

Finding Your PLACE in Mentoring: An Acronym To Guide You



P.L.A.C.E.

P: Pray

Real heart change comes only from God, and prayer helps create an environment for that change.

Pray out loud and with your mentee—even if only to open or close your time together or to approach God about challenging situations.

L: Listen

Slow down and create a safe place where you allow yourself to be pulled into another's experience: "A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion" (Proverbs 18:2).

Take care to listen for true understanding rather than prepare a wise response! Take time to "sit" with the person rather than moving on to a solution.

And as you gain trust from entering into someone's sacred spaces, you'll build relationships strong enough to hold truth.

A: Ask

Asking good questions is more important than having all the answers.

Use open-ended questions that foster conversation. Ask yourself, "Is this question more likely to foster conversation or hinder it? Is this open-ended? Consider the difference in tone when asking, "Are you praying with your spouse?" versus "How can you and your wife begin praying together more often?"

C: Consider

Good mentors think carefully and biblically. Time is a critical part of the process; it can't be rushed.

Think about ways to appropriately introduce Scripture, keeping with the pace at which God is working in your mentee's life. Together, brainstorm next steps or other options they may want to evaluate.

E: Encourage

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing" (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

Mentors hold tremendous power to highlight a mentee's progress and celebrate their successes!

- *Acknowledge* another person's circumstances.
- *Believe* in them.
- *Cheer* them on.