

The Mailbox Club

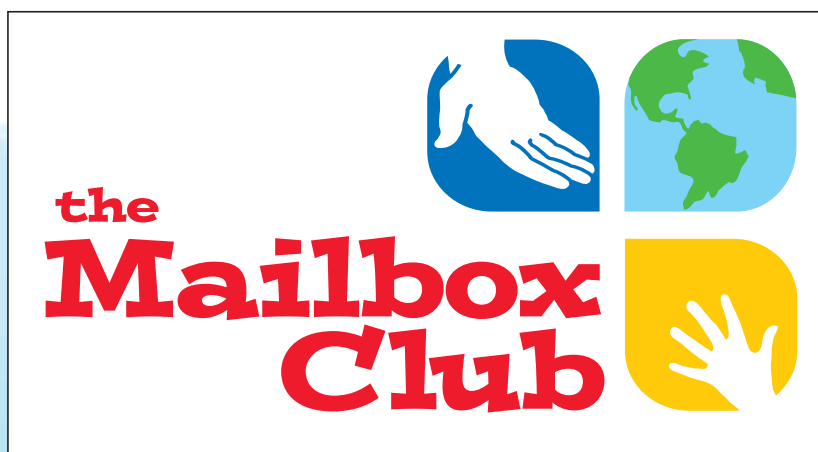
Module 2

MENTORS

"Imitate me as I imitate Christ"

1 Corinthians 11:1

**To effectively disciple children
using interactive Bible Study
lessons.**



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INDEX

	Page
1. Purpose of this training	3
2. Scriptural Foundation for a Ministry of Discipleship or Mentorship	3
3. Where does the “Mentoring for Ministry” process start?	4
4. How do you help the young leader to build skills?	4
5. Mentoring for a life of Ministry	5
6. Who qualifies to be a Mentor?	5
7. How to use the “Practical Christian Living” module in a mentor for ministry club	7
8. Ice breakers for small groups	9
9. Mentoring Tips and Ideas	11

THE PURPOSE OF THIS TRAINING

- To facilitate the Mentor Training Manual
- To highlight and discuss the need for Mentoring Young Leaders for a Life of Ministry
- To introduce “Practical Christian Living” as an effective Bible Study Course

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION FOR A MINISTRY OF MENTORSHIP

Those of us that have been blessed with children in our homes can attest to the wonderful privilege but equally demanding task of raising them as functional human beings. It's a 24/7 job that takes many years to complete. Someone rightfully remarked that PARENTHOOD NEVER CEASES, IT ONLY CHANGES!

It is no different with the spiritual children which God blesses us with in our ministries. Likewise we have the responsibility to love, to teach and to train them to fulfill their destinies as functional children of God in this world. This is what “discipleship” or “mentorship” is all about.

While our Lord was on the earth, He ministered to thousands of people (evangelism), but He mentored only a handful (discipleship). Even amongst the twelve disciples there were one or two with whom He spent a little more time than the others.

In your Classroom/ Children's church or Neighborhood Bible Club you'll minister to many children at a time but amongst them God will “give” you one or two “special” ones to disciple or mentor for His purposes. It is your privilege/responsibility to prayerfully identify these ones and challenge them to be “mentored for ministry”

To understand it better let's look at the method Jesus followed of making disciples (Matthew 10:5-15, Luke 9:1-6, Luke 10:1-12). Jesus spends many months with His disciples teaching them; then He sends them out to experience discipleship or mentorship for themselves; and finally He evaluates their progress.

THIS IS A SUMMARY OF WHAT JESUS SAID AS HE SENT THEM OUT:

- It is **PRAYER**ful; It is specific; It is Intentional, and it is continuing **CONNECT**ing with people;
- **FIND** the right ones to invest in; Stay with them;
- **SHOW** them and **EQUIP** them in the things of the Kingdom of God; Bless them.

The Apostle Paul employed the same strategy later on with Timothy and the churches he planted.

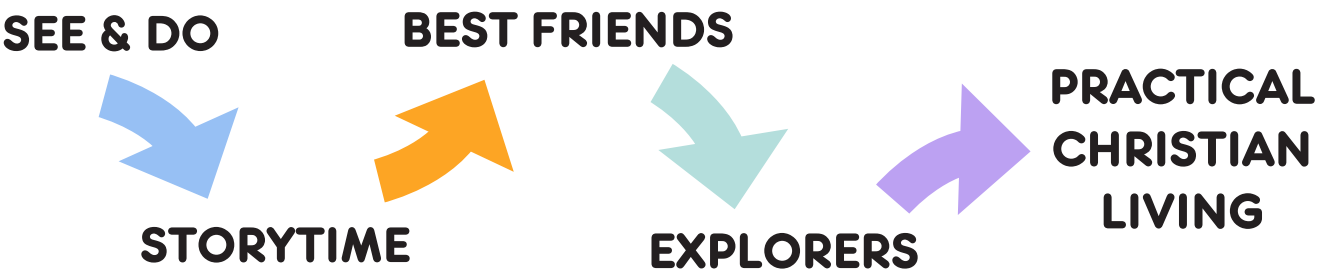
‘And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.’ 2 Timothy 2:2

Here Paul challenges Timothy to **connect** with people; **find** trustworthy men; **show** and teach (**equip**) them the things that he taught, and challenge them to do the same. In Philippians 4:9 he challenges the Congregation to do exactly what they learned from him; received from him; heard from him and saw him do.

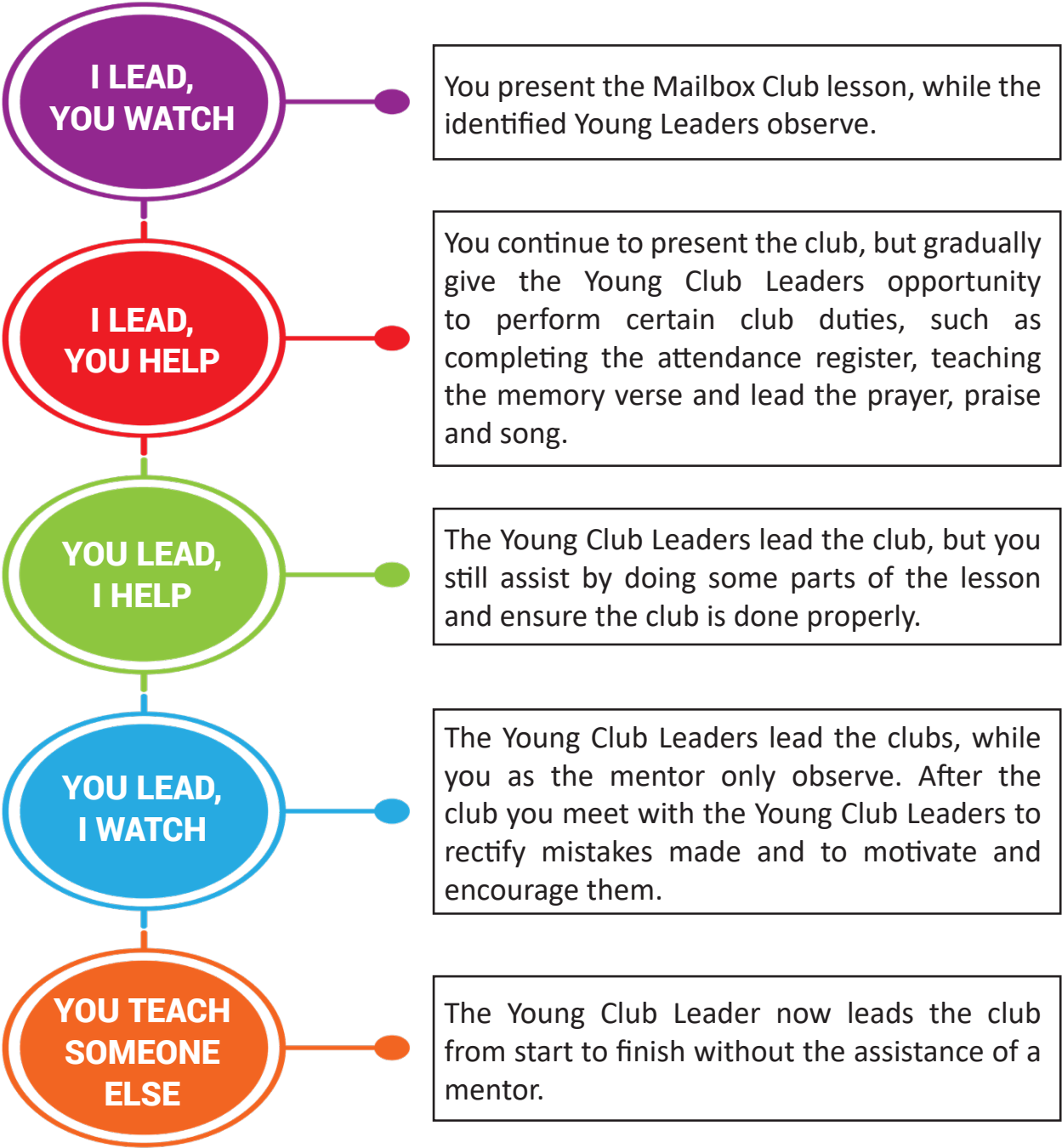


WHERE DOES THE “MENTORING FOR MINISTRY” PROCESS START?

After concluding with Explorers, Mentors make use of the Practical Christian Living course to mentor Club Leaders.



HOW DO YOU HELP THE YOUNG LEADERS TO BUILD SKILLS?



MENTORING FOR A LIFE OF MINISTRY

As you continue to multiply your Explorers Club and challenge young leaders to become Club Leaders you will simultaneously grow your “Mentor for Ministry” Club.

This club will be the place where you systematically mentor the new generation of Workers for Christ.

Your students will generally be 15yrs and older and already part of the Primary Mentoring Phase, that is, See & Do, Storytime, Best Friends and Explorers.

You will be using “Practical Christian Living 1 and 2” as the Bible Study Courses in your mentoring of Young Leaders. These courses are designed to cover all the important areas for growth in a Believer’s life.

Colossians 1:28 - Him we preach; warning every man, teaching every man with all wisdom; presenting every man perfect in Christ

To present every man (child, Teenager) perfect in Christ means that the 3 aspects below be present in his/her life in an increasing manner.

- **Spiritual Independence** - being able to nurture oneself from God’s Word
- **Responsible Multiplication** - Sharing one’s faith as a way of life
- **Integration in the local Church** - Finding one’s place in, and participating in the functioning of the Body of Christ.

WHO QUALIFIES TO BE A MENTOR?

Such a person would be an Adult Club Leader who have successfully completed and presented the Explorers Club 1 and/or 2 Modules, at least. Young Adults that have been Club Leaders in the Primary Mentoring Phase and have completed the 3-4 year Mentor for Ministry Program also qualify. A person who wishes to be a Mentor (Young or Old) will display the following Characteristics in an increasing manner.

M – Mature in Christ

Although Colossians 2:9 state that all Believers in Christ are PERFECT, we all are on the journey of discovering and applying this “perfectness” in everyday life. This is also what Scripture suggest in Philippians 2:12 when it says “...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling” It’s not “once-off” but a process over time.

A Mentor is a Believer that has walked with Christ for enough time and having acquired a certain measure of MATURITY which he/she can teach others with confidence.

E – Effective in Ministry

As Believers, we are all:

- called to “go and make disciples of all nations; teaching them to observe all the things that I have commanded you...”(Matthew 28:18-19)
- empowered by the Holy Spirit to be witnesses for Christ (Acts 1:8)
- representatives of Christ, pleading with people to accept the Reconciliation with God in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:19-20)

A Mentor is a Believer who is OBEDIENT to the Call of God on his/her life and one that is passionate about reconciling sinners to God and Believers to the Ways of God’s Kingdom

N – Nurtured in the Word of God

David was a man after God's own Heart yet confessed in the Psalms that he cannot live without God's Word.

"The Law of God is perfect, converting the soul.

The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;

The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;

The judgements of the Lord are true altogether, more to be desired are they than gold;

Yea than much fine gold, sweeter than honey and the honeycomb;

Moreover by them your servant is warned and in keeping them there is great reward.

(Psalm 19)

A Mentor is a Believer who experientially finds strength and guidance in a daily intake of God's Word.

T – Teacher Trainer

Someone once said "If you know something thoroughly enough; and if you feel something deeply enough and if you do something consistently enough, you have the potential to communicate something effectively enough"

Someone else said "The average Teacher tells the story; the good Teacher explains the story; the extraordinary Teacher demonstrates the story but the superior Teacher inspires the story"

A Mentor is a Believer who feels burdened and confident enough to teach and train others what he/she has learned themselves.

O – Obedient to God's Spirit

Before Jesus returned to Heaven He promised to ask the Father to send us another Helper to abide with Believers and in Believers...forever (John 14:15-18)

In John 16:13-14 Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit will not only guide Believers in all truth but also reveal the Plans of God for them and the World.

In Galatians 5:16-25, Scripture commands us to Walk in the Spirit and not listen to our own hearts and minds.

A Mentor is a Believer who understands and experiences the Working of the Holy Spirit in his/her life in an ever increasing way. The Mentor understands that we all walk by FAITH and will do so until Jesus comes or we go to Him.

R – Reproducing

It is not the Mentor's responsibility to cause behavioral change in his/her student's lives. That is 100% the ministry and task of the Holy Spirit. However, as with the decision of the Apostles of old in Acts 15:28 the Mentor works hand in hand with the Holy Spirit to cause change in his/her students.

A Mentor is a Believer who measures his/her success in Ministry by the Spiritual Growth of those they lead. Not in a way of "counting numbers" but in the way Paul did in Colossians 1:28 "Him we preach; warning every man; teaching every man in all wisdom that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus".

HOW TO USE THE “PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN LIVING” MODULE IN A MENTOR FOR MINISTRY CLUB

As a former Club Teacher, you will be well versed in the PLANNING, PREPARING and PRESENTING of a weekly Bible Club. However, your Age-group, Activities and Applications have changed. The principles in your “Mentoring for Ministry” Club remains the same. You’ll be making use of a more “Mature” Bible Study Module (Practical Christian Living) that will require a more mature approach. We’d like to give you some guidelines for this exiting journey BUT would not want to bereft you and the Holy Spirit of the what, when, where and how to run your Club. That is why we’re suggesting a basic Plan for you to use or adapt as needed.

Welcoming	Keep it relaxed but orderly. It’s a time for forming relationships.
Ice Breaker	Choose any one of those listed in this Manual, or any other you know of. Discuss the strategy that are used and possible lessons learned afterwards.
Prayers	Open your Club with Prayer. Pray in line with what you’ll be teaching that day.
Feedback of “I will...” Commitments	It’s very important to hold your students accountable. Likewise for you as Mentor.
First or second half of the Lesson	You should study the lesson beforehand and plan where to ask questions and/or discuss in depth.
Possible Application	What is it that you want your Students to KNOW; to FEEL; to DO on account of your lesson’s Central Truth for the Week? Keep it simple and single fold.
Prayers	This should not be a structured or pre-programmed time. Let the Holy Spirit lead them to pray based on what they learn or experience on the day.
“I will...” Commitments	Challenge the Students to decide for themselves what they feel and understand the Holy Spirit is saying to them on account of what they learn this week.

1ST YEAR GOAL

- To complete all 12 lessons of PCL 1
- To build the CONFIDENCE LEVEL and TEACHING CAPABILITIES of the Young Club Leader
- To monitor THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH of the Young Club Leader

LES- SON	1st Week, Central Truth	2nd Week, Central Truth	3rd Week	4th Week
1	Faith must be based on God’s Word	Feelings follow Facts and Faith	Review of lessons Truths and Fellowship	Club Visitation and Outreach
2	Repentance is much more than merely saying I’m sorry	A Christian is someone in whom Christ lives		
3	Wrong thoughts lead to wrong actions that leads to wrong feelings	Right thoughts lead to right actions that lead to right feelings		
4	Accepting the values of the world leads to feelings of inferiority	Accepting the values of God leads to feelings of self-worth		
5	I was created by God for God	Accepting myself is based on the love and wisdom of God who created me.		
6	The Holy Spirit makes Christ real to us...in us!	I grieve the Holy Spirit when I allow sin to contaminate my mind and my heart		
7	You cannot be right with God if you’re wrong with anyone in the world	Inner peace and freedom come from being right with God and with your fellow men		
8	A clear conscience is essential to having your prayers answered	We maintain a clear conscience when we walk in obedience to God’s Word		
9	God judges the unsaved but disciplines His Children	God’s disciplining in our lives is proof that He loves us.		
10	Everything on earth belongs to God; He has authority over all things	When I disobey God’s Word and His Spirit I openly choose the side of Satan		
11	God’s delegated Authority is meant to rule on the Earth according to His will	Obedience to Parents, Government, Church & Social Structures is obedience to God		
12	Not all chastening comes from God	We repent and receive forgiveness but we still face the consequences of our actions		
Mentors and Club Leaders help Team Leaders to plan and hold the Annual Mailbox Club Africa Day as well as the Annual Young Leaders Camp				

2ND YEAR GOALS

- To complete all 12 Lessons of PCL 2
- To monitor the SPIRITUAL GROWTH of the Young Club Leader

3RD YEAR GOALS

- To prepare Young Club Leaders to become Mentors by:
 - Presenting the Module 2 Training Module
 - Assisting them to run their own PCL Club
- To restart your next Mentor for Ministry Club with 10 new Young Club Leaders

4TH YEAR GOALS

- Young Mentors will complete their Second year as a Mentor using PCL 2

ICE BREAKERS FOR SMALL GROUPS

PASSIONS TIC TAC TOE

The goal of the Passions Tic Tac Toe icebreaker is to help the participants to get to know each other at the beginning of an event or to help identify their values during the later part of a training session.

Create a 3 x 3 grid for each participant and have them fill in each block with a different personal passion randomly. After the individual work, have everyone walk around the room and compare notes. When they find the same passion listed in both grids, ask them to sign for each other in the appropriate square. The winner is the participant who manages to have other people's signatures on three lines (vertical, horizontal, or diagonal). You can continue the game to have as many winners as you like

LIFE MAP

Life Map is a reflective icebreaker that helps create connections and deepen group understanding in a way that can be both creative and surprising. Begin by inviting team members to draw their life as a map, using common symbols and signs you might find on a map. Stop signs, deer crossings, mountainous areas...the choice of how to illustrate your life story is yours! After everyone has completed their life map, give them 5-minutes to share with the rest of the group. Using Life Map as a small group icebreaker allows people to be vulnerable in a safe, approachable and creative way

HUMAN KNOT

Human Knot is a fun, physical icebreaker that is best played in groups of 7-16 people. It's a great way to break the ice while also creating energy and a sense of fun.

Start Human Knot getting the group to stand in a circle and ask them to close their eyes. Next, everyone reaches out and links one hand with someone across the circle. Then they link the other hand with another person in the circle. Then, ask everyone to open their eyes and try to untangle the knot they've made without breaking the chain!

When running Human Knot with small groups, it can often be interesting to ask folks to reflect on what happened and how it illustrates core group dynamics or how they work together more generally

PAPER TELEPHONE

Paper Telephone is a fun icebreaker that encourages creativity and laughter by combining two classic games: telephone and Pictionary. Start by handing out a stack of small papers and pens, and invite each team member to write a sentence on the first piece of paper. Players then pass their stack to the next person who must read the sentence and then create a

visual representation of that sentence on the next piece of paper in the stack.

Play proceeds around the circle, with players needing to transform back and forth between words and images. Often, by the time you get your original stack back, the sentence has gone on a weird and wonderful transformation!

DROP THE BALL

Have the group stand in a circle and give the following instruction:

The tennis ball must pass through both of your hands and the group twice ...in the shortest possible time.

When they have done it a few times they'll come to the conclusion that they cannot do it any faster than they have...unless they think outside of the box.

HAND CLAP – WHO TOOK THE COOKIES FROM THE COOKIE JAR?

Have the group sit in a circle and number each 1-10.

While they keep rhythm with a hand-clap and a thigh-clap they chant Who took the cookies from the cookie jar?

Someone starts by saying Number 1 did.

Number 1 answers "Who me?" upon which the group answers "yes, you"

Number 1 answers "couldn't be"

Group answers "then who"

Number 1 nominates another number and the same repeats.

The first to miss their beat or their words is out...until the last to remain the Winner

HELIUM STICK

You'll need a 2meter long reed or lightweight plastic pipe. The object of the game is for the group to work as a team and lay the stick down evenly on the ground. Divide your group in even numbers to stand opposite each other with their hands extended before them. They should inter-space their hands with the opposite persons. Have them extend the forefingers of both hands.

Now lay the stick on their extended forefingers and let them start the process. All of their forefingers must ALWAYS touch the stick. The moment one loses touch they have to start over again.

SPIDER'S WEB (HANDS)

Have the group stand in a circle facing one another.

Hand them a ball of yarn/string/wool to throw to one another. The first person to throw holds the end of the string in his/her hands...and never let go! He/she throws the ball to a next person who catches it...then holds the string with one hand and throws the ball to another person...until each one in the group has a grip on the string.

Now, they have to unwind the spider's web while never let going of the string

WHO AM I?

You will need little pieces of paper, preferably sticky notes. Write a name on the sticky note, i.e. Pastor, Plumber, Film Star, Attorney, etc. Paste it to their foreheads or backs, and make them guess the name assigned to them based on clues and conversation in the group.

MENTORING TIPS AND IDEAS

TRAINING

- How to have a regular Quiet Time
 - How to study God's Word and apply it to one's life
 - How to develop a Life of Prayer
 - How to Share Christ as a way of Life
 - How to Walk in the Spirit
- You can accomplish all this by making use of the TMC Bible Study Course "Practical Christian Living" or other appropriate TMC Study Courses.*

COACHING

- How to be an effective Club Leader
- How to handle difficult questions
- How to deal with unruly children disturbing the club

DIRECTION

Look and pray for signs of spiritual growth/Fruit of the Spirit in the young leader. It will be evident in an increased...

- Desire to spend more time with the Lord;
- Love/insight in God's Word;
- Desire to spend time in prayer and praying for others;
- Love for other Christians;
- Passion for lost souls.

SUPPORT

- Assure the young leader of your love and total commitment towards him/her as a Mentor
- Lead by example. Do not expect the young leader to succeed where you fail or what you neglect to do

GOAL

Meet with the young leader at least once a week

- For fellowship and prayer
- For Studying God's Word
- To help him/her understand God's Vision for His church, and for the lost

ADVICE

- Share regularly from your daily walk with Jesus. (Failures and Successes)
- Share about specific Spiritual Gifts and Personality Traits that points to a specific Life Calling

MOTIVATION

- Include social activities from time to time.
- Invite the young leader and friends to your home
- Give practical advice to the Young Leader on how to handle daily challenges he/she might face

SUCCESS

- Celebrate the successes the young leader achieve.
- Do not let them off the hook for procrastination or shirking responsibilities
- They have the same Holy Spirit empowering them
- They have the same Lord and Saviour living in them
- They have the same Heavenly Father Who created and destined them for a life of good works

