

loving Jesus and loving my friends...

THE ESSENTIALS

Finding a Coach/Mentor

every team needs a coach

Why is it important to find a coach or mentor for our team?

How do we find one?

Finding a Coach/Mentor

Scripture Verses

“Come, follow me,’ Jesus said, ‘and I will make you fishers of men.’”

Matthew 4:19 (NIV)

“For even if you had ten thousand others to teach you about Christ, you have only one spiritual father. For I became your father in Christ Jesus when I preached the Good News to you. So I urge you to imitate me.

That’s why I have sent Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord.

He will remind you of how I follow Christ Jesus, just as I teach in all the churches wherever I go.”

1 Corinthians 4:15-17 (NLT)

“Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.”

1 Corinthians 11:1 (NIV)

Short Thoughts

The Bible is full of examples of coaching and mentoring. Obviously Jesus was the ultimate coach, but He’s not our only example. Barnabas mentored Paul, who mentored Titus and Timothy, who mentored Epaphras, and on and on and on. The point is, God makes it clear that it’s important to have older people in our lives who guide us and encourage us.

As you and your team love on and pour into your peers at school, it’s important to you to have someone who, in turn, encourages and pours into your team! This is all part of being a disciple.

A coach/mentor can be a teacher, a youth worker or just an older friend who loves Jesus and wants to help your team impact your campus for Christ! It’s important to find someone who will empower you, rather than someone who will take over and try to run things for you. Just think about the coach of any sports team...the coaches don’t play the game...the players do! It’s important to find an adult who won’t “bench” you just because “adults can do it better!”

Coaches are THERE for their players. They support them. Coaches answer questions and help students find answers. They applaud their players’ efforts, not just their successes. Good coaching involves good relationships. Your coach should put the needs of your team above their own...they should be interested in your growth as a follower of Jesus above all else! It’s also important to find someone who is more interested in helping you learn to love people like Jesus than someone who just wants to add numbers to your Bible club.

As you read this section, start thinking about some adults in your life who you look up to and who fit the characteristics we’ve listed so far. Your team will be much better supported and equipped if you have someone discipling you as you learn to disciple others!

Finding a Coach/Mentor

Team Exercise... *this team exercise is an opportunity for you and your community or campus team to answer some questions about finding a coach and/or a mentor for your group.*

It's one thing to have a teacher sponsor, but a coach is something totally different. Your teacher-sponsor MIGHT be your coach, but they could just simply be the person who lets you use their room and gives you a thumbs up! A coach is much more than that. Read and answer the questions about finding a coach below:

Jesus was the ultimate coach...obviously! In your team, complete the chart below. Read the passages listed on the left and then answer each of the questions across the top for each passage:

Bible Passage	How do you see Jesus acting like a coach?	What are the lessons that Jesus taught His Disciples in this story?	What can your team learn from this story about loving others on your campus?
Jesus sends out the 12 disciples Matthew 10			
The Great Commission Matthew 28:18-20			
The Feeding of The 5,000 Matthew 14:13-21			

Obviously, there are plenty more passages in Scripture where Jesus coaches and mentors His disciples. Can you think of any others? What do you notice about Jesus as a coach in those passages?

Now it's time to think and pray with your team.

If your team doesn't yet have a coach, take some time to ask God for the name of someone your team knows who might be a good coach for your team.

- Write down the name(s) you hear and next to their name, write down some of the reasons they would be a good Jesus-style coach for your team
- It could be a teacher, youth pastor, staff at your youth group, or a staff person from Youth For Christ, Young Life, FCA, CRU, or National Schools Project, etc.
- Try to think of someone who would be willing to meet with you guys outside of school and someone who has a heart for campus ministry.
- If you can't think of anyone, send an email to us at mail@socalyfc.org and we will try to set you up with someone):

Team Challenge...

Yep, you guessed it, this is the part where action is required. We challenge you to contact the person(s) you listed above and ask them to go out to lunch with all or some of your team. Talk with them about your team's vision and passion for your campus and ask them if they'd be willing to help by being your coach.