**Christian Discipleship Program FAQs**

To join this Discipleship program, you must first take our [Christianity Quiz](http://www.changingthefaceofchristianity.com/christianity-quiz/). If you’ve already taken the quiz, we will contact you soon with next steps.

**General FAQs:**

* **Are you part of or affiliated with a particular denomination?** In short, no. We don’t represent or promote any particular denomination. Our mentors aren’t screened based on their denomination, so long as they affirm our [mentor statement of faith](http://www.changingthefaceofchristianity.com/discipleship/mentor-confidentiality-agreement-and-statement-of-understanding/) (which defines the essential doctrines we believe are crucial and not open for debate). This [statement of faith](http://www.changingthefaceofchristianity.com/about/statement-of-faith/) naturally excludes people of certain denominations from being a mentor, such as Jehovah’s Witness, Mormon’s, etc. People in such denominations may be very good people, but they aren’t part of our mentor team.  This means your mentor could be a Baptist, Methodist, or of any number of denominations, that agree with our statement of faith.
* **How do those individuals who request mentoring find out about this program?** There are several potential ways a mentee would find out about our program. One is word of mouth from other mentees and mentors. Also, we will be promoting this through our website as well. Our highly popular Christianity Quiz is where most of our mentees come from. Those scoring lower on the quiz are asked if they would like someone to walk along side them and mentor them into spiritual maturity. Those that are interested then request a mentor. And we are simply matching these people up with people who are more spiritually mature in their faith.
* **What are your levels of accountability?**Mentors are required to BCC their mentor coordinator on all mentor-to-mentee emails. This will allow us to offer mentors (especially those with less experience) thoughts on the ongoing dialogue, correct course if necessary, and ensure mentors aren’t promoting an unhelpful agenda of their own. Mentors will also include a footer on every mentee email. Such as, “If you would like to report any questionable or inappropriate mentor/mentee communications, please let us know at mentor-feedback@changingthefaceofchristianity.com”. Such a report will be addressed immediately. We will follow-up with appropriate parties involved to understand the situation before any changes are made. And if any changes are necessary, both the mentee, mentor, and mentor coordinator will be notified. When we inform a mentee that they have been assigned a mentor, we will also provide them with that feedback mechanism, so that they can reach out to us at any time to express any concerns they have during the process.
* **How long of a commitment can a mentor/mentee expect to make?**Once a mentee is assigned, I would expect the commitment to be reaching out at least once a week to your mentee and/or responding once a week to mentee communications. Be prepared for a 12 week commitment as a minimum. Some mentor/mentee relationships last longer, much longer, but that is up to the mentee and mentor after 12 weeks. If you both agree to continue, then great.
* **How does the mentoring program work?**The mentoring will be via email, but could evolve into a secure web portal at some point where real time private chat or skype type interactions can occur. We will be providing some structure and a plan, so it’s not just completely free-form.
* **Would this be a distance kind of discipleship or would I be paired with someone who lived locally?**Our default position is that it will not be a local face to face type discipleship. So, expect the mentor/mentee to not be near you. However,  we will make every effort possible to pair you with someone close to you so that the possibility of a more relational discipleship is at least a possibility if both mentor and mentee agree to take it to that level.

**Mentee FAQs:**

* **Is this private/secure?** Will what I share be held in confidence? Yes. All of our mentors must agree to the [confidentiality statement](http://www.changingthefaceofchristianity.com/discipleship/mentor-confidentiality-agreement-and-statement-of-understanding/). Any information shared will only be between you and your mentor, and a mentor coordinator to maintain appropriate mentor supervision and accountability. Mentors are allowed to seek advice from other mature Christians, but when doing so they are not allowed to seek such advice using any of your personally identifiable information. They would be able to ask someone else, “I have a friend who is struggling with X. What would you suggest in this situation.”
* **What is the background of the people mentoring me?**Our mentors come from all backgrounds and denominations. Each has been interviewed to establish a base level of competency as a mentor. Also, newer mentors complete a mentor training course as part of their preparation. A thorough background check is completed for those mentoring teens/students, and references are also obtained. You can expect your mentor to be a good example of the Christian faith lived out. None of our mentors are perfect people, but they have submitted themselves to Christ, and want to glorify God by helping you achieve a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Mentor FAQs:**

* **How many people would I be mentoring?**At this point, we have more mentors than mentees. So I would expect that you would mentor at most one person at a time.
* **Do you have some “best practice” guidelines?**Yes. We will be providing some structure and a plan, so it’s not just completely free-form.
* **Will you or someone else be a point of contact if situations or questions arise that we would want to get a second opinion about?**Yes, as a mentor, you will be assigned to a Godly mentor coordinator who will be your first line of communication. We also encourage you to ask other mature Christians you have come to trust in spiritual matters, so long as the identification of your mentee is not compromised when seeking a second opinion. We recommend the “I have a friend who is going through…” type of question.
* **Should the contact (emails, phone, social media) between Mentor and Mentee be limited or will it be encouraged to use as many resources as appropriately possible?** We’re thinking it will be mostly via email initially, but could evolve into a secure web portal at some point where real time private chat or skype type interactions can occur. We won’t discourage the use of skype/facetime/or phone for mentoring. So if you and your mentee agree on that form of communication, then it’s fine with us. We do ask that you keep your mentor coordinator up to date. So if you use a non-email form of communication, you’ll just need to follow-up with your mentor coordinator with a summary of your status. We prohibit the use of non-private forms of communication such as twitter or facebook. Again, we just want to ensure mentees know and feel safe that they can share openly with you.
* **What is the background of the people being mentored?**It’s safe to assume that each mentee will be a self-proclaimed Christian. However, that may or may not be the case. Our purpose is to guide mentees into a deeper relationship with Christ, and that can start with someone who isn’t a Christian as well. This could include seekers and those already in the faith but who are struggling with doubts or unanswered questions.