

MATTMCWILLIAMS

Live with Passion. Lead with Purpose. Leave a Legacy.

How to Find a Mentor

Four steps to finding a mentor:

1. **List your criteria.** This is the first and most important step. You must define what a mentor looks like to you and what you require of him or her. For my spiritual mentor, for example, I wanted male who had been a Christian for more than 10 years, married for at least that long as well, has children, and who had similar life experiences as me (i.e. business ownership or leadership at work). Make your own criteria. *What are the "musts" for your mentor?*
2. **Pray about it.** It took me four years to do this. But I did finally ask God for help in finding a mentor...and in my case, He delivered quickly.
3. **Share with others.** Share that you are looking for a mentor with as many trusted people as possible. Don't worry about sharing all the criteria with them at this point, although you might specify some general requirements like gender, age, and location. Ultimately, in this step you are asking for names. For me, I shared it with my men's group and two of them suggested the exact same person (he's my mentor now).
4. **Ask.** Once you have the first name (don't wait for a list), *ask that person.* Be upfront with what you are looking for. Be open to arrangements that aren't exactly what you wanted (i.e. more or less frequent meetings, location of meeting, etc.). Don't ask to start a five-year mentorship just yet though. Just let him (or her) know that you highly respect him and are looking for a mentor. Ask if he would be open to serving in that role. Fear tells you they will probably say no, but the reality is that most people will be extremely flattered and honored, as well as excited to help someone so eager for help. In my case, I got the name on Wednesday, asked on Thursday and we scheduled a meeting for the following Monday. We've met every other Monday since.