



KRS One / Photo by, Jive Records

EACH ONE, TEACH ONE

Kris Parker, better known to us as KRS-One, has left his job at Warner Bros.' A&R Department to head in a new direction, taking on the role of mentor at New York City's Riverside Church.

KRS, long dubbed the T'Cha, will work with 13-to-16 year old African American, African Caribbean and Latino boys, offering a mix of tutoring and straight talk.

Reverend Mariah Britton, Minister for Youth and Young Adults at Riverside, says KRS approached her last summer with an interest in working with youth at the church. Now, six months later, the after-school mentoring program has kicked off.

Every Thursday night, 30 youngsters meet with mentors from entertainment, law enforcement, Wall Street and the church. The goal of the program is to help young people discover their own identity and talents, as well as get them onto the right path.

KRS-One is no stranger to Riverside Church. Four years ago he took part in rapper Pee Wee Dance's (formerly of the original B-Boys) "History of Hip-Hop" workshop, which was held there. He has also lectured at the church and attended Riverside with his family. Reverend Britton says the pairing of these dynamic worlds is a match made in heaven.

"We're always searching for ways to reach young people, so I'm delighted that Kris will be working with us on the Pathfinderz project. He's a devoted Christian and well-studied historian who brings a lot to the table, onstage and off," Rev. Britton told [THESOURCE.COM](http://thesource.com).

She adds, "Hip-hop is an important part of life for young people today, so we need to find ways to reach out to them through the music."

Parker is also organizing a youth concert series for the church, called "Spirit Move." The first show took place over the Thanksgiving holiday, featuring KRS-One, Poor Righteous Teachers, Ed O.G., Bevin Harris and the gospel group, Peculiar People.

Look for the next concert to take place on March 23rd at the church, located on 120th and Riverside Drive.

-- Daphne Young
