



IDENTITY: DISCOVERING YOUR POTENTIAL

SESSION 1 | ACKNOWLEDGING GOD'S UNIQUE DEPOSIT

KEY POINTS

- Leadership is not scary...it is simply influence. Women lead all of the time; they just don't call it leadership.
- Leadership Definitions: John Maxwell: "Leadership is influence. Nothing more and nothing less."

Why do you think women run from leadership?

- confusion about role
- lack of confidence
- It is important to understand and lead from your strengths

- What is "a strength"?

SIGN of Strength

Success - you are good at it

Instincts - you look forward to the activity

Growth - while you are doing them your brain is growing

Need - Fulfills a need of yours

- What is "a weakness"?



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KEY POINTS

- Leaders are simply people who look at need and dare to believe that it doesn't have to be this way

- Leadership is a learnable set of skills. These include heart skills (integrity, character, prayer, servanthood) and hand skills (vision, building team, communication, handling conflict, self-leadership).

- We each have a responsibility to develop our leadership because we live in a world with overwhelming need.



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SESSION 2 | THE POWER OF WOMEN RELEASED

KEY POINTS

Christian women can be confused about their freedom to lead. It is important to do the “intellectual work” around this subject. There are three views on women in the church:

- **Patriarchy:**

- **Complementarian:**

- **Egalitarian:**



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KEY POINTS

What is the Biblical Mandate for Women?

- Creation
- Israel's History
- Gospels
- Early Church
- Paul

History of Women in the Church

- As Christian women we have a long heritage of women leading significant ways.
- When we talk about leadership, it is not a new thing. We are simply getting back to our roots.



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SESSION 3 | THE POWER OF GOD'S STORY IN YOUR LIFE

KEY POINTS

- There is no such thing as an “instant leader.”

- It takes _____.
- It takes a _____.
- It takes God's _____.
- It takes a _____.
- It takes learning the _____ and _____.
- _____ others helps develop the leader.
- It takes continual personal _____.

- How do leaders learn to lead?

- Responsibilities (job assignments)
- Relationships (models, mentors, peers) Learning from other people
- Shaping Experiences (unique experiences, exposures, failures, hardships)
- Formal Training/Education (formal, informal)



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KEY POINTS

Phases of Development (From Robert Clinton's work)

- **Phase One: Sovereign Foundations**
Sovereign foundations are the things you were born. Things like your heritage, personality, intelligence, family background, birth order.
- **Phase Two: Inner Life Growth**
This phase occurs during in the first two or three years of leadership. During this phase the leader learns by doing. Skill sets are developed as well as character.
- **Phase Three and Four: Ministry and Life Maturing**
This phase is the “productive” years in leadership. The goal is to identify and use their spiritual gift or “gift-mix.”
- **Phase Five: Convergence**
Convergence occurs when the leader's potential is maximized. God moves a leader into a role that matches giftedness, experience, temperament, spiritual maturity, destiny, and geographical location.
- ***Special Phase: Wilderness Experience**
Between each of these stages there is often a boundary, or a time of isolation. It is an intense season of processing. The Wilderness Phase is both an **OPPORTUNITY** and an **INVITATION**.



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SESSION 4 | THE POWER OF COURAGE

KEY POINTS

- Self Confidence and Self Esteem is not the same thing.
- How can we build confidence?
 - Recognize the True Source of our Confidence
 - Take an Inventory
 - o Keep an “Achievement Log”
 - o Know your Strengths
 - o Inventory your Resources
 - o Have Clarity on Your Vision
 - Plan and Prepare
 - Build Skills



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SESSION 4 | THE POWER OF COURAGE

KEY POINTS

- Manage Your Mind
 - Toxic Thoughts
 - Self-doubt
 - Comparison
- Embrace Vulnerability
- Act “as if”
- Do not fear failure

“Nothing builds self-esteem and self-confidence like accomplishment.”
Thomas Carlyle (Scottish Philosopher)



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SESSION 5 | THE POWER OF STEPS FORWARD

SHARE

This session is open-ended. It is important to process what we are learning and this is always done best within community. Spend time sharing the insights gained from your journaling homework last week.

Your homework was to journal around these questions:

- What is your biggest personal discovery about your skills/strengths/gifts?
- How might God use these skills/gifts/strengths?
- What is God saying to you in terms of your leadership?
- What is your best “next step” to move forward in leadership?

PRAY

When someone has shared their insights, pray for them – that God would lead them clearly and that they would have courage to follow.

Hebrews 10:23-25 - 23 Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. 24 Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. 25 And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.