues in BUILD HIS KINGDOM. To whom will you pass this on? We encourage you to form another Mentor Group and facilitate others through what you have just finished, or perhaps facilitating this group through another MentorLink module.

“Passing it on” is not about mastering content, being an expert or a teacher. It is about being available to guide others through the mentoring experience. Will you continue to pass it on?

For additional help in “passing it on,” go to <http://www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/passing-it-on/>

Want to facilitate another module?

There are two options – bring together your own local group, or simply sign up to mentor a group. We have a Mentor Orientation for new mentors. Go to the MentorLink website for links. <http://www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/global-mentoring-project/facilitate-a-group/>



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MentorLink Modules

NOTE: THERE ARE MENTOR PROCESS GUIDES AVAILABLE FOR EACH MODULE



LEAD LIKE JESUS

The model of leadership in the world is clear. But Jesus calls His followers to a different model of leadership for the Kingdom. This module will assist you and your group in discovering this reality and in beginning to apply its implications to your lives, leadership, and mentoring.



LEAD IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY

Jesus had much to say about how He will evaluate leaders who serve Him. He also had many harsh words for false leaders. Jesus promises to reward those who serve Him faithfully. This module will provide understanding regarding the leader's personal advantage to having this eternal perspective.



BUILD HIS KINGDOM

Jesus came preaching the Kingdom. His Kingdom is the ultimate reality in this life and the life to come. However, many build their own empires, thinking they are building the Kingdom, while their very means and motives are actually at odds with His Kingdom. This module will assist you and your group in seeing the difference between building for the Kingdom and a leader building for his own empire. This module also will assist you in mentoring others regarding this awareness.



BUILD GRACE ENVIRONMENTS

How we mentor and treat people flows from our understanding of what Christ has done and is doing in us. This module will assist you and your group in a deeper understanding of the depth and riches of the Gospel of grace and its applications in your leadership and mentoring.



COLLABORATE AS LEADERS

Jesus mentored those he chose and was with them. Paul was always with someone who co-labored with him, mentoring him in the process. This module will assist you and your group in developing a practice of leading and mentoring in the context of partnership and community.



LEADERS FOLLOW JESUS

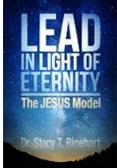
This module is intended for Christians operating in church, para-church ministries, Christian organizations, and the marketplace. Its intent is to help leaders evaluate the style of leadership exercised in their organization and bring it into harmony with the New Testament pattern. In this module, participants come to understand both the foundational concepts and the learning process which underlies MentorLink training.



LEADERS ABIDE IN JESUS

Some of the last words of Jesus to His Disciples were, "Abide in Me". The Apostle John reflects the importance of this, "whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked." This module opens the door for mentors and mentees to look at their own walk with Jesus. It is from this "center" that we fellowship with the Son and with one another. It is also from this center that we bear fruit for His Kingdom.

ADDITIONAL MENTORLINK RESOURCES

-  **LEADER'S COVENANT**
A simple, yet profound description of true spiritual leadership in ten aspirational statements with Scripture passages.
-  **DAYS WITH JESUS**
Journey with Jesus to draw closer to His heart and discover how He wants us to live, lead and influence people. This video-based discipling tool uses The JESUS Film and thought-provoking questions for reflection and discussion.
-  **PASSING IT ON**
This seminar and manual are used for training groups in transformational mentoring. It will transform how leaders develop leaders.
-  **MENTORLINK INSTITUTE**
Learn to lead like Jesus and mentor others while participating in mentor groups. The MentorLink Institute is a tested and proven strategy that works through a network of partners and mentors.
-  **LEAD IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY**
This book by Dr. Stacy Rinehart is about Jesus and leading in His kingdom. *Lead in Light of Eternity: The JESUS Model* is for anyone who aspires to live and lead like Jesus in the workplace, the church, the mission field, or the world.
-  **TRANSFORMATIONAL VALUES**
Jesus' ways are to be our ways. The focus is on changing leaders from the inside-out and on the leader's character and heart. Five values shifts needed for leaders who want to move away from leading in the way of the flesh to leading more like Jesus.
-  **BLOGS AND BOOKS**
Check out blogs and books focused on the heart and development of servant leaders. Find practical mentoring tips, personal stories and solid biblical advice.

All resources can be found at www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/