



Leadership Collaborative



LEARNING • SUPPORT • ACCOUNTABILITY

CONFERENCE CALL 2: REVIEW MONTH 1 AND CALL STORIES

1. CONNECTING AROUND LIFE FOCUS

These questions are extrapolated from the first month of coaching calls. One at a time, share your thoughts by answering one or two of the following questions:

LIFE FOCUS

- Think about a woman (or man) from the Bible whose story inspires you? What can you learn from how she (or he) lived out her (or his) faith. What would imitating this person's faith look like in your life and ministry?
- What did you learn from the leadership assessment test that surprised you about your strengths and limitations?
- Share the guiding statement that you created in month 1. What did you identify as steps to more fully live this out in your life and leadership?

2. COLLABORATING: SHARING CALL STORIES

Os Guinness:

"Calling is the truth that God calls us to himself so decisively that everything we are, everything we do, and everything we have is invested with a special devotion and dynamism lived out as a response to his summons and service."

Oprah Winfrey:

"I believe there's a calling for all of us. I know that every human being has value and purpose. The real work of our lives is to become aware. And awakened. To answer the call."

Call: a sense of purpose in life to which you can't help but respond.

There are two kinds of calls:

- Inward call
 - The moving of the Holy Spirit in the heart and life of a leader
 - Example: Isaiah 6:8: *"Here I am! Send me!"*

- Outward call
 - Confirmation of other leaders, affirming the inward call
 - Example: Esther 4:14: *"For Such a Time as This."*

One at a time, share your answers to the following questions:

- How did God call you?
- What did God call you to do?
- How is God calling you to leadership now?
- What is the difference between a calling and a job?

3. LEADING FROM WITHIN: BIBLICAL SNAPSHOTS

Wesley Granberg-Michaelson¹

"At the heart of any lasting change for the better in one's leadership style is close attention to one's own spirituality."

Leadership begins as a journey within ourselves. As we take that inner journey, the outer leadership journey God is calling us to embark upon will become clearer. Perhaps it is hard to think of yourself as a leader. It may even be uncomfortable. As we consider how God is calling us to begin leading from within, let's consider the stories of these women from the Bible. Do you see yourself in their stories?

Deborah -Judges 4-5

"At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgement. She sent and summoned...Barak said to her, 'If you will go with me, I will go; but if you will not go with me, I will not go.'" (Judges 4:4-6a, 8 NRSV)

As you read Deborah's story, what inspires you? What challenges you?

Esther – Book of Esther

"Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, 'Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.' Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, 'Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish.' Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him." (Esther 4:13-17 NRSV)

As you read Esther's story, what inspires you? What challenges you?

Lydia – Acts 16

"A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us... After leaving the prison they went to Lydia's home; and when they had seen and encouraged the brothers and sisters there, they departed." (Acts 16:14-15, 40 NRSV)

As you read Lydia's story, what inspires you? What challenges you?

Priscilla/Prisca – Acts 18, Romans 16:3, 1 Corinthians 16:19, 2 Timothy 4:19

"Now there came to Ephesus a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria. He was an eloquent man, well-versed in the scriptures. He had been instructed in the Way of the Lord; and he spoke with burning enthusiasm and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue; but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the Way of God to him more accurately." (Acts 18:24-26 NRSV)

As you read Priscilla's story, what inspires you? What challenges you?

4. NEXT STEPS

Monthly coaching pairs/triads:

Each month, you will receive an outline that will help you explore important leadership topics by yourself and in your peer coaching triads. The upcoming month's topic is:

- Month 2 **Beliefs and Values:** How will you Journey?

Next Video Conference date:

Future In-Person Retreat:

Clarifying Questions:

This month, we are revisiting the clarifying questions we explored last month. Consider them now, and see how they may be changing for you.

- What kind of leader do I want to be one year from now?
- What kind of leader do I want to be 5 years from now?
- What phrases describe me and my leadership style?
- What do I hope is my leadership legacy?

¹ Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, *Leadership from Inside Out: Spirituality and Organizational Change*, The Crossroad Publishing Company, 2004.