

BEGINNING A MENTORING RELATIONSHIP SOME START-UP QUESTIONS

What follows are some questions that can initiate discussions between the mentor and mentee. They can help the mentor learn more about the mentee's values, interests, etc. They are listed in no special order and are intended to be suggestive rather than prescriptive. The mentee should respond to these questions entirely on his/her own level of comfort, beliefs, values, etc. There is no "correct" response for any of the following questions.

- What do you like most about school? What do you like least?
- What do you like to do when you're home? What don't you like to do?
- What do you like most about yourself?
- What is it that you are particularly good at?
- What makes you happy? What makes you sad?
- Do you have any heroes? Who are they? Why?
- Tell me about your family? What kinds of activities do you do together?
- Do you have a best friend? What do you like best about him/her?
- Is there anything you're studying in school that you'd like to know more about?
- If you could be anyone or anything in the whole world, who or what would you want to be?
- Why do you want to have a mentor?
- What is the funniest thing that ever happened to you?
- What one thing do you do better than anything else?
- Is there anything in particular that you want to talk about or learn about?
- What are some things that you think we can talk about when we meet?
- What is the most enjoyable thing that you've ever done with your family? With your friends? Which your church group? With your classmates?
- What is your favorite kind of homework? What is the kind that you occasionally have difficulty with?
- If you could be an animal, what animal would you most want to be? Why?
- What is the most embarrassing thing that ever happened to you?
- What is it that you want/like in a friend? What qualities?
- If you could teach someone something that you know quite a bit about, what would it be? How would you go about teaching someone? What would you do?
- What kind of friend are you? How would you describe yourself?
- What is it that you most want from a teacher?
- What is it that you'd like to see happen in your school to make it even a better place?
- Would you like to keep meeting like this? What are some things that you think we can talk about when we meet?
- Think about one adult you really admire. Without telling me who it is, tell me about what they are like? How they behave? What is it that you like about them?