

Session 8

HOW DO I INFLUENCE OTHERS?

MONTHLY VERSE

Make a careful exploration of who you are and the work you have been given, and then sink yourself into that. Don't be impressed with yourself. Don't compare yourself with others. Each of you must take responsibility for doing the creative best you can with your own life. Galatians 6:4-5 MSG

MONTHLY QUESTION

What did you learn through a new spiritual practice you engaged this past month?

CONTENT

Clout by Jenni Catron

ASSIGNMENTS

Book Content

Use the Book Reflection Guide to capture the highlights. Come ready to discuss what you've learned with the group. Print a copy for everyone if you're able.

Complete the questions and exercises at the end of each chapter.

Personal Ministry Plan Exercise

Complete the 4-week Personal Ministry Plan. Each week has different exercises and assessments on the following pages.

Scripture Reading

Acts 15-21.

Deeper Dive

If you would like to dive deeper into this topic, either now or after you complete this group, consider the following resource:

Integrity by Henry Cloud

Leading With a Limp by Dan Allender

Personal Ministry

DEVELOPMENT PLAN | PART 1

WEEK 1 | VISION

May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands. Psalm 90:17 NIV

Vision is birthed in Scripture and matured in prayer. As we have discussed, to accomplish goals of eternal significance, you must know God. In fact, knowing God is the key to knowing yourself, your strengths, your passions and your limitations. This week, spend time in prayer answering the questions below.

1. How do you want to be remembered?

2. What matters most to you?

3. What do you love to do?

4. What breaks your heart?

Personal Ministry

DEVELOPMENT PLAN | PART 2

WEEK 2 | GIFTS, TALENTS, WIRING

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10 NIV

To be most effective, you must know yourself. Take one or more of the following three tests to become more familiar with your temperament, your personality and your spiritual giftedness.

- Temperament Assessment: groupleaders.org/
- Spiritual Gifts Assessment: groupleaders.org/
- Spiritual Pathways Test: groupleaders.org/

MY TOP SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

MY TOP SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS ARE:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

MY COLOR TEMPERAMENT IS:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

MY ENNEAGRAM NUMBER IS:

Personal Ministry

DEVELOPMENT PLAN | PART 3

WEEK 3 | PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER

Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. Psalm 86:11 NIV

Your personal ministry is where your passion intersects with a need. Frederick Buechner said, “The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.” Revisit Parts 1-2 of your Personal Ministry Plan. Put it all together on one sheet of paper.

1. What I love to do:

2. What breaks my heart:

3. My spiritual gifts are:

4. My temperament and personality can be summarized as:

5. What I have learned about myself:

6. How have you served in the past? Knowing what you know now, was it a good fit for you? Is there a better fit?

Personal Ministry

DEVELOPMENT PLAN | PART 4

WEEK 4 | ACTION PLAN

Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win!
1 Corinthians 9:24 NLT

Personal ministry requires an action plan. All the good ideas and gifting won't add up to much if you don't take steps to use what you know. So, now that you know how God has equipped you, develop a plan to invest in others.

My next steps to leading and serving:

1.

2.

3.

Scripture READING

READING THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS

BACKGROUND

Acts is the continuation of the Gospel of Luke, written by the same author. The importance of Acts' is highlighted by the ministry of the apostles, the establishment of the church and the movement of the Holy Spirit. It serves as a bridge between the Gospels and the rest of the New Testament.

AS YOU READ:

Read actively. Highlight sections that stand out to you. Write questions in the margins of your Bible, in a note on your phone or tablet, or in a journal.

Review. Begin reading by reviewing what you read and noted the day before.

Choose a verse or phrase. Each week, choose one verse or phrase from your reading that stands out to you. This verse or phrase may be something you are intrigued by, something that makes you uncomfortable, something that resonates with you, or you want to examine further. Write down the verse or phrase and then answer these questions:

- What strikes you about this verse?
- How can you apply it to your life in some way?

SESSION 8 READING PLAN:

- **WEEK 1:** Read Acts 15-16
- **WEEK 2:** Read Acts 17-18
- **WEEK 3:** Read Acts 19-20
- **WEEK 4:** Read Acts 21