

I Believe - Faith Friend Qualifications

Persons who attend the I BELIEVE workshop are paired with an adult mentor called a “Faith Friend.”

Qualifications of a Faith Friend

- must be the same gender as the participant
- must be a person who lives out his or her faith and demonstrates spiritual maturity
- must be a person outside of the participant’s immediate family

Responsibilities of a Faith Friend:

A Faith Friend walks along side of a participant throughout the I BELIEVE process: a pre-meeting, the workshop, the elder interview, and the worship service when they profess their faith. The Faith Friend is also asked to meet with their participant four times, once each quarter, in the year following the profession of faith. A discussion guide will be furnished to guide the conversation during these meetings. If both the Faith Friend and participant desire, the relationship continues after this time.

Procedure:

- The participant submits a name(s) for consideration on their I BELIEVE workshop registration
- Those individuals approved to be Faith Friends by the pastors are contacted by Pastor Henry and are asked to serve as a Faith Friend for the participant
- Pastor Henry connects with the Faith Friend to confirm their participation and provides I BELIEVE details and materials.

The mentoring relationship begins with I BELIEVE, the profession of faith preparatory workshop. After a participant professes his or her faith, the Faith Friends and participant continue to meet together four times in the year following their profession of faith. This may be done at church, at a restaurant, at the person’s home, or any other appropriate place. The primary purpose of this mentoring relationship is to provide ongoing spiritual encouragement. A discussion guide will be provided to help facilitate these conversations.

For the safety of all participants, Covenant Church has an abuse prevention policy. It requires that all mentor/student matches be of the same gender, that parents be notified of a planned meeting and grant their permission, and that mentors and students meet in a public place, avoiding isolated situations.