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Leadership Development & Mentoring

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### **Biblical Character Mentoring Paper**

Mentoring is not always the easiest task to perform. When mentoring you must always be mindful of the things you do, what you say, and how you say it because someone is listening and watching. Mentoring can happen even when you're unaware. People watch people all the time, every day and what is seen by people can be appealing or repulsive. If someone is admiring, you from a far just noticing how you do things it can become a type of unofficial mentoring because it is something that is intriguing to the individual. Jesus was the ultimate mentor to the disciples. When He was with them and before they really knew who He was. He showed patience, care determination and love. These are important traits to have as a mentor. When a person is being mentored or even if you're the mentee you want to walk away with something. You want to be better and have more insight to your way of living. I believe mentoring is for a person's development for the better. This is what Jesus wanted for the disciples and mankind. He taught them how to pray which is extremely important because praying helps keep you grounded and when we encounter life's challenges we need to be focused. Jesus was calm in His approach. He showed that to Peter, who was always a hothead. When the leper approached Jesus, he was shown love although the disciples were running away from him, once they saw Jesus embrace and heal him, they were moved to be like Him. When they were confused about Jesus talking to the woman of Samaria at the well He showed them that people are people and we all need compassion. Jesus told stories (parables) on how to treat people but He also lived it. The disciples wanted to invoke Jesus's strength and power wherever they went but when they could not, they felt as if they were failing which is understandable because you want your mentor to be

proud of you. Jesus as the teacher He informed them with gentleness they needed faith. It's important to show compassion when dealing with people because the response will be received, and this will enable them to continue in a positive way. Mentoring came easy for Jesus, although He probably did not consider it mentoring but a way of life. Jesus taught His disciples and people everywhere because He wanted them to prosper. That is the essential foundation of mentoring. If you could watch and study it was Jesus. The disciples had front row instructions. Jesus would sit and take time to explain as opposed to reprimanding for a person's ignorance. He led by example which is important when mentoring. As people we don't want to only talk about what to do but we want to show that what you say can be done if you are willing to follow the path of righteousness. When Jesus said healed He told the disciples to do the same. When He was speaking with them He always said there will be time when I am not with you. This applies in mentoring there will be a time when the mentor is not with the mentee and the mentee will have to put into play all the things taught by the mentor. This is what Jesus constantly taught and instructed. When mentoring one must be careful not to let people think you are above reproach. Although Jesus is the almighty He never made anyone think He was too big to help from the youngest to the oldest person He came in contact with. Being relatable to those you come in contact with is important it allows people to know if you can get through a situation they can too. Jesus showed this to the disciples when stopped to help the woman with the issue of blood. He was on His way to see about the daughter of a man who was confirmed to be dead. The mentoring example displayed here was you can always find time to help. This act of compassion was the perfect mentoring moment about helping those in need. The disciples also learned in that moment that we have to take time to listen to those around us we cannot be so preoccupied by our own agenda that we miss those in need. Constructive mentoring is a delicate

but fulfilling task. It is important to pass down what we know to others. Mentoring helps keep society moving in a healthy and strong environment and it takes a strong grounded and caring person to consider imparting knowledge to others as a mentor and this is what Jesus did for the disciples before He went to fulfill the promise. When you are mentoring you want to believe that when the teaching is done the person or people will be able to start afresh with a new way to look at life. If we as a people could show a small portion of what Jesus showed to the disciples to others as we mentor them then this world would be an awesome place to live