

YOUR FIRST GROUP MEETING

It is recommended to coordinate your first meeting date well in advance. When you connect with your mentees for the first one-on-one meeting (prior to the first group meeting), you will communicate expectations and date of the first meeting at that time (see handout Tips for One-on-One Meetings for detailed information on what to accomplish).

Here are some things you will want to be sure and include in your first group meeting:

Calendar Planning

Putting all your meeting dates on the calendar will allow the mentees to commit to predetermined dates and make them a priority. They will have their calendars at the first meeting which should allow them to determine any conflicts or issues before the dates are set. You may want to follow up the next day after your first group meeting and note the dates once again, just for clarification and future reference.

Clearly Stated Expectations

The first meeting is the perfect place to clearly state expectations so that each mentee can understand the commitment and accountability that is being asked of them. These will include attendance, being on time, sharing their story at the retreat, reading the books and doing the homework assignments, making time for the peer meetings, etc.

Your Faith Story

One of the most important parts of the first meeting is your faith story. See Sharing Your Faith Story handout for guidelines. You will set the tone and determine the level of transparency of their sharing by how you share your story.

Financial Information

There are several choices on how you can handle the cost of purchasing the books for the group. Whatever way you determine to handle the finances, you will want to clearly explain this to your mentees at the first group meeting.