

Nov. 15, 2018

Mentoring a la Mode

"When I heard Pie and Ice Cream, I said, I'm in!" That was the response of at least one man to the invitation to a Mentor's Meeting at CSB 7660, Good News Church in Delaware. The Brigade Chairman and the Battalion Captain aim to increase the progress of the young men in battalion. A couple of boys have already gone far into *Adventure Trails* and *Leadership Trails*. One is almost ready to begin with Herald of Christ. Now there are several new boys, and overall a restart of emphasis is in order, especially with the new *Adventure Trails: Quest for Manhood* in their hands. So invitations were made to several men in the church.

Two homemade pies were baked for the occasion, an apple and a peanut-raisin pie. So we met as a group of 8 men to talk about what's involved in CSB mentoring. Dessert was served first, as promised! Then we heard from the two leaders and from an older gentleman, Lou. He has been successfully mentoring Josh who is now a high school senior. Nothing like wisdom and the voice of experience on this important practice!

Lou - "This is the third year I'm working with Josh. You get to know a lot about the boy and his life. We meet on Sundays after church, while my wife and his parents wait on us in the lobby, and they get to know each other better. I communicate with him ahead and remind him we'll be meeting. 'Okay, Josh?' If he's prepared we talk about the next step and I'll sign it as completed. If he's not, then he's got two of them to do for next week, and it's not unusual to do two lessons to catch up. Mentoring keeps both Josh and me in the Bible. You memorize the verses, and the young man knows you care enough to learn along with him. He asks questions and you're getting as much out of this as him!"

Dennis (Chairman) - "I'm always here Fridays with the church open a half hour early before Brigade. You're welcome to meet with your young man then, as an option."

Greg (Captain) - "There is desire from the young men to learn from you! I wish I could spend more time with individual boys, but we have many godly men at this church. We can do some of the optional activities as a group, like going to a Blue Hens game."

There was a lot of encouragement about mentoring, and I showed them the CSB tools. Basically each mentor and boy will have their own copy of *Adventure Trails* to read and prepare with before their agreed upon times. When they do, these men are making investments into these younger men's lives.

Want to learn more of how mentoring can work in your Brigade unit? Stay tuned!

Arden Musselman

PS Most of us can learn from a man who knows how to do mentoring well. Here's a [3 minute video of Lou Petolicchio](#) sharing with the other men from his experience in being a mentor.