



CLOSING A MENTORING RELATIONSHIP

Relationships have their own seasons and rhythms of intentionality and flexibility. When a time of mentoring comes to a close, it's often because we are saying an important 'yes' somewhere else. Celebrating the end and talking about the goodness of this transition is important. The questions below are designed to help mentor and mentee celebrate the impact mentoring has had on both of you, on your spiritual growth, emotional support, and affirmation of call.

- Where did you start? What were the questions, concerns, or celebrations happening in your life when this mentoring relationship began?
 - Draw four circles, one inside the other on a piece of paper. See the next page for an example. Write these names in the center along with your names.
- What are the relationships, ministries, and decisions that have been impacted by this mentoring relationship? Are there other people in the MRC mentoring community and alumni network that you have connected with and have impacted you in some way?
 - Write the answers to these two questions in the next circle, moving outward to the 2nd ring.
- What has been resolved? Where have you gained clarity?
 - Write these things down in the next circle, moving further outward to the 3rd ring.
- Are there situations or questions that still feel unfinished?
 - Name those and add those to the same circle.
 - How do you want to practice trust with these situations?
- Where are you experiencing curiosity now? What projects, opportunities, relationships bring curiosity, excitement, and hope?
 - Write those things in the next circle, the 4th ring.
- Note the circles of impact this mentoring relationship has brought, what are you grateful for? Which of these names or relationships do you want to be intentional with, moving forward?
 - Are there also things in these circles that you need to close or say goodbye to in some way?

Take some time to encourage each other. Share what you are excited for in the other person's future, what they will do and who they will become. Closing a mentoring relationship does not mean that one never talks again. It just means that the format and intentionality shift. Discuss what that might look like and how you see communication and connection happening in the future.

What would be helpful to share with the MRC to support the larger mentoring community? Choose one person to summarize the mentoring relationship and communicate lessons learned to the MRC. If either of you would like to continue with the MRC Mentoring Community as a mentor, please contact Beth Jarvis. Thank you for the commitment and care you have shown each other and the larger mentoring community.

CIRCLE EXERCISE

