

**GUIDELINES FOR MENTORING/COUNSELING WITH THE STUDENT**

1. **Understand**. Understand where the student is coming from; being understanding, not critical, or judgmental. Times have changed; pressures have changed. Remember: you were once a student!
  
2. **Patience**. The student is going through enormous physical and emotional changes. He/she is frustrated and fearful. "For you have need of patience." The support person must be patient to help the teen develop patience. Patience is PEACE UNDER PRESSURE!
  
3. **Be Real**. Do not try to be a perfect person. Share with the student mistakes you have made and how you have survived those mistakes. It is OK for the best side of you not to show all the time. Show the real you! Do not hide; "Confess your faults one to another."
  
4. **Be A Good Example**. Live and demonstrate a good life. Be an example of a forgiving person or someone who cares for others and thinks about what is right and the right way to do things. Discuss with the student what it means to live a righteous life. Ask them what they think.
  
5. **Instill Hope**. Young people are bombarded with a difficult future. The world paints a grim picture; their peers are killing themselves, materialism is rampant, and drugs are everywhere. The AIDS epidemic looms and teen pregnancy is at its highest. Remind him/her that they have much to live for. There is hope for tomorrow; hope is expectation or anticipation. Start to emphasize the positive aspects of the student's life and minimize the negative because "hope does not disappoint."
  
6. **Commitment**. Commit to truth in whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. The students need to visibly witness commitment on a daily basis in our lives. Being committed assures one is being responsible.

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FOLLOW AFTER LOVE IN EVERY SITUATION. ASK YOURSELF:  
**WHAT WOULD LOVE DO HERE?**