

Have you ever thought about being a mentor to a student?

Do you remember your junior high years? Those years of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade when your strongest question about the world and people around you was “Am I lovable?” and “Who loves me?”. There are 300 students at Prince of Peace and even more outside these walls who are asking these same questions. There are 5 main reasons why you ought to prayerfully consider being a mentor:

MSM Mentors are used by God to become genuine caregivers of young students who long to be loved and are looking for direction in life.

MSM Mentors are deeply appreciated by and connected to parents because of the time they have invested into their students’ lives and character formation. Mentors are encouragement to parents.

MSM Mentors further their own faith journey as they learn along with their students and other mentors through Bible study, inspirational speakers, and service opportunities.

MSM Mentors are surrounded by a team of other mentors both young and old who laugh, cry, play, and pray together as genuine Christ-centered friendships are built and a community with a mission is lived out.

MSM Mentors spiritually invest in the next generation by shaping the hearts and minds of a handful of 6th, 7th, or 8th grade students who need additional God-loving adults in their lives as students seek to find their identity and answer the question “Am I loved?”.

Mentors commit to:

- 1) Attending Wednesday night ministry from 6:30-8:30*
- 2) Making periodic connections with parents on students’ behalf*
- 3) Participating in service projects with your group*
- 4) Being willing to ‘connect’ with students outside of MSM on occasion*
- 5) Pursuing to live as that of a disciple of Jesus Christ*

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Have you ever pondered what it was like to be a mentor, pointing a handful of students towards the Lord Jesus? Read what other mentors have had to say about their experiences....

What do the MSM Mentors say?

Could you see yourself being a mentor? Read what these disciples say about what God is doing in their lives by serving a few hours a week this way with students...

Becoming a mentor for MSM has been such a blessing. It gives me an inside view of the world my own middle school student lives in. These kids have so much to deal with, and yet so much to give. They are truly amazing and I wouldn't trade my time with them for anything. **Becky Cumming**

Meeting with my MSM girls is a highlight of my week. I look forward to my Wednesday night large and small group. I am energized by the kids leading worship at large group and listening to the excitement of answering the questions for the Bible Trivia. I enjoy the opportunity to grow in faith along side the girls. In addition I am blessed to co-lead with a wonderful friend. **Sue Bain**

These students are at a critical time in their spiritual journey with Christ. They are vulnerable and so open to comprehending new influences, and I wanted to be there to be at least one of those influences for my son and his friends. I have grown to love the challenge of making a mark on the lives of a few MSMers, and I absolutely love the growth I have personally experienced. I am blessed to be a part of this ministry!

Scott Rannells

Volunteering as a MSM Mentor this year was certainly outside my comfort zone! God challenged me and is now showing me weekly that even though I was unsure of my "qualifications" he will and does provide the courage, strength, words, and every now and then a little wisdom through me to these students. Praise God! **Tim Courteau**

I like being a mentor because I believe in the small group model. It was in 1990 when God touched me and my question changed from "is there a God?" to, "what does it mean to have a personal relationship with Christ?" For me, being in a small group is where my faith became deep and real. I want these students not to have to wait until they are 20 something to realize that GOD IS REAL and active in their lives!

Kristi Serba

As I near the end of my group's three years in MSM, I realize how much this experience has blessed my life in ways that I never anticipated. They've given me new perspective as they've discussed Scripture readings and talked about how they can put God's Word into practice in their daily lives. They've touched my heart as they've shared the real world challenges of being a middle school student...their fears, questions and concerns. We've laughed together, served together, snacked together, played together, prayed together and worshipped together. I've enjoyed getting to know their families and getting to know them as individuals. The "Bible Brothers" are a special group of guys who have made a difference in my life. It has been my privilege to share this MSM journey with them. **Lisa Missling**

One of the things I love about being a mentor is that I am able to grow in my faith while still being a part of my teen student's spiritual growth and life in general. I learn alot by being with my group and I am ALWAYS blessed by being a part of the mission of Prince of Peace, to spread Christ's love. **Tina Walker**

There are many more...but I hope you get a snapshot from these short memos how life-giving it is to make a difference for a handful of students at an age that brings with it such ambiguity and confusion. These mentors don't have all the answers, and you don't need this in your back pocket to show love to a middle school kiddo. You can build God's Kingdom one student at a time, one family at a time by being a mentor for MSM. All it takes is gathering up enough courage to grab a cup of coffee with Jeff or Katie to discuss in more detail what it means to be a mentor.

If this mentoring ministry is something you'd like more information about, contact Jeff Lexvold at 952-898-9341 or jlexvold@princeofpeaceonline.org . Further information on MSM can be found at www.popmsm.org.