



## INFLUENCE BUILDER: MEN MENTORING WOMEN

Companies with a strong mix of men and women in leadership are more successful than those with men only. This is not a knock against men ... it simply highlights the fact that God created men and women to partner with each other. Men and women are gifted with strengths and skills that complement each other. We **need** each other.

That being said, the scales are still tipped toward greater numbers of men in leadership. While there are many reasons for this, we all need a solution. A big part of that solution lies in the willingness of men to support women in their leadership growth.

Consider this verse:

*“In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.” – Acts 2:17-18*

The \*Huffington Post published an article giving examples of six women who credit their success to their male mentors. For example, **Indra Nooyi, CEO of Pepsico; Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook COO;** and **Tracy Britt, Warren Buffet’s financial assistant,** give credit to their male mentors for their success. The men who invested in these women have demonstrated the benefits that result when men mentor women.

1. Who are the women in your work who have the most potential?
2. Is there one who stands out who could benefit from your experience?
3. How can you invest in and encourage her in her career?

It’s wise to have guidelines and boundaries in place for each person’s sake. **Consider these guidelines** when selecting and entering into a mentor/mentee agreement.

- **Stable morals:** Ensure you each have the same standards and expectations regarding relationships both in and out of the workplace.
- **Create a solid vision:** Begin with the end in mind including the goal of the mentorship and the benefits to each person.
- **Secure environment:** Determine when, where, how long and how often you will meet. Who will be aware of the meetings to keep each party accountable?

Being prayerful and maintaining high integrity throughout the process will improve the potential for your mentee’s success. You could help mold the next great leader in your industry.

\*Bahadur, N., “6 Women Who Credit Their Male Mentors With Helping Them Find Success”. (accessed November 5, 2014): [www.huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com)