

# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Faith Mentoring

Hello Families!

We are excited to introduce 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Faith Mentors this year! At King of Kings, part of our mission is feeding spiritual hunger and the hunger to be in community with others. During their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year, students are asked to choose a faith mentor, other than their parent, to meet with 6-8 times during the year.

**The purpose of faith mentoring is to offer each confirmation student the opportunity to see and learn how another adult (besides their immediate family) lives out their lives and faith, and to explore and make sense of their own faith.**

This letter should provide you with the information needed to understand Faith Mentoring at King of Kings and to help you invite someone to be your mentor.

## Let me suggest the following:

- **First**, read through this letter. If you have any questions after reading through it, feel free to reach out to me either by email ([kelsey.battleson@kingofkingswoodbury.org](mailto:kelsey.battleson@kingofkingswoodbury.org)) or by phone (651-289-8030).
  - This **Pink** sheet is yours to keep and has all of the student information.
  - The **Blue** sheet is for you to give to your mentor to help them understand their responsibilities and make a decision to join you.
  - The **Green** sheet is for you and your mentor to fill out and return to King of Kings **by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018**.
  - Extra copies of all of these pages are available online: [www.kingofkingswoodbury.org/high-school](http://www.kingofkingswoodbury.org/high-school), or by stopping in to the Youth Office.
- **Next**, take a day or two to pray and think about who you would like to ask to be your mentor. Once you've decided on who you'd like to ask, get the **blue and green** sheets to them as soon as possible.

## Have you made your decision?

Tell your potential mentor right away and give them the **blue and green** sheets to help them understand what you are asking. Then give them a few days to pray about the opportunity and think it over. Once they have said **YES!** either you or your mentor can return the **green** sheet to the Front Office at King of Kings. Forms must be turned in no later than **September 30, 2018!** We will be in contact with you and your mentor shortly after your form is turned in.

Please let me know if you have additional questions, concerns, or feedback as we get started this year! I am praying that this experience will build and strengthen your relationships, help you to see and understand God in new ways, and encourage you to feel more comfortable talking about your faith.

**May the Lord bless you as you begin your search for a mentor!**

Kelsey Battleson, High School & Young Adult Coordinator

King of Kings Lutheran Church

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What are we doing during Lenten Mentoring?**

We ask that students and mentors meet 6-8 times during the year, and we encourage mentors and students to attend the student's chosen workshops together. For some pairs, this may mean meeting 1x/month. Other pairs may find it better to meet during a specific season like Lent (Mar-Apr), at family gatherings during the holidays, or over Christmas or Spring Break. The conversation guides will be given to mentors and students during orientation, and a digital copy will be available online at <http://www.kingofkingswoodbury.org/high-school>

### **Can two students have the same mentor?**

Yes. To be considerate of the experience for everyone involved, please no more than 2 students per mentor.

### **Can a high school student be a Faith Mentor?**

Yes. They must be at least 2 grades ahead of you (11<sup>th</sup> grade or higher) and not part of your immediate family.

### **Can I meet with my mentor via facetime, google hangouts, phone calls, etc.?**

If your parents give approval for this, yes! If you plan to meet primarily through one of these methods, please indicate this on the **green** registration sheet and Kelsey will be in contact with you.

### **What if my mentor can't come to the workshops I've chosen?**

We ask that you would choose another trusted adult (parent or otherwise) to join you on those days, and then share about your experience with your mentor. 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Workshops start conversations that best carry over beyond the short time we have together, and we want to make sure you're with someone who can help do that!

### **How do you decide who to ask?**

We hope you will choose someone who you already know, not in your immediate family, with whom you would like to spend some time having conversations about faith. You are encouraged to choose someone who attends King of Kings, but you are welcome to pick someone from outside of church. Extended family members, a family friend, coach, teacher, community member, friend's parent, or another adult you know and your parents are comfortable with are all great ideas. The best person to choose is someone who will be honest and real with you, open and willing to listen as well as share, and who cares about you.

### **What if the person I ask says no, or I can't find someone to be my mentor?**

If the first person you ask says no, don't get discouraged! You are welcome to ask another person if there is someone else that comes to mind, or you can contact Kelsey to be paired with someone in the congregation. We have a short list of people who are excited to meet you and get to know you this year!