

## Mentoring Guide

# Watering the Soul and Weeding the Garden: Spiritual Growth

Apart from an intimate and growing relationship with Jesus Christ, ministry will be empty and impossible. Everyone intends to cultivate a healthy relationship with Jesus Christ, but it requires ongoing discipline and daily devotion that will be essential for your personal walk and ministry service.

### Talking Points: Questions to Consider

- How essential do you view prayer and Scripture to your spiritual health and daily life? Why are they vital? How do they transform you to become more like Christ?
- What does your current devotional life look like? How consistent are you in spending time with the Lord? What are the most challenging aspects of maintaining your personal intimacy with Jesus Christ?
- What are the greatest areas of temptation and struggle for you? How are you currently combatting and overcoming these areas?

### Teaching Points: Scriptures to Consider

- **John 15:1-11** – Abiding in Christ and Bearing Fruit
- **Psalm 139:23-24; Psalm 51:1-12** – Reflection and Repentance
- **1 John 1:9; Isaiah 1:18** – Confession and Cleansing
- **1 Timothy 4:7b-8; 1 Peter 2:2; Hebrews 4:16** – Spiritual Disciplines
- **Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:5-17** – How to Dress for Success

## Thinking Points: Resources to Consider

- *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life* by Donald Whitney
- *Praying the Bible* by Donald Whitney
- *The Pursuit of Holiness* by Jerry Bridges
- *Respectable Sins* by Jerry Bridges

## Training Points: Opportunities to Consider

- **Develop a practical prayer plan** for personal devotion and spend time praying together with various types of prayers (intercessions, petitions, praises, thanksgiving, confession, etc.).
- **Develop a Bible reading plan** for personal devotion. Spend time discussing and memorizing foundational verses and passages together.
- **Develop a plan for regular accountability** that includes strategies to overcome temptations, avenues for confession, pathways for counsel and guidance, and steps for restoration.