

JOURNEY: LIVING WELL WITH GOD & OTHERS

"Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well." 1 Thessalonians 2:8

SESSION TWO: *The Relational Journey: Sacred Companions*

STORY OF GIDEON Judges chapters 6-8 *"Exhausted but still in pursuit..."* (8:4)

- **Recognized** his own inadequacy
 - **Receptive** to God's voice
 - **Responded** to promise of God's presence

Exhausted by family crisis (Judges 6:25-30) Proverbs 15:32

1. **Coming under the fire of criticism: how do we cope without getting burned?**

Choose blessing rather than bitterness. 1 Peter 3:9

Study role models in Scripture.

Look beyond the fault to see the need.

Contextualize the criticism.

Retreat to restore perspective.

Stop, drop, roll!

2. **Loneliness, lack of support, and the need for mentors.** James 5:10-11 MSG

Who are you mentoring right now?

Who is mentoring you?

Mentor listens, rather than lectures

Mentor resists the temptation to fix her mentee's problems

Mentor encourages, prays, when necessary gently corrects

Mentor has humility to admit she has few answers but is willing to dig deep into life and scripture to help another.

*Mentoring is the ultimate "You, too?" relationship.
Spiritual connections that enrich the soul can arise from the most surprising places.*