

WOMAN TO WOMAN



MENTORING

# WOMAN - TO - WOMAN MENTORING

*“For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing” (1 Thess. 5:9-11).*

## OBJECTIVE

Older to younger, peer to peer, experienced to novice – mentoring happens all around us in many settings. This is a resource that guides Christian women through intentional mentoring. It encourages one-on-one mentoring relationships among culturally and ethnically diverse groups of women, especially as they “serve the Lord with gladness.” It includes devotions, Bible studies, a sketch, and community building activities. It can be used as one unit for workshops or retreats or as individual segments in a series.

## INTRODUCTION

Mentoring is a process of opening and sharing our lives with others. It can be a short term or long term relationship with another person to help her/him grow physically, emotionally or spiritually. In some situations we serve as mentors to others, and in other situations we need mentors ourselves. Mentoring does not mean, “What can I teach you?” Instead, it means, “How can I help you?” Mentors invest themselves in others as Christ’s ambassadors one life at a time. They do not have to be perfect or have all the answers. They do need to take the risk to get involved in someone else’s life for the right reasons. Jesus, our master mentor, is involved in our lives. He feels our pains and knows our joys. As mentors, we are not taking the place of Jesus, but we can share our relationship with the Lord with someone else to help her/him grow in a personal relationship with Him.

Scripture taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION.  
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*Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, HOPE Committee, 1999-2001 #11601*

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## OUR MENTOR - THE HOLY SPIRIT

### Opening Devotion

**Song:** Spirit of the Living God #196 *The Other Songbook*

**Reading:** John 15:26-27 *"When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about Me. And you also must testify, for you have been with Me from the beginning."*

**Devotion:** In Greek mythology, Mentor was a friend of Odysseus in Homer's epic poem, *The Odyssey*. Odysseus was leaving for Troy so he entrusted the education of his son to his good friend, Mentor. When Jesus left this earth, he sent the disciples a "mentor" - the Holy Spirit - the Counselor. The dictionary defines a mentor as "a wise and trusted monitor or counselor." The Holy Spirit's work fits well with the idea of mentoring. As God, He is perfectly wise and trustworthy in His counsel. He is the Spirit of Truth. He guides us into all truth - the truth of God. There is nothing false or deceiving in His mentoring. It all comes from the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is the One who inspired the writers of Holy Scripture.

The Counselor testifies about Jesus, as the Object of our faith. He convicts the world of guilt in regard to sin, righteousness and judgment. He shows the demands of God's Law and our total inability to live up to those demands. He points us to a need of the Savior whose righteousness fulfills the demands for us. What a mentor God has given us!

Jesus, however, also said to His disciples, *"You also must testify, for you have been with Me from the beginning"* (John 15:27). Jesus' disciples were to be mentors for others. As His disciples in this age, we have the truth of God's Word, for use in our lives and to share with those around us. The Spirit melts us and molds us. He fills us and uses us to reach out with the truth of the Gospel ... to counsel others in the truth. God bless our mentoring as the Holy Spirit, our Counselor and Mentor guides us into all truth so that we can, in turn, guide others to that truth.

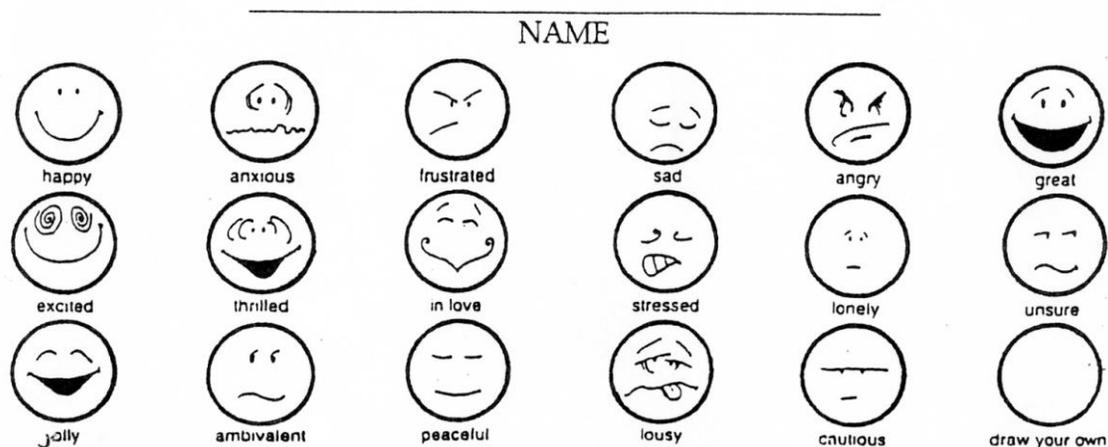
**Prayer:** Lord, God, You have called us to testify of You. You have given us Your Spirit who guides us in the truth. Make us wise - mold us and fill us so that we bring glory to Your name to those we reach out to on your behalf. Let lives be changed by the life-giving Gospel that we share. In Christ's name, Amen.

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## ENCOURAGING WORDS

### Community Builder

*"Let us consider how we may spur one another on ... let us encourage one another ... "*  
(Heb. 10:24-25)



\*

- ❖ FORM GROUPS OF FOUR PEOPLE.
- ❖ EACH PERSON IN TURN INTRODUCES HERSELF BY:
  - choosing a face mood picture that represents her mood right now and then explaining her choice;
  - briefly tells two things about herself; and
  - shares who she admires most and why.
- ❖ THEN EACH OF THE OTHERS IN THE GROUP:
  - writes the name of this person and a positive, encouraging thought about her on 2" x 4" adhesive label, and signs her name; and
  - read aloud the thought and give it to her to adhere to the back of this page.
- ❖ THEN ANOTHER PERSON IN THE GROUP SHARES AND THE GROUP REPEATS THE PROCESS UNTIL EACH HAS A TURN.

\* Sheely, Steve: *Ice-Breakers and Heart-Warmers*, p. 37, Serendipity House, 1996. Permission granted by the publisher to copy with this credit line for non-commercial use in your church.

# WOMAN - TO - WOMAN MENTORING

## MEMORIES OF MENTORS

### Bible Study Part 1

#### WE PRAY

Most Holy and Most Wise God, praise and thanks to You for the true wisdom of Your Word, for in it we find Jesus our Perfect Mentor. Teach us by His example. As we are blessed by those who mentor us, may we in turn be a blessings to those we mentor. Send Your Spirit to guide us into all truth as we live our lives to Your glory. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

**Our lives are constantly changing. Some of the changes are easy; others are not so easy. The way we handled change in the past and the people who were there to mentor us make us the people we are today.**

#### SMALL GROUP SHARING

- ❖ Share a time in your childhood or youth when someone took an interest in you and helped you one-on-one.
  
- ❖ Share a time in your childhood or youth when you could have used help from someone.

**The gospel message that Jesus Christ lived the perfect life we cannot live, then suffered, died, and rose in victory to pay for our sins so that we may have eternal life, is the most important thing that needs to be passed on from one generation to another through mentoring relationships. Intergenerational relationships are important. It is a great privilege and responsibility for the older generation to mentor the younger generation.**

**FROM SCRIPTURE**

Read Psalm 145:3-7

Why is it important that the message of salvation is passed on from one generation to the next?

Read Titus 2:3-5

What are the qualities listed for the mentors in this passage?

Read Romans 7:19-20

Why is it impossible for us to be perfect mentors?

Read John 13:13-17

Who is the only perfect Mentor?

Read 1 John 1:9

How then are we able to share the gospel with others through mentoring relationships?

Read 2 Timothy 1:5

Who first shared the gospel message with Timothy?

Read Ruth 1:3-18 and 4:13-16

How did Naomi mentor Ruth?

What was the most important thing she shared with Ruth?

## **SMALL GROUP SHARING**

- ❖ Who was the first person to pass the gospel message on to you?
  
- ❖ Share a time when someone encouraged and guided you to a closer relationship with God.
  
- ❖ Who have you shared the gospel message with on a one-to-one basis?
  
- ❖ Naomi mentored a woman from a different cultural and ethnic background. What opportunities have you had to share the gospel with others from a different background?
  
- ❖ What makes it difficult for you personally to share the gospel message with others? (Not enough time, don't know how, lack of opportunities, don't want to be a fanatic, etc.)
  
- ❖ In prayer, thank God for the mentors of your past and ask Him to help you share the gospel in the future.

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## QUALITIES OF MENTORS

### Bible Study Part 2

#### WE PRAY

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your changelessness as we go through the changes in our lives. Let Your Holy Spirit give us a spirit of openness and sharing as we seek to help or to be helped by others. Give us faith to put our lives in Your hands as You lead us into a more intimate relationship with You and with Your people. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**We have all gone through many changes since our childhoods. Perhaps you have left home, changed careers, married, had children, experienced menopause, retired, suffered an illness, and/or grieved the death of a loved one. All of us have experienced being new to a group and not knowing where we fit in. The Lord brings mentors into our lives to help us, and then uses us to mentor others who need our help.**

#### SMALL GROUP SHARING

- ❖ In one minute or less, tell the story of the changes in your life.
  
- ❖ Share a time when you were new to a group, how you felt and who helped you to fit in.

**With every change we go through and every experience we have, the Lord prepares us to mentor someone else and gives us an opportunity to show His love to them. Often the one thing that keeps someone from being lonely and hopeless is a connection with another person.**

**FROM SCRIPTURE**

Read Hebrews 10:23-24

The hope to which we hold is the promise of eternal life. Until that day comes, what are we to do for each other?

Read Luke 1:26-45

What change was Mary experiencing? Who did she go to as a mentor?

Read 2 Timothy 2:22-26

What qualities of a servant of God are listed here?

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:6-8

What qualities of a servant of God are listed here?

Read Philippians 2:1-4

What should be our motive for seeking mentoring relationships?

**THE QUALITIES NECESSARY FOR MENTORS INCLUDE:**

*FAITHFULNESS:* By the grace of God, mentors are able to stay faithful to His Word and Sacraments. Through the help of the Holy Spirit, they can find time for God and others in their busy lives.

*RECOGNIZE NEEDS:* Relationships can be initiated when we listen to the needs of other people.

*COMMITMENT:* Mentoring is more effective if each Christian has a true desire to invest herself into a relationship as Christ’s ambassador and commits to just a few mentoring relationships.

*OPENNESS:* Mentors must be willing to share their lives in an honest way, allowing the person being mentored to feel comfortable in sharing.

*ACCEPTANCE:* Mentors accept others without approving of their sin. By showing unconditional love, a mentor can help another person look beyond a present failure.

*LISTENING:* Mentors can help others find solutions by listening to their thoughts and feelings. Listening can be a greater service than speaking.

*ENCOURAGING:* A mentor must have the ability to see people not for what they are, but for what they can become. They are able to inspire others to put forth their best efforts not because they have to, but because they want to.

*TRUSTWORTHY:* Since mentors are watched and imitated, there is no room for hypocrisy. When others share their personal lives with us, we must keep them personal. Mentors must also be willing to allow others to work through tasks without looking over their shoulder or criticizing them, or taking the task back.

*SEEK MENTORS THEMSELVES:* All mentors have weaknesses and also need mentors who can encourage and advise them.

*KNOW WHEN TO LET GO:* When God accomplishes His purpose in a mentoring relationship, both people will grow and He will move their lives into different directions to accomplish a new purpose.

## **SMALL GROUP SHARING**

- ❖ Share a time when someone helped you get through a difficult time.
  
- ❖ What words and phrases have other people used to encourage you?  
Which were most effective?
  
- ❖ Share a time when you helped someone get through a difficult time.
  
- ❖ What were some of the rewards and disappointments of the mentoring relationship?
  
- ❖ In prayer, ask the Lord for strength to live a life that will be a Christ-like example to others, and to love others unconditionally.

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## STYLES OF MENTORS

### Bible Study Part 3

#### WE PRAY

Lord Jesus, bless our mentoring efforts in Your name. Help us to look honestly at where we are today, and show us the areas in which You want to strengthen our ability to help others. Give us the courage to reach out to others, and the willingness to both lead and to be led. *“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word”* (2 Thess. 2:16-17). Amen.

**Mentoring happens in many different ways and in many different circumstances. When we have a relationship with the Lord, we will want to help someone else grow in a personal relationship with Him. Through Christian mentoring, others grow spiritually and become more committed to the Lord. He will enable them to use their gifts and talents to build up the body of believers.**

#### SMALL GROUP SHARING

- ❖ Share a time when someone helped you learn a skill.
  
- ❖ What gift or talent would you like to have someone help you to improve?

**When we try to do the Lord’s work by doing it all ourselves, we deprive ourselves of experiencing teamwork, working with others, teaching, and mentoring. We also deprive others of experiences to learn and grow in service. By delegating we create opportunities to hear fresh ideas, new approaches, and a broader view of the subject. It can be a time of mentoring, letting others try their wings, helping them to succeed, and thus training leaders for the future.**  
(Virginia Von Seggern, *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly*, Winter 1999)

**FROM SCRIPTURE**

Read Ephesians 4:7-16

What is God's will for the body of believers?

Read 2 Timothy 4:2

How are we to mentor others?

Read 1 Peter 4:10

Every Christian has been given gifts and talents from God. For what are they to be used?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Why should we encourage others to use their gifts?

Read Exodus 18:1-27

How did Jethro mentor Moses?

Read Proverbs 1:7-9 and 1 Timothy 5:1-2

Younger women may think that they don't need the advice of older women. In what ways is the advice of an older woman timeless?

## **MENTORING STYLES**

(Adapted from Paul Stanley's article, "Up, Sideways, Down" found in the *Discipleship Journal*)

*DISCIPLER:* The mentor may become involved in a discipling relationship with a neighbor, co-worker, or fellow church member early in the other person's Christian walk. Time spent together involves answering the learner's questions and directing her through the Word to grow in the foundations of faith.

*ROLE MODEL:* This style of mentoring may occur through books, retreats, conventions, publications, or the example set by a person. The learner can be led by the example of the role model, but the mentor may not necessarily be personally involved with the learner.

*SPONSOR:* The mentor realizes that the learner has potential leadership skills and provides the appropriate encouragement and training to increase the involvement in an organization. This encouragement process may begin by introducing the learner to active members. The process may continue by helping her to recognize the potential within her and then finding ways and places to use her gifts.

*TEACHER:* The mentor helps the learner to know and understand a particular subject by working alongside her. She encourages her to find outlets for this knowledge or skill through outside resources.

*GUIDE:* The mentor becomes involved in the process of change and growth by helping the learner assess her development. It is based on the need of the learner and cannot be initiated by the mentor. The mentor provides the environment of accountability and the perspective of what it is like to be a Christian in all areas of life. There will be times when it becomes necessary to point out strengths and weaknesses of character.

*COACH:* This mentor passes a skill on to the learner to meet a required task. This is particularly useful when the learner is beginning a new position. An old and new officer can meet to pass on files and share information regarding the job responsibilities. The mentor may then act as a resource until the learner has acquired the skill and confidence to function in this position.

*COUNSELOR:* The mentor acts a sounding board for the learner. The learner shares thoughts, feelings, and concerns, while the mentor helps evaluate the choices available. Pastoral counselors are examples of this type of mentoring.

## SMALL GROUP SHARING

- ❖ Proverbs 13:20 says, “*He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.*” Share how a wise person has passed on the traditions of leadership and faith in your life.
  
- ❖ What one gift or talent do you have that you could share with another person to build up the body of Christ?
  
- ❖ Who are you preparing to take your place in the Lord’s work?
  
- ❖ In prayer, thank the Lord for the wise Christians who have helped you learn to serve, and ask Him to give you opportunities to train others who will carry on the Lord’s work in the future.

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## MENTORING WISDOM

- ❖ Mentoring is not a counseling service. It is for nurturing friendships, for support, guidance, love, encouragement, and learning.
- ❖ Pray that God will give you opportunities to serve others, and to also show you who can help you in your Christian life.
- ❖ Pray for the Lord's guidance in mentoring relationships.
- ❖ Allow God to work through you. You are not the answer to someone else's problem. We do the planting and watering of the seed, but it is God who grows faith.
- ❖ Mentoring is effective if the mentor is committed to just a few mentoring relationships. If everyone reaches out to someone else, all will be encouraged.
- ❖ Mentoring relationships work best when expectations are clearly communicated to each other.
- ❖ Mentoring is not for making a carbon copy of you.
- ❖ Allow others the opportunity to learn and grow in service by delegating and mentoring instead of doing it all yourself.
- ❖ When mentoring someone in a new skill, think about taking your eyes off yourself and look out for the needs of the other person. Being inclusive and supportive are the most important functions we can do to help in the continuing cycle of the Lord's work.
- ❖ When we make mistakes in mentoring relationships, ask for forgiveness and learn from your mistakes.
- ❖ Prayerfully seek a mentor who shows strengths in areas you are weak in and seek to mentor those who are weak in areas in which you are strong.
- ❖ Never idolize your mentor or allow others to idolize you to the point of forgetting Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Keep confidential information about another person confidential!
- ❖ Mentoring is not all work and no play. Schedule times for fun together. This is a good way to really get to know the other person.
- ❖ Instead of assuming a newcomer knows about an event, personally invite her. It will make her feel special and may also make you aware of a need.
- ❖ Pair experienced workers with learners to complete group tasks.
- ❖ Help plan or be involved in intergenerational and multi-cultural activities where other women share their special skills. Mentoring relationships may develop when other women are interested in learning a new skill.
- ❖ Make an effort to meet new people. The person God chooses for you to have a mentoring relationship with may not be someone who is in your usual circle of friends.
- ❖ A mentoring relationship may not be for life. Be ready to move on at some point in time and use what you have learned from the relationship to mentor someone else.

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## A SKETCH

**Characters:** Martha, Liz, Sally, Helen, Mary, and Ann

**Setting:** Table or screen at center stage serves to divide each scene

**Scene 1:** *(to the right of the table – Martha and Liz are talking together, holding hands or touching arms)*

**Martha:** Oh Liz, I still can't believe you and Mike are moving ... and all the way to the big city of New York. I'm certainly going to miss you – why, we've gotten to be such good friends, even though you're young enough to be my daughter.

**Liz:** I'm going to miss you a lot too, Martha – we've shared so much in these last six years. You've been like a mother to me, besides being a sister in Christ here at St. John's. But you know, we both have e-mail and can keep in touch as easily as if we were still next door neighbors.

**Martha:** Well, I do want to stay in touch – promise me you'll find time to use that e-mail to let me know how things are going. You know I'll worry about you, just like a mother.

*(both leave the stage)*

**Scene 2:** *(to the left of the table – Liz opens the door and Mary & Ann enter)*

**Mary:** Hello, you're Liz, right? *(Liz nods)* I'm Mary and this is Ann. We're here from Holy Cross Lutheran to welcome you and your family to the church.

**Ann:** *(shaking hands)* Glad to meet you – we're so happy you'll be joining our congregation. We've brought a welcome basket for you, with loads of information about Holy Cross and all of our programs and organizations. We pride ourselves in diversity and variety – we feel that we have something for everyone.

**Mary:** Tell us about yourself, Liz – where are you from?

**Liz:** We've just moved from a small town with lots of space and not much diversity, I'm afraid. Most people grew up in the area and stayed put. Our church was pretty traditional in a lot of ways. We really never had a reason to change, I guess. I hope in time I'll feel at home here.

**Ann:** Well we're here to help in any way we can. Say, our LWML group meets this Thursday evening at 6:30 – it's a small, friendly group of ladies of all ages. How about going with me? I can drop by you around ten after six.

*(Mary & Ann exit – Liz goes to the table and begins typing at the computer)*

**Liz:** *(out loud)* “Dear Martha – Boy, are things different in the Big Apple – it's going to take awhile for a small town girl like me to fit in here. I've met a few of the people on my street – the lady next door is Asian and doesn't speak much English. The Hispanic family next to her is very friendly. I've also met the couple across the street who are living together – they've just moved here too. I had a visit from two ladies from church just now – it sounds like my new church has an LWML group that meets in the evening so I won't miss out because I'm working. I'm eager to meet other Christian women here. I wonder if they have prayer partners like we did? Sure do miss you, Martha – PLEASE e-mail me soon. Love, Liz.”

**Scene 3:** *(to the right of the table – Martha is typing on the computer)*

**Martha:** *(out loud)* “Dear Liz, I've been thinking about you a lot lately – I miss you too. God gave you such a bold and willing spirit to try things that were different or new approaches to liven things up and create some new enthusiasm. I'm sure the women in your new church will be blessed, as we were.

There's a new family in town here – nice folks with two teenagers. They're Hmong and probably feel pretty out of place here. It'll be interesting challenge for our church since we seem to pride ourselves in being a “home-grown” community. Any advice?

Trust in the Lord, Liz – He is watching over you. Hope to hear from you again soon. Love, Martha.”

**Scene 4:** (to the left of the table – Liz, at the computer)

**Liz:** (out loud) “Dear Martha, It was so good to hear from you – it’s almost like talking across the fence isn’t it? How’s everyone at St. John’s? Hmong folks have lots of traditions that are very different from ours I’m finding. It’s a real education in cultural diversity here at Holy Cross. I think what’s helped this church reach out and minister to other ethnic groups is our willingness to learn from them as well as help them with their needs. One suggestion might be to invite the Hmong family to bring several of their ethnic dishes to the church picnic and ask them to share about their traditions. Or you could ask them to have a Hmong float in the community parade. They have lots of cultural traditions and costumes that are very festive. Also, since they probably aren’t familiar with our worship, having someone sit with them to guide them through the liturgy and hymns would be helpful, I would think.

I have a question for you, Oh wise friend – the LWML group here is strong on mission service and mite giving. How can I encourage more Bible study along with our monthly activities? Any suggestions from your experience? Say Hi to Helen, Sally, and the others – tell them I miss them. Love, Liz.”

**Scene 5:** (to the right of the table – Martha, Helen, & Sally are sitting together with Bibles opened)

**Helen:** That was a good topic again – I’m so grateful to have this time with you gals.

**Martha:** I agree, Helen. Gathering around God’s Word is so important. Psalm 19:7 tells us, “*The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.*” Liz e-mailed recently, concerned because the women of her church don’t have Bible study on a regular basis. She was asking for suggestions that might change that. I really like using the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly* topics for our meeting – I think she could suggest that to her group.

**Sally:** Praying together like we do is also a faith-building time.

**Helen:** Right, and how about taking turns leading the studies? That gives everyone a chance to take an active part in sharing the Word. I know I learn more when I study to lead.

**Martha:** Good ideas – I’ll e-mail Liz tonight with these suggestions. It’s good we can still support her Christian walk, isn’t it? Maybe New York isn’t so far away after all.

*(all exit)*

**Scene 6:** *(to the left of the table – Liz at the computer)*

**Liz:** *(out loud)* “Hi, Martha. Thanks to you and Helen and Sally for the good Bible study ideas. I suggested we start doing popcorn prayers at the close of our meetings and the ladies seemed pretty receptive. Also some of them liked the idea of leading Bible study for the group. Looks like we’ll be gathering around the Word on a regular basis. Our Lord commended Mary for having “*chosen what is better*” (Luke 10:42) when she sat at His feet to hear His words. Sometimes we all get a little too “Martha-like” when we focus our attention on doing.

In my personal quiet time, I’ve been reading Proverbs – I’m in chapter 13 now and came to verse 20 yesterday. It says, “*He who walks with the wise grows wise.*” That pretty well sums up our relationship for me, Martha – when I was with you, and now when we’re linked electronically; it’s like we’re walking through life together and I’m growing wise in a spiritual sense by being with you. I’m so grateful that God brought us together. Your sister in Christ, Liz.”

**Scene 7:** *(to the right of the table – Martha with Helen & Sally)*

**Martha:** You know, I miss Liz, as I’m sure you do, but with the e-mailing we’re part of each other’s lives and can encourage and grow in faith as the Lord leads each of us. She’s mentoring us in what we’re doing here in St. John’s, and we’re mentoring her as she serves at Holy Cross. I pray He continues to use us to mentor to His glory.

**Helen & Sally:** Yes, to His glory.

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## WISDOM IN ACTION - BLESSED TO SERVE

### Closing Devotion

**Reading:** Ephesians 5:8 - *"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light."*

**Devotion:** Paul is talking about the Christian life; the life of sanctification; the life lived through Jesus Christ. He identifies Jesus as the example to follow and then encourages these Ephesian Christians and us as well, to *"Live as children of light."* He begins chapter 5 with these words - *"Be imitators of God ... and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us ... "* (Eph. 5:1-2).

Christ's example again and again was one of serving - He washes the disciple's feet and then tells them, *"I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you"* (John 13:15). Paul writes to the Philippians Christians, *"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus ... "* (Phil.2:5) and goes on to describe His obedience *"even to death on a cross!"* (Phil. 2:8). Christ's life of love transforms us from darkness into children of light by faith to reflect His Light in the world. And when we fail as we often do, it is His loving obedience that earns God's mercy and forgiveness for us.

Christ is our perfect Mentor, and by the Spirit's power we become mentors for others as we witness His love to others - Christ lives through the life of the believer. Proverbs 13:20 says *"He who walks with the wise grows wise ... "* Remembering the definition of mentor - a *"wise and trusted monitor or counselor"* - in Christ we see true wisdom and we, in turn, reflect His wisdom. Paul writes to Timothy, *"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have been convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus"* (2 Tim. 3:14-15). As children of God we are truly blessed to serve, mentoring to others by living our Christian lives through Christ, led by the Spirit.

**Prayer:** Father, it is Your desire that we follow Christ's example of humble service - inspire and enable us to live in love as we serve others in Your name. May we glorify You in all we do, as we walk in this world empowered as children of light by Your Holy Spirit. We ask this in the name of our Perfect Mentor, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Song:** Serve the Lord With Gladness (LWML) or Make Me a Servant, All God's People Sing (CPH) #174 or Jesus' People Sing (CPH) #53

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## CLOSING COMMUNITY BUILDER

Form groups of three or four. Allow one minute for each person to speak about each part, giving all members of the group the opportunity to speak before moving on to the next part.

- ❖ Tell of something that has personally impacted you  
A significant learning for me during this Bible study, event or \_\_\_\_\_ was ...
  
- ❖ Tell the others in the group how their participation impacted your experience  
A contribution by you to my Bible study experience, event or \_\_\_\_\_ today was ...
  
- ❖ Tell how you feel about the experience just shared  
This Bible study, event or \_\_\_\_\_ will help as I ...
  
- ❖ Each person in turn prays for each of the others in the group  
My prayer for you is ...