# Introduction

1. Scope and Sequence of Foundations
2. The Disciplined Leader
3. The Self-Aware Leader
4. The Missional Leader
5. The Strategic Leader
6. Strategy and Expectations
7. Strategy[[1]](#footnote-1)

1. Expectations
2. Bible reading
3. Prayer
4. Book focus
5. Interaction at meeting
6. Practice during the week
7. What you will need
8. Easy Bible to read
9. Journal
10. The books
11. Things you might need
12. Notebook (to keep class notes)
13. Highlighter(s)
14. Commentaries
15. Bible Dictionary

[before I finish up the expectations I want to lay a foundation for why this matters]

1. The GREAT commands and Your (Com)mission
2. The BIG three
3. The GREAT Confession
4. The GREAT Commandment
5. The GREAT Commission
6. You (Com)mission[[2]](#footnote-2)
7. You are called to image God

(using image as a verb)

1. Image of God is not some de facto property of homo sapiens but a mission.
2. “The imago Dei designates the royal office or calling of human beings as God’s representatives and agents in the world, granted authorized power to share in God’s rule or administration of the earth’s resources and creatures.” (Richard Middleton
3. We are God’s image bearers, his vice-regents, ambassadors.
4. You are called to unfold creation’s potential (cultivate the earth)
5. Creation was very good but it was not complete
6. God lets us be co-creators, he lets us put our stamp on it.
7. You are called to occupy creation
8. We are to be image bearers and unfolders in an upside down world
9. God as creator tells us that everything matters and that we have a role
10. Introduction to the Expectations
11. Bible Reading
12. We will focus on the churches reading program

***Why this is “better” than a prepared devotion*** (Daily Bread, Utmost for His Highest, Table Talk, etc.)

1. It requires you to wrestle with **Scripture**
2. It requires you to be dependent on the **Spirit**
3. It requires you to grapple with the **structure**
4. We will do at least three (3) devotional write-ups and share one (1) at our meeting

***Option #1***

1. Who is God
2. What has he done
3. Who am I
4. What am I called to do

***Option #2***

1. Observation (what does it say?)
2. Interpretation (what does it mean?)
3. Application (what am I to do?)
4. We will hold each other accountable for our time in God’s Word
5. Prayer
6. Prayer for our church (see Appendix #1:
7. Prayer for people in our church (prayer sheet)
8. Prayer for one-another
9. The books
10. Common Theology: Christian Beliefs by Wayne Grudem (1 chapter a week)
11. The Pursuit of Holiness by Jerry Bridges (2 chapters a week)
12. For further Reading:
13. Disciplines of a Godly Man by R. Kent Hughes
14. Disciplines of a Godly Woman by Barbara Hughes
15. Spiritual Disciplines of the Christian Life by Donald Whitney
16. The Life You’ve Always Wanted by John Ortberg
17. How to read a book
18. **Familiarize** yourself with the scope and sequence (read the whole thing through)
19. **Identify** the chapters “Big Idea”
20. **Interact** with main ideas
21. **Mark** it up!

***Three ways I do this***

* Highlight main ideas
* Mark First, Second, etc.
* Question marks in margin
1. Interaction

***Five parts to each class***

1. Sharing a devotional
2. Reviewing the chapters
3. Sharing the results of an assignment/application
4. Teaching
5. Prayer
6. Assignments/Application (Practice)



FOCUS

1. Results from Strength Finder 2.0

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

1. Your Unique Journey
2. Hebrews 13:7-8

***Your Leaders You***

1. Remember - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Consider - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Imitate - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. The focusing paradigm (Jeremiah 29:11)
5. God is already at work (He has always been at work)
6. Our call is not to invent a future but to discover what God is doing
7. Our call is to align with God’s plan
8. Alignment requires absolute surrender
9. The DNA of Revitalization
10. Transformational principle

Personal renewal precedes corporate renewal

1. Leadership principle

Everything rises and falls on leadership

1. Character principle

Effective ministry flows out of who you are

1. Synergy principle

Change happens best in the context of relationships over time

1. Empowerment principle

Coaching is essential for the implementation of change

1. Mission principle

Ministry is mission and mission is a declaration of war

1. Healthy principle

Healthy churches produce more and better disciples and churches

1. How it Works

You calling can be found in a series of people, events, and circumstances that point you to how God designed you to have a unique contribution on the world around you resulting (hopefully) in the expansion of God’s Kingdom.

Example: Joseph

What if the trials and journey you have been through were leading you someplace on purpose?

A leaders best understanding to date of their unique personal destiny

Purpose

Values **Roles, Goals, Actions, Mentors, etc.**

Vision

1. Symbol Timeline

Clarity for the future is usually found through perspective on God’s work in your life in the past. Our call is always to join him in what he is doing, not invent our own agendas we want him to bless. A symbol time-line is a tool to give you a big picture of God’s work shaping your life by using a series of symbols that depict your journey. It is simply a symbolic way to tell your story, starting from birth on the left, up to the present on the right. The symbols could contain positive and negative experiences. Use any symbols you’d like to tell the story of your life.

Example of possible symbols:

1. Conversion experience 
2. Difficult/confusing moment ?
3. Breakthrough in your life
4. Significant person

Birth

Now

**Timeline**

**Question #1 Where have I been?**

 Biblical Command: Remember (Deut. 8, Psalm 106, O.T. Feasts, Judge 2)

 The process:

 Step 1: Brainstorm – people, events, circumstances

 Step 2: Brainstorm – Struggles, Negative, Painful

 Step 3: Order chronologically, top to bottom…right to left

***Example#1***

 Early Years College Family Now

***Example #2***

Early Growth New Horizons Testing/character Focusing

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Process Items | Definition | Examples |
| Integrity Checks (IC)ActionsWord Checks (WC)Divine Contact (DC)Faith Challenge (FC)Destiney Revelation (DR) | A test God used to evaluate the heartValues check, follow through…Hearing from God, applying truth to really life, a move of the SpritA key contact person at a critical momentA test of faith, a risk, a major step forward, a leap of faithA moment of revelation, hearing from God, change of direction | Temptations, conflict, persecution, inner conviction etc.Personal and ministry guidance, submission, directionPerson who provided mentorship, guidance, or challenge, opens new doorsCrossroads, decisions, new direction,Listening to God, realization of purpose, life ministry direction |
| Negative Preparation (NR)Life Crisis (LC) Personal Conflict (PC)Backlash (B)Isolation (I)  | Experiences or conflicts that freed you for the next stage of lifeSpecial intense situations of pressure that test youConflicts in ministry, work, or home that shaped your direction or visionRamifications taken because of a decision or eventTimes in life when you felt alone or God gave you a “time out”  | Character challenges, career crisis, grass is greenery syndromeHealth, finance, personalities, church splits, ministry attackPeople struggles, organizational restructuring, facing changeHurts, relational conflict, perseveranceSickness, education, divorce, termination |

**Interpreting Your time Line…a deeper look**

**Purpose Statement**

 Question: Where am I going?

**Biblical Purpose…**

Living a focused life with Kingdom influence begins with a sure foundation. A study of key scriptures helps reveal our reason for existence as individuals. The Biblical foundation of your life is like true north, the point of reference by which all things are measured.

 ***A purpose statement***

1. Declares the reason you exist
2. Reflect the heart of God
3. Clarifies what is non-negotiable

Biblical Reflection

1. Personal: What Scriptures has God used to give focus, purpose, and direction to your life? List those verses and summarize the insights you gained from them.

VERSE INSIGHT

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Review these familiar verses and summarize the insights they provide regarding the question of purpose for a believer’s life. (Some of these may have been on your personal list)

VERSE INSIGHT

1. Matthew 22:27-40
2. Matthew 28:18-20
3. John 15:1-11
4. John 13:34-35
5. Romans 15:6-7
6. 2 Corinthians 4:7-8
7. Philippians 3:7-10
8. Colossians 2:6-7
9. 2 Peter 1:5-11
10. Write a Biblical Purpose Statement

**Values**

Values are those underlying assumptions, those core convictions that shape our actions and decisions. They are usually born out of the lessons we learn and then forged into our DNA through times of difficulty and testing.

While some have mistaken beliefs for values, actual values will always be observed in behavior.

A leaders core values represent their unique wiring, the unique ways God has shaped his or her views and approaches on life. Therefore, a focused leader understands how God has shaped them and intentionally lives, ministers, and works according to those values.

***Values effect:***

1. Decision making
2. Risk taking
3. Relationships
4. Conflict resolution
5. Role clarification
6. Resource authorization
7. Ministry methodology

Having trouble finding your values?

Ask yourself, “If I were to examine the following areas of my life, what values would I find represented by my behavior?

1. From my checkbook
2. From my calendar
3. In my conversations
4. In my contemplations

Values are observed in behavior Timeline reflection questions:

The reflection questions below, will help you begin to surface some of the life-ministry values that come from your personal time-line and lessons.

1. Some of the important lessons that God has taught me concerning my character are…
2. The character traits that I have learned to value the most are…
3. Some of the important lessons God has taught me about balancing work, church, and my personal life are…
4. Some of my core convictions about people and relationships are…
5. Some important lessons and insights God has taught you concerning the church, organization or ministry structures are…
6. If I were to describe my passion for life in one sentence, it would be…
7. If I were to describe my passion for ministry in one sentence, it would be…

Writing Our Your Values

**Values** reflect the unique convictions and core assumptions which shape a person’s behavior and decisions. Although you may value many things, effective leaders learn to identify the core values that have been forged through their life experiences and lessons. Behind every value are lessons which have so impacted our lives that they now shape our behavior and our decisions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Value** | **Lesson / Conviction** |
| Being before doing | It is easier to do, but it is more important to be. God cares about the process and the journey |
| Leadership | Everything rises and falls on leadership |
| Change | A changeless gospel confronts a changing world |
| Faith | Mission and leadership require strength and courage |
| Servanthood | That’s when I am most like Jesus |
| Simplicity | When I live simply I have more choices and I show respect to those with limited resources |
| Team | The lone ranger is a lonely unproductive life  |

Some of our values will relate to the way you need to live your life, others will relate to the way you approach the work of ministry.

**Your assignment** is to name each of your core values and then describe the significant lesson or lessons behind it. You may find it easier to name your values, then write out the lesson, or vice versa. Use the worksheet on the next page. The examples will give you ideas of how a number of other leaders have expressed their values

**My Core Values**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| VALUE | LESSON / CONVICTION |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

***Personal Vision…***

***What is God Calling You to Accomplish?***

Vision is the ability to see God’s preferable future. It captures in a word picture what God wants to accomplish through the unique contribution of our lives. Vision is heartbeat of the personal calling statement God’s designs it, we discover it, and then we must embrace it.

**Vision ignites passion!**

It motivates and captures the leader. It describes what the heart yearns to see accomplished and then drives leaders to sacrificial living and obedience. Personal vision answers the question: If you knew that you would not fail, what would you do in your lifetime for the glory of God

***Vision is…***

1. A picture of a preferred future from God’s perspective
2. A picture of what you would mortgage the farm for
3. A picture of what God is revealing to you over time
4. A picture of where you are going (purpose gives you direction vision describes the destination)

***Vision Retreat***

1. Starter questions
2. The people and circumstances that have most shaped my life and ministry are:
3. When I think about ministry in the future, the area of ministry I would love to concentrate upon is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Why?
4. The qualities of character I most admire and desire for God to shape in my life are:
5. People who know me well believe I am most used by God when I am involved in:
6. From the perspective of my personal life, the activities I do that I feel are making my greatest contribution to God’s kingdom are:
7. The activities of my life that contribute most to God’s kingdom are:
8. Though I may have dismissed the thought many times for various reasons, I sometimes feel I really should be doing:
9. When people talk about a passion for ministry, I often begin to think about giving my life to accomplishing:
10. Destiny pointers (review circumstances, divine appointments, divine contacts etc. from timeline)
11. Journal you thoughts = What is God calling you to accomplish for his Glory?

Personal Vision Draft (Your best understanding to date)

Personal Calling Statement

1. Copy your Biblical Purpose:
2. Copy your values:
3. Write your vision statement here:
1. Mark Hoeffner and Royce Curtis Relational Elder Training [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. James K.A. Smith You Are What You Love: The Spiiritual Power of Habit Brazos Press [↑](#footnote-ref-2)