

Big Brother

Liberty Mentor Ministry

Overview

Big Brother Liberty Mentor Ministry is a "One on One" ministry of adult men who each agree to mentor a young man for a one year period from January through December.

- The men are at least 18 years of age and
- The young men are between the ages of 6 & 16 years old.

Both are members of the same service.

They meet at least once a month as well as connecting at church 3-4 times a month.

The men agree to go through a background check, a training session and agree to specific guidelines and expectations.

The young men and their mothers also go through a training session and agree to specific guidelines and expectations.



The Expectations for the Big Brothers are:

1. Cannot change your service for one year!

We only match up young men and Big Brothers in the same service. This provides you 4 times a month to connect face to face besides a once a month one on one/bonding time. That is why we need your commitment to REMAIN dedicated in this service for one year.

2. Be faithful to your service 42-52 times in that year.

It is essential to this relationship that coming to church every week is a high priority in your schedule. This gives you easy opportunities to grow your friendship.

3. Main minimum requirement is a once a month bonding time of the Big Brother and the Young Man together! (*referred to as "Little Brother through rest of document"*)

a. As much as possible, we recommend trying to keep the once a month time consistent at the same time of the day, week and month. We recommend that your time together consist of three activities.

i. An hour of work together.

1. Our preference is for the Big Brother and the Little Brother to do work together serving the mom. They can do yard work together, wash her car or even clean her house or apartment together. Work bonds men even more quickly than play time.
2. Working together serving the Little Brother's mom is one of the most important parts of mentoring. This permits the Big Brother to teach the Little Brother that:
 - Work comes before play
 - Honoring and serving your mom is extremely important.

ii. An hour or two of relax time.

1. This does not have to be anything expensive.
2. After working together, some of the most enjoyable time can be to watch a game on TV, play cards, video games or shoot pool together.

iii. A ten to fifteen minute time of Spiritual Discussion (*explained in pt.# 6*)

4. We recognize that it takes MORE than once a month to truly build a relationship. We have numerous points here to help the Big Brother understand this minimum.

- a. The 3-4 times of talking at church provides many more free opportunities to grow the relationship. This is why the faithfulness in church is so essential. In addition, many times the once a month meeting may take place immediately before or after church to make it easier on both parties schedules.
- b. Undoubtedly, many will also connect regularly through texting, once the relationship becomes closer.
- c. By only having the minimum of a once a month commitment, there will be some months where the Big Brother is able to do a few extra meetings such as coming to his Little Brother's soccer games or school activities. Because of the minimum, these will be huge bonuses and not expected. This will keep the relationship restful and joyful for both parties.

5. Physical Boundaries

- a. In a world of so much evil it is extremely important for our young men and their moms to feel extra safe. That is why we place some strong physical boundaries on this relationship.
- b. NO extended touching of any kind!
 - i. It is fine for a Big Brother and Little Brother to exchange a warm hug in greeting or after a major celebration.
 - ii. However, it is important to never go beyond a hug to any form of extended touching of any kind.
- c. Never spend the night! This is inappropriate at all times.

6. Word/Prayer/Studies each meeting.

- a. This is a CHRISTIAN based Big Brother program. We want to avoid two extremes.
 - i. One extreme is when the Big Brother is intimidated and nervous to bring up spiritual things or shut down by poor attitudes by the Little Brother.
 - ii. The other extreme is when the Big Brother becomes a droning, boring lecturing irritant who constantly talks down to the Little Brother and constantly violates ARP by giving advice without asking permission. The difference between a mentor and a lecturer is that the mentor will set out expectations upfront. Also a true mentor never violates ARP but always sincerely asks permission before giving any suggestions.
 - iii. To find the perfect, safe middle ground which will bless everyone and cause everyone to enjoy their time together while growing spiritually, we set VERY CLEAR expectations up front that are fairly strict and non-negotiable. Our goal is to take the pressure off of both parties and to let them grow spiritually.
- b. Two requirements and one extra option!
 - i. Our first requirement is that each time they have their once a month meeting they will take turns reading single verses out loud from one chapter of Proverbs as they read through an entire chapter. We recommend matching the chapter to the day of the month.
 - a. After they complete the chapter, they will each pick one verse and share why they liked it and how it applies to their life.
 - b. We STRONGLY believe that you should stick to this study – even if you are a Big Brother to the same young man for 10 years. MANY successful fathers have done this for 12 years with their son once a week and have raised amazing sons.
 - ii. The second requirement is that both of you share prayer needs in your life and both of you pray out loud for each other.
 - iii. The third option is to do some short courses from our cd lending library.

The Expectations for the Mothers are:

1. Cannot change your service for one year!

We only match up young men with a Big Brother in the same service. This gives them 4 times a month when they can connect face to face besides their once a month special time. That is why we need your commitment to REMAIN and stay in this service for one year.

2. Be faithful to your service 42-52 times in that year.

It is essential to this relationship that coming to church every week is a high priority in your schedule. This gives these two men easy opportunities to grow their friendship.

3. Will serve in Children's ministry once a month in the same service for a year

- a. The Big Brother ministry pours great favor and blessings into the life of the mother and the young man. By asking the mother to serve in Children's ministry once a month, she gets a chance to also be a "Giver" and to repay the ministry given to her. The advantage of the Children's ministry is that it is doubly convenient.
 - By having seven services every weekend, it is easy to find one service where the single mom can be faithful to serve once a month.
 - Because we have Children's ministry the single mom can bring her other young children and have them covered and cared for while she serves.
- b. If a mother has multiple sons in the Big Brother ministry, she is only asked to serve one time a month in the Children's ministry.
- c. The time of serving in Children's ministry is separate from the Mom attending her own service so she can be faithful to worship and hear the sermon each week.
- d. Our Children's ministry overseer will be evaluating the mothers. If the mother is not consistent or her attitude is poor then her son cannot continue in the program.

4. A tithing, faithful member of Liberty Church.

- a. If she is struggling financially, she will work with Pastor Tommy in the Finance Ministry.
- b. If she wants to be a part of this program and is not a member, she can quickly become a member.

5. Be willing to require a respectful and obedient attitude from her son.

- a. Has she talked this program through carefully with her son? Does he have buy-in? Is he committed?
- b. Does the mom have enough authority to require the son to show up to each meeting with a good attitude?
- c. At NO POINT will the Big Brother EVER be involved in bringing any correction to the Little Brother. He may be available as a counselor to the mother, but the mother must be willing to be strong enough to bring enough consequences into her son's life to require a good attitude and respectful, obedient responses.

The Expectations for the Little Brothers are:

1. Honor your mother!

For a Little Brother to remain in this program, he must agree to keep a respectful, obedient attitude toward his mother.

2. Once a month bonding time of the Big Brother and the Little Brother together!

a. As much as possible, we recommend trying to keep the once a month time consistent at the same time of the day, week and month. We recommend that your time together consist of three activities.

i. An hour of work together.

We expect the Little Brother to have a great attitude about this time of serving his mom. Our preference is for the Big Brother and the Little Brother to do work together serving the mom. They can do yard work together, wash her car or even clean her house or apartment together. Work bonds men even more quickly than play time.

ii. An hour or two of relax time.

It helps the Big Brother greatly when the Little Brother gives his Big Brother lots of input and preferences on activities for the relax time.

iii. A ten to fifteen minute time of Spiritual Discussion

1. It is important and essential that the Little Brother eagerly participate in the Proverbs reading, sharing a favorite verse, sharing personal prayer requests and in praying for his Big Brother.
2. If the Big Brother wants to do a cd study with the Little Brother, it is important that extra studies only take place if both the Big Brother and the Little Brother are both interested.

3. Physical Boundaries

a. In a world of so much evil, we need for the Little Brothers to understand why we hold such strong and careful physical boundaries.

b. NO extended touching of any kind!

It is fine for a Big Brother and Little Brother to exchange a warm hug in greeting or after a major celebration. However, it is important to never go beyond a hug to any form of extended touching of any kind.

c. Never spend the night! This is inappropriate at all times.

4. Guarding ARP

a. This ministry is built on friendship and respect. That is why the line of ARP (*Advice Requires Permission*) is so essential. If a Big Brother crosses this foundational line and begins to lecture or preach, he has the potential to ruin the entire relationship.

b. The first time this happens, we ask the Little Brother to be secure and to let the Big Brother know that he did not ask for this advice.

c. If it becomes a pattern, we ask the Little Brother to report it to the ministry overseer.

How the matches are made or renewed!

1. First time connections – We ask all the Big Brothers, Little Brothers and Mothers who have completed training to make a list of their first, second and third choices.
 - a. We ask the leaders of the ministry in each service to work with those involved to help pair up people into the best matches.
 - b. We try to give greater weight of preference to the Mom and Little Brother's choices.
 - c. If the two matched together are unknown to each other, they are welcome to have a two month trial period. At the end of those two months, either one can opt out.

2. Renewals
 - a. For Liberty Church to renew the ministry for another year, the mother must have served faithfully in children's ministry and receive positive reviews from Dana Weeks, our Children's Minister.
 - b. If either the Big Brother or the Little Brother drops out of the ministry, the other one is welcome to request to be matched up with someone else.

Application for Big Brother Liberty Mentor Ministry by Big Brother

Full name _____ Age _____

Address _____

Home # _____ cell # _____

Email address: _____

Have you completed the membership process ____ Yes ____ No What service _____

How long have you been a member of this service _____

Please place your initials by each of the following commitments.

_____ I will remain in my service for the entire year.

_____ I will be faithful to attend my service 42-52 times during this year of ministry.

_____ I will be faithful to tithe and to be a supportive member of my service.

_____ I will honor and recognize the seriousness of the physical boundaries.

_____ I recognize that it is not my place to correct or discipline my Little Brother.

_____ I commit to be faithful to not violate ARP with my Little Brother.

_____ I commit to be faithful to the monthly time of Proverbs and sharing of prayer requests with my Little Brother.

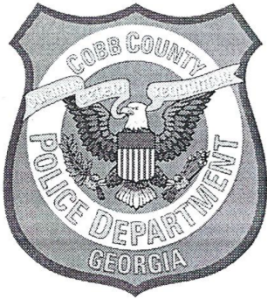
_____ I will never withhold key information about my Little Brother from his mom but will share this information with his mom, with the covering of my Pastors.

_____ I recognize the huge privilege of mentoring a young man. I will keep my walk with Jesus fresh and alive and take this responsibility very seriously.

_____ I have filled out the permission form for the background check, signed it in the presence of a notary, had it notarized and included a copy of my driver's license.

_____ I will attend the training session.

Signature of Big Brother



COBB COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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J.R. Houser *Chief of Police*

R.L. Prince *Deputy Chief of Police*

C.T. Cox *Deputy Chief of Police*

CRIMINAL HISTORY CONSENT FORM

I hereby authorize the Cobb County Police Department to obtain any criminal history information pertaining to me which may be in the files of any state or local criminal justice agency in Georgia.

REQUIREMENTS: Photo identification for the Requester (and Person being inquired on if different). Person being inquired on signature must be notarized if not present at the time of the request. A \$15.00 fee is charged per request.

REQUESTER'S SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

To assure that the correct Purpose Codes are used you must **check** one of the following:

Child Care: Elderly Care Mentally Disabled Care Other

PERSON BEING QUERIED: _____
Last First Middle

SSN: _____ **DOB:** _____

RACE: White Black Native American Asian Unknown

SEX: Male Female

QUERIED PERSON'S SIGNATURE: _____

Notary Sworn to and signed before me this _____
day of _____, 20____.

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE --- OFFICE PERSONNEL ONLY

UTILIZING GCIC/NCIC ACCESS A CHECK OF THE GEORGIA CRIMINAL HISTORY FILES REVEALED:

NO RECORD FOUND: SEE ATTACHED PRINTOUT:

Police Record Technician Badge Number Date

As per House Bill 314, Notary is not required; however, all forms will be notarized upon request.

Notary Sworn to and signed before me this _____
day of _____, 20____.

Application for Big Brother Liberty Mentor Ministry by Mom

Full name of mom _____

Full name of son _____ Age of son _____

Address _____

Home # _____ Mom's cell _____ Son's Cell _____

Email address of mom _____

Email address of son _____

Have you completed the membership process ____ Yes ____ No

What service are you a member of: _____

How long have you been a member of this service _____

Please place your initials by each of the following commitments.

_____ I will remain in my service for the entire year.

_____ I will be faithful to attend my service 42-52 times during this year of ministry.

_____ I will serve faithfully in one service a month in Children's ministry.

_____ I will be faithful to tithe and to be a supportive member of my service.

_____ I will require a respectful and obedient attitude from my son at each meeting.

_____ I have talked this through with my son and he has buy-in and is committed.

_____ I would never permit the Big Brother to correct or discipline my son.

_____ If the Big Brother violates ARP with my son, I will report it to the service overseer of this ministry.

_____ I recognize that the Big Brother is NOT here as my personal dumping ground. I will Not complain or speak negative about my son to the Big Brother.

_____ I will attend the training session.

Signature of mom

Application for Big Brother Liberty Mentor Ministry by Little Brother

Full name of Little Brother _____

Full name of mom _____

Age of Little Brother _____

Address _____

Home # _____ Mom's cell _____ Little Brother's Cell _____

Email address of Little Brother _____

Please place your initials by each of the following commitments.

_____ I will honor my mom and keep a respectful obedient attitude toward her.

_____ I will have a great attitude about the hour of work and serving my mom.

_____ I will give lots of input and suggestions to my Big Brother for our relax time.

_____ I will eagerly participate in the Proverbs reading and sharing.

_____ I will eagerly participate in sharing prayer requests and praying for my Big Brother

_____ I will honor and recognize the seriousness of the physical boundaries.

_____ I will never ask my Big Brother to withhold information from my mom.

_____ I recognize the importance of ARP and will be secure to uphold this boundary.

_____ I will attend the training session.

Signature of Little Brother