

MENTOR FORMATION TRAINING

I. WHAT IS A FORMATION TRAINING EVENT?

A Formation Training is an event for more seasoned mentors. It is an opportunity to go deeper into their skills and to explore a topic relevant to mentoring an EfM group. They may expect to build community among more experienced mentors for mutual support, and to gain confidence in their leadership. The event fosters new learning and spiritual growth while still including elements foundational to EfM: worship, group life development, and theological reflection.

II. DURATION OF TRAINING

Mentor Formation requires the same contact time as Mentor Training (18 hours). These events normally occur over a three-day (two-night) period. Full attendance is mandatory. Information on events scheduled in the United States may be obtained from EfM coordinators, the EfM website (<http://www.sewanee.edu/EFM>) or by contacting: The School of Theology Programs Center, The University of the South, 335 Tennessee Avenue, Sewanee, TN 37383-0001, 800/722-1974, 931/598-1165 = fax, efm@sewanee.edu = e-mail address

III. WHAT MAY BE OFFERED FOR MENTOR FORMATION:

GROUP SKILLS

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

GROUP SKILLS AND HUMAN INTERACTION

LIVING WITH CONFLICT

MYERS-BRIGGS

POWER AND AUTHORITY

SPIRITUALITY

EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY

SPIRITUALITY

TRANSITIONS IN A CHANGING WORLD

VOCATION

WORSHIP

SEMINAR TOOLS

COMMON LESSONS

DESIGN SKILLS

FOUR SOURCES

IV. DESCRIPTIONS OF FORMATION TRAININGS

COMMON LESSONS: To examine in depth the Common Lessons used in EfM, with particular attention to Lessons 3, 4, and 5. The event is designed to familiarize mentors with these lessons, demonstrate the centrality of the Common Lessons to the program, and increase the comfort of mentors in leading these lessons. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

DESIGN SKILLS: To learn to design seminar sessions which meet a specific need in the mentor's particular seminar group, including guidelines for planning, administering, and evaluating designs. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY: To understand lay ministry as part of the total mission and ministry of the church. Participants will develop skills for equipping seminar members to exercise their ministries as the baptized people of God. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING: To increase the mentor's ability to help seminar groups learn from their own experience and thereby take responsibility for their life together. Trainees will learn basic theories of experiential education which will be tested and developed during training. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

FOUR SOURCES: To examine in depth the four sources of theological reflection used in EfM, making distinctions between the four-source model and the various methods used so that mentors may more effectively facilitate Theological Reflections which lead participants to new insights and implications for action. Each of the sources will be examined independently of the others, as well as the relationships between the sources. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

GROUP SKILLS AND HUMAN INTERACTION: To refine mentor's group skills through building community and understanding group dynamics as related to EfM groups. Mentors will become aware of group leadership skills and styles of human interaction and gain confidence in using theories and learnings in the EfM setting. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

LIVING WITH CONFLICT: To enhance the mentor's ability to be a point of God's loving presence in the midst of conflict. This will be done by increasing the ways we can respond to strong differences between people and by creating a community of support in which we can examine conflict situations in our lives. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

MYERS-BRIGGS: To explore and recognize, through use of the Myers-Briggs (MBTI) categories and inventory, the preferences of different personality types and their relationship to group life and spiritual growth. *Please note that this formation event does not certify the mentor to be able to administer the MBTI instrument. (1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

POWER AND AUTHORITY: To equip mentors to identify and explore the dynamics of power and authority in the life of the EfM group. Trainees will identify and explore their own sense and sources of power and authority as mentors and will be encouraged to identify and explore “The Source” of all power and authority for themselves and the EfM group. Seminar members will assist one another in identifying and exploring issues of power and authority in their ministries in the world. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

SPIRITUALITY: To experience and explore our own spirituality and draw implications for mentoring by having a time of refreshment and renewal. This is achieved through deepening our relationship with God and exploring resources for our spirituality. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

TRANSITION IN THE MIDST OF A CHANGING WORLD: to utilize the core EfM resources to equip mentors to identify, explore, plan and implement actions as we move through transitions to new life in the midst of change. This training will provide opportunities for mentors to build awareness of change and transition in their lives and to use theological reflection, stories and worship in order to live creatively in the midst of our changing and diverse world. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

VOCATION: To reflect on your own sense of vocation and call, then consider how you can strengthen the sense of vocation and call of the participants in your EfM groups. You can expect to gain a deeper understanding of the preparation needed for a person to claim his or her calling and experience some of the power which is released when you do what you love in service of what is most important to you. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*

WORSHIP: To explore the interweaving of personal devotion and corporate liturgy in worship in order to equip mentors to develop their seminar groups as worshipping communities. As a result of this formation event you may expect to: distinguish/articulate the relationship between personal devotion and corporate liturgy; to acquire the “know-how” to design worship with seminar groups; use more fully the resources available through EfM materials (i.e. TR, CLSM and texts) for study and worship. *(1 trainer, 6-12 participants)*