

ELEMENTS OF A PASTORAL MENTORING SESSION FOR CHURCH REPRODUCTION

Adapted from George Patterson
by Galen Currah, August 2010

These activities can be done in any order, with one or a few apprentices, together. Be sure that you have enough time to listen to each apprentice and to plan with him.

You can follow these seven guidelines, each time you meet with a trainee or apprentice shepherd or church planter. By doing so every time you meet together, your apprentices will learn to do the same, in turn, with others whom they train.

1. **Pray for wisdom** to respond to needs, opportunities and problems of trainees' congregations and cells. Stop and pray as often as you sense a need to do so.
2. **Listen to trainees report** to you about their congregations' and cells' needs, opportunities and problems. (Never spend more than half of the session time dealing with problems. Always plan something new.) This is a good time for receiving monitoring form or for filling in such forms, together.
3. **Plan together** the activities that trainees will introduce immediately in their congregations and cells. Refer to your menu of recommended training booklets. If you have a "Train & Multiply" Activity Guide or Menus, then consult its Activity pages for advice and recommendations.
4. **Assign Bible reading** and brief pastoral study booklet, or other materials, that will help trainees implement their plans. Explain that each trainee will tell back to you what they learn from their reading.
5. **Review any assignment** made in a previous mentoring session. Let the trainees teach you what they learned. Discuss the material and answer their questions. If reading assignments were not completed, then assign them again. If it was too much reading, then give a smaller assignment.
6. **Model any new skills** that the trainees need to acquire in order to implement their plans. Practice together these skills. Perhaps go do some ministry together.
7. **Intercede** for trainees' congregations and cells, praying by name for any persons whom you have talked about during this mentoring session.

Agree on when and where to meet for a next mentoring session, if there will be one. This should be at a place and time that are convenient to your apprentices.