

Sample Mentor or Coach Interview

Taken from Detroit's Transitioning of Prisoners (TOP)

Motivation

1. Explain why you are interested in being a Coach in with XXXX Ministry?
2. What is your personal perception as to the role of being a Coach?
3. Have you held a position within your church in the past or are currently holding a position?
4. Do you feel a person is capable of changing their lifestyle? If so, explain the process.

Background Experience working with Ex-offenders

1. Have you in the past been involved in the transition process of a friend or family member departing prison?
2. Have you in the past been involved in the recovery process of a family member or a friend who was addicted to drugs or alcohol?
3. Do you have any previous experience working in the human services field? Please explain:
4. Have you any experiences within your church or community or life in general that you feel will assist you in being a mentor? Please explain.

Stabilization

1. How long have you been committed to the Lord?
2. Describe the spiritual growth process that has taken place in your life since your conversion.
3. How long have you been a member of your present church?
4. How long have you been employed at your present occupation?
5. What is the highest level of education you have completed (trade school, college, special skills etc.)? Please explain.

Commitment

1. How often do you attend Bible study and/or Sunday school (Bible teaching classes)
2. How do you feel about being involved in a prayer group?
3. Have you in the past or are you currently affiliated with a professional organization?
4. How much time can you dedicate to being a Coach?
5. How do you spend your leisure time? (Types of activities)

Family Relations

1. How do you view church attendance within the family (Bible study, Sunday School, prayer groups and devotionals)?
2. What types of spiritual activities does your family participate in outside of church?

3. What is your view on regularly planned activities within the family (weekly)?
4. Who do you feel is responsible for setting the spiritual tone within the family? Please explain.
5. How do you view spiritual activities within the home?
6. What do you feel is your level of understanding of family issues (parenting, marriage, etc.)?
7. On what past experiences do you base your knowledge?

Problem Solving (Situational Questions)

1. What is the most difficult situation you have been involved in while helping another person or family in the past? Please explain.
2. What are some methods of problem solving that you have learned from past experiences that help you to maintain harmony within your family?
3. How would you respond if the person you are coaching informs you he's visiting his old neighborhood and associating with his old friends?
4. How would you respond if you suspected the person you're coaching is using drugs or alcohol?
5. If the person you are coaching informed you that he feels he can't live the Christian lifestyle because it's too difficult how would you respond?
6. How would you respond if the person you're coaching states he feels like he is not saved?
7. What would your response be if the person you're coaching informed you that he doesn't see a need for reading the Bible because he doesn't get anything out of it?
8. How would you respond to the statement "the Christian lifestyle is boring?"