

Ministry Mentorships

Basics

- The goal of these mentorships is to insure that your studies are not merely academic, but also include whole-person development. One great way to achieve that is through substantive conversations with current pastors or faithful believers who are already doing what you eventually hope to do.
- Each student will have at least one pairing for each semester equivalent of credits (15 credits).
- You will work with the relevant faculty member to choose a pastor or mentor for that year and the faculty member will then make the connection. You should meet with them in person at least once, and more interactions would be even better if they are able and willing.
- Meeting for coffee or a meal is ideal. Please plan to pay for their meal also, since they are generously giving their time. Keep an eye on the clock and after around 90 minutes, thank them for the time and offer to let them go, unless it is very clear that they would like to continue.
- Think of this as an opportunity for you to ask key questions and learn richly from their experience and wisdom. Prepare for the conversation so that the time is used very well!
- The following are only examples of the types of questions that you might use to direct the conversation. Start with these, but you should also develop them towards other questions that are specific to you and your own growth.

Suggested Possible Questions

- How did God confirm your pathway to the ministry you are in? What should I be looking for as I seek His guidance or plan for me?
- What are the biggest mistakes you look back on today? What would you do differently?
- What are the best investments you remember making when you were young? What are you really glad you did?
- If you could give yourself advice as a young college or seminary student, what would have been the most important things you needed to hear?
- How do you maintain a rich, active relationship with God across years and decades? What has helped you the most?
- What should I be looking for in a spouse? What ought to give me pause or make me wary?
- How can I best maximize the benefit of my college / seminary studies so that I look back and feel like I stewarded these years well?
- What are particular dangers or distractions you perceive for men / women my

age that might keep them from living well, flourishing as believers, or making it into ministry?

- What do you realize about ministry now that you didn't understand when you were my age?
- Is there anything you perceive in my character, demeanour, or viewpoints as we've talked that concerns you? Are there habits or quirks you notice that might keep me from being more effective?
- What are your favourite theology, practical (personal / devotional), or ministry books? What books should I be sure that I read in the next 10 years?