

## MENTORING SEASON TIMELINE

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Congratulations! You've caught the vision and are committed to launching a mentoring program at your church. You've reviewed our resources and have a sense of what will be needed to successfully launch the first of many mentoring seasons at your church. But now what?

After working with churches of all shapes and sizes across the country, we have learned several things that will lead to a smooth start to your mentoring ministry. Keep in mind, all churches are not created equal and not all mentoring will look the same. The size of the church, the number of groups to be launched and the church resources available (people, time, and financial) will help determine the details of your pre-launch strategy.

### **How much time do I need to prepare for my launch?**

Generally, most churches devote three to four months to their pre-launch planning. This allows adequate time for mentor training, mentee recruiting, and group formation.

### **THREE TO FOUR MONTHS BEFORE LAUNCH**

Recruit your team, identify, and invite mentors. During these months, you will begin the process of building your team (Senior Pastor, Staff Pastor, and/or Lay Leader) and identifying your potential mentors. This may involve meeting with them one-on-one to discuss your vision for mentoring at your church and inviting them to attend your Vision Casting meeting.

### **THREE MONTHS BEFORE LAUNCH**

Hold the Vision Casting meeting for your potential mentors. Your goal is to have an idea of your committed mentors so you can begin to identify and invite mentees to fill your groups.

### **TWO TO THREE MONTHS BEFORE LAUNCH**

Identify and invite your mentees to apply to your mentoring program or attend your Mentee Vision Casting meeting if you choose to hold one. This can be as simple as sending out an invitation to apply or it may involve some one-on-one meetings to share more details. Give them an application deadline.

### **TWO MONTHS BEFORE LAUNCH**

About two months out, you will want to form your groups (unless you are going to draft mentees) and set the dates for Mentor Training 1 (Facilitating a Mentoring Session), Mentor Training 2 (Sharing Your Faith Story), and your Kickoff Meeting. After setting the dates, send out a Save the Date email to your mentors so they can put those dates on their calendar.

### **ONE MONTH BEFORE LAUNCH**

Complete your two mentor training sessions. If you are going to allow your mentors to draft their mentees, you should also get this done.

### **LAUNCH MONTH**

After all that, you are now ready for your Kickoff Meeting and a successful mentoring season.

# PRE-LAUNCH CHECKLIST

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## THREE TO FOUR MONTHS BEFORE LAUNCH

- Recruit your team (Senior Pastor, Staff Pastor, and/or Lay Leader)
- Identify your potential mentors
- Invite mentors to attend your Mentor Vision Casting meeting

## THREE MONTHS BEFORE LAUNCH

- Hold the Vision Casting meeting for your potential mentors

## TWO TO THREE MONTHS BEFORE LAUNCH

- Identify potential mentees
- Invite your mentees to apply to your mentoring program or attend your Mentee Vision Casting meeting if you choose to hold one
- Give them an application deadline of October 1st

## TWO MONTHS BEFORE LAUNCH

- Optional: Begin to form your groups
- Set dates for Mentor Training 1, Mentor Training 2, and your Kickoff Meeting
- Send out a Save the Date email to your mentors for those 3 dates

## ONE MONTH BEFORE LAUNCH

- Complete Mentor Training 1
- Complete Mentor Training 2
- Optional: Hold your mentee draft

## LAUNCH MONTH

- Hold your Kickoff Meeting and begin your mentoring season!
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