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**SERVANT
LEADERS**
INTERNATIONAL

BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE

The goal of this course is to help the individual gain a perspective on the everyday events that they engage with as it relates to God's plan to sanctify and conform His own people to the image of Christ.

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Credits

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BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE

Description:

The goal of this course is to help the individual gain a perspective on the everyday events that they engage with as it relates to God's plan to sanctify and conform His own people to the image of Christ.

Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to...

- Develop the ability to Biblically Process every moment of life as it relates to learning to be conformed to the image of Christ. (Skill)
- Develop a Biblical theology of the events of life, God's sovereignty, and God's design to sanctify and conform His people. (Knowledge)
- Develop the ability to Biblically evaluate personal responses, questions, and conclusions to the situations of life. (Character)
- Develop a strategy for adjusting the habits and patterns of life to promote the conformity to Christ. (Skill)

Learning Inputs:

1. Attendance of course lectures
2. Completion of assigned reading

Outcome Activities:

1. Complete Homework Assignments
2. Complete Final Project



BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE - LEARNING TO LEARN

INTRODUCTION: LEARNING TO PROCESS LIFE

Honing skills so that your eyes and ears will recognize the work God is doing in your life and in the lives of others.

1. Learning to Process life in the wilderness because wilderness is...

- Real life compacted
- Real responses to that real life
- Real communication
- Real amplified growth

2. Biblical Wilderness

- Genesis 37-50

3. Learning to Process life in Real life because Real Life is...

- Experiencing situations
- Responding to those situations
- Communicating with others
- Making decisions.

4. What if, by learning to Biblically Process Life...

- I could see the experiences through God's eyes
- My responses were Christ-like
- My communication included God's Word
- My decisions were conduits for conformity to Christ.

5. The Goal of Biblically learning to process life...

Be able to Biblically process every moment of life as it relates to learning to be conformed to the image of Christ.



RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 1 WRAP UP QUESTIONS

Observe your daily environment and describe the following

- The emotions you feel in the environment.
- The people you interact with.
- What the bulk of the conversation is about
- The stress level on a typical day.
- The spiritual sensitivity of the day

On a scale of 1-10 how happy you are with your typical days.

(1 being totally disappointed and 10 being ecstatic for another day to begin)

Describe the types of books, TV shows, music, or movies that you enjoy.

How do you decide which media you choose to enjoy?

What do you do to be recharged? (i.e. hobbies, entertainment, recreation, etc.)

How much time do you spend doing these things?

When you are doing these things, do you like to involve others?

Engage:

As you read the Bible what experiences does God bring into the lives of His people?



BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE - GROUNDWORK

FOUNDATIONAL FOR LEARNING TO BIBLICALLY PROCESS LIFE

Understanding the Core Learner, Who God is, and What God is Doing

1. Core Learners... Depraved

- Adam fell by rebelling against God
- Man is depraved as heirs of Adam
- Man lives in a sin cursed world
- Man's standard is God
- Sin makes us dead & God's enemy

Genesis 3
Romans 5:12-19
James 4:4, 1 John 2:15-17
Isaiah 64:5-7, Lev. 19:2
Ephesians 2:1-3, Colossians 1:21

As Core Learners we start off as dead and sin-saturated.

2. Who is God... Redeemer

- Sets the Price
- Pays the price—Jesus
- Offers the price as a gift

Heb. 9:22, Romans 6:23, Isaiah 53:6-7
1 Peter 2:24, 1 John 4:10
2 Corinthians 5:21, Titus 3:4-7, Ephesians 2:4-9

God miraculously transforms the dead, sin-saturated materials, through the redemption that came by Christ, into living, righteous, beings that can be shaped to glorify Him in mortal life. 2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 8:11

3. What is God doing... Sanctification

- Revealing conflict
- Resolving the conflict
- Loving His children
- Coordinating the process

Romans 7:14-25, Galatians 5:17
1 Thessalonians 5:23-24
Hebrews 12:7-11, Romans 8:26-27
1 Peter 1:3-9, Romans 8:28-30, Psalms 139:13-17

Sanctification is God lovingly refining the redeemed into conformed images of His Son to reflect His glory.

4. The result of laying this groundwork...

- To see that we are sinful people who are miraculously changed by God, and now have the potential to be conformed to Christ.
- To see that God is refining the redeemed through His intimate involvement with every moment of our lives by orchestrating those moments according to His will.

We can rejoice in every moment of our lives, because it is the evidence of God's unmerited love in Christ for undeserving people.



RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 2 WRAP UP QUESTIONS

What were the first thoughts that crossed your mind when you woke up this morning?

At what point did you first think about God today?

How often did you think about God being involved in your day?

Reflect on these verses. Colossians 3:1-4

In what ways did you see God orchestrating your day?

What happened that may have caused you to question God's involvement in your day?

Reflect on these verses. Psalm 139:13-16

What events in your day produced grumbling or complaining?

Who do you grumble and complain to?

What events in your day inspired you to praise God?

Reflect on these verses. Philippians 2:14-16



BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE - BLUEPRINT

1. The Architect:

Jesus knows what the disciples need in order to accomplish His purpose.

2. What is the primary goal of Jesus' interaction with the disciples?

Preparing them to fulfill the purpose He has for them.

- Specifically carrying on Jesus' Ministry—Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8

3. What should we expect to be happening every time Jesus is with His disciples?

Examples

- Designing experiences to meet His assessed needs of the individual.

4. Scripture: Mark 6

See page 9-10, Scripture passages



Jesus knows the insufficiencies of His disciples and He implements experiences to shape them.

How... Implementing Experiences

1. Experiences that create tension.
2. Experiences that reveal a response. Luke 6:45

Why... Shaping Hearts: (Shaping of the heart requires applied pressure)

3. Shaping reveals their heart through responses. Luke 6:43-45
4. Shaping reveals their deepest need.
5. Shaping leads them to evaluation.

Who... Jesus

6. Disciples who know Jesus, evaluate responses. Colossians 3:5-11, Gal. 5:19-26
7. Disciples who recognize Christlikeness, grow. Philippians 2:12-13
8. Disciples who grow, imitate Jesus' example. John 15:10, 1 Cor. 11:1, Eph. 5:1-2, 1 Peter 2:21



Jesus Sends out the Twelve

Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits. These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Wear sandals but not an extra tunic. Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave, as a testimony against them." They went out and preached that people should repent. They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

Mark 6:6b-13 NIV

Describe the experiences the disciples have.

What can you imagine their response would be like here?

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught.

Mark 6:6b-13 NIV

What do you think the disciples emotions are like here?

Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

Mark 6:6b-13 NIV

Describe their experience now?

How do you think the disciples might respond. Why?

What would their emotions be?



How did Jesus respond? Why?

By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." But he answered, "You give them something to eat."

Mark 6:6b-13 NIV

What internal questions might the disciples be asking right now?

They said to him, "That would take eight months of a man's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?"

Mark 6:37b NIV

What did the disciples do?

What does Jesus do?

What have the disciples concluded about the people?

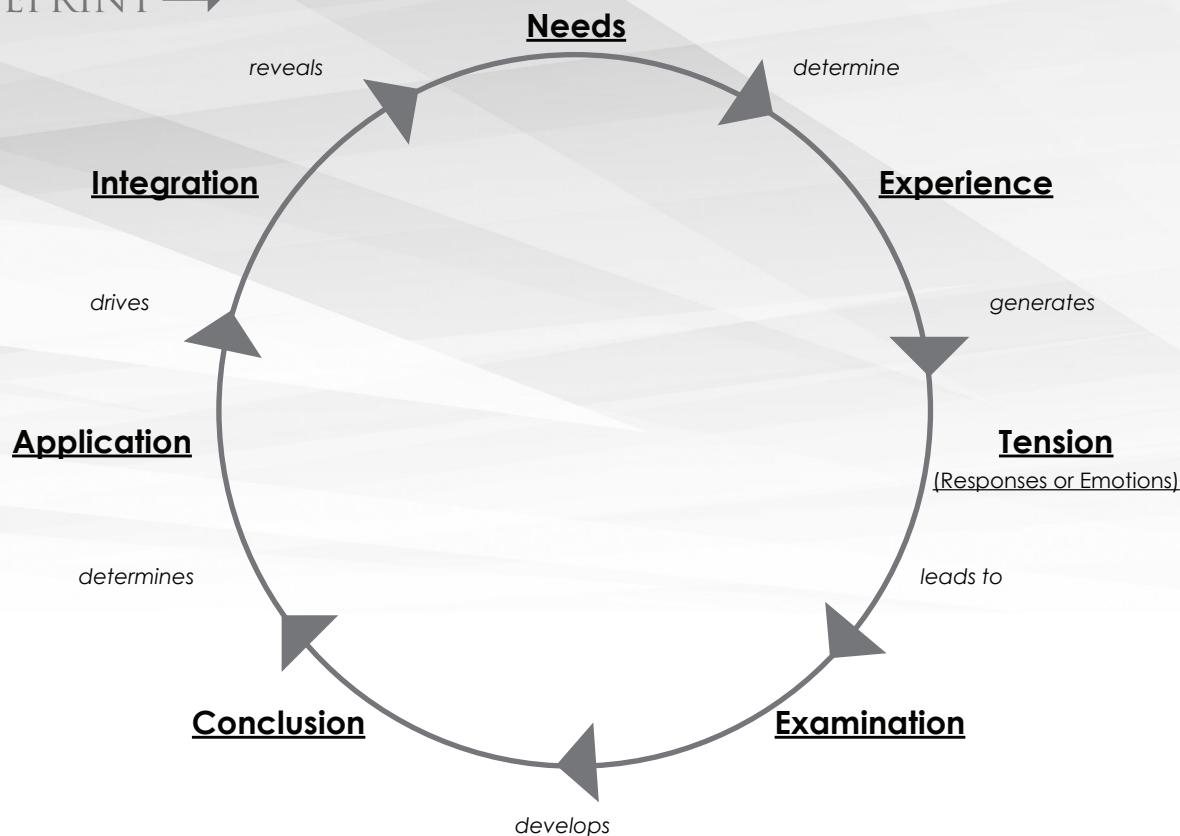
"How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five—and two fish." Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to set before the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

Mark 6:38-44 NIV

What do you think Jesus is trying to teach His disciples in this moment?



BLUEPRINT →



By looking at this blueprint...

We can be assured that, like the disciples, God knows our hearts and has designed our days based on His assessment of our needs in order to conform us to His image.

Romans 8:28-30



RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 3 MEDITATION

Meditate on the following passage some time this week: 1 Thessalonians 5:14-24

RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 3 WRAP UP QUESTIONS

What are some things that God has been teaching you over the last few weeks?

What are some significant situations you are facing or have recently faced?

Do you see God orchestrating situations in your life?

Which situations can you see God using to shape you?



BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE - AGENDA

1. Definition:

A list, plan, or outline of things to do.

2. When do people make agendas?

Examples

- Agendas are made when there is a desired result to be achieved.

3. What is necessary for an agenda to be a success?

Examples

- Agendas define what is needed for achieving desired results.

4. What would be an agenda for your typical day?

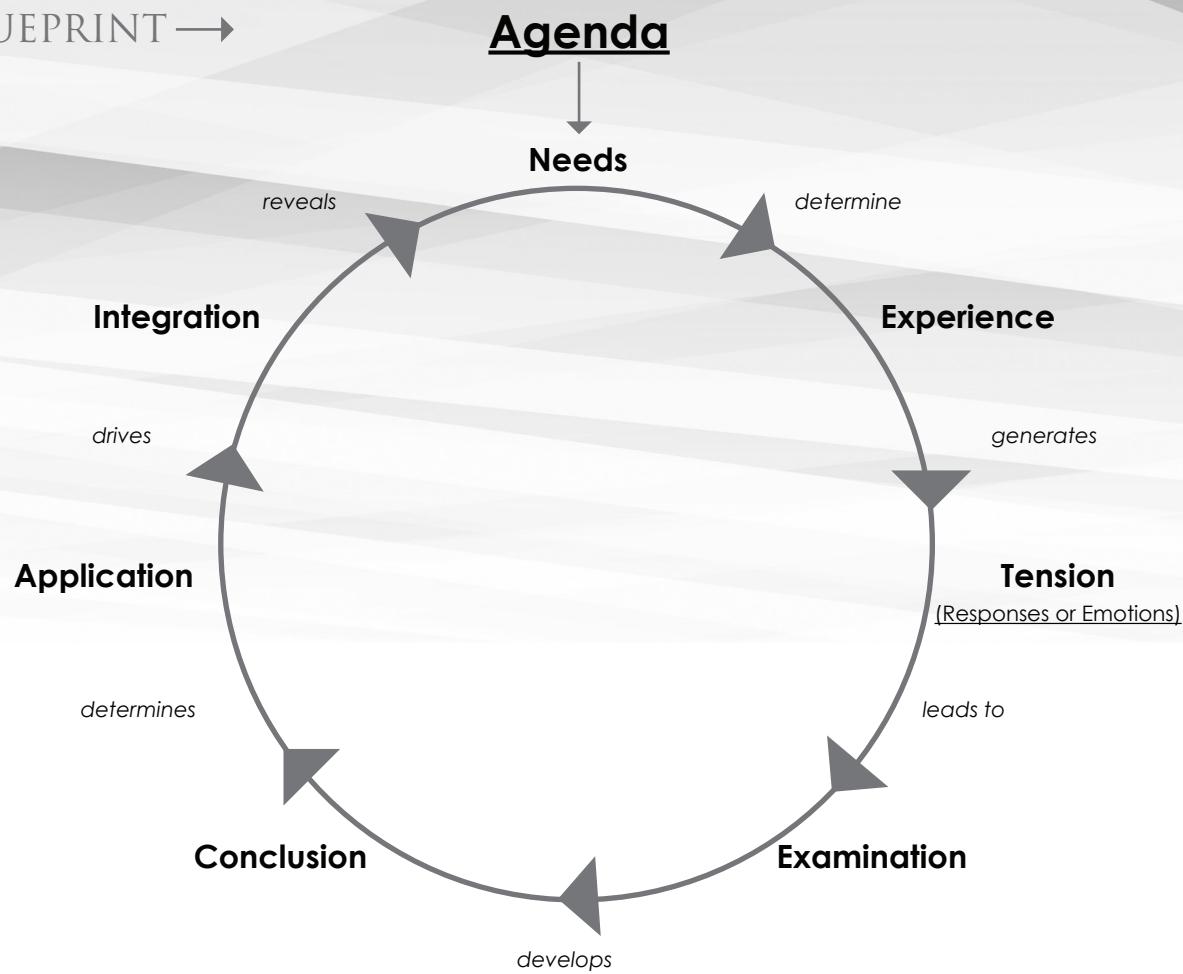
5. What types of needs arise from these agendas?

<u>PHYSICAL</u>	<u>EMOTIONAL</u>	<u>SPIRITUAL</u>
Time	Love	Love, joy, peace
Money	Attention	Patience, kindness
Food	Appreciation	Goodness
Stuff	Respect	Gentleness
Skills	Comfort	Faithfulness
		Self control

6. How does the agenda affect our learning process?



BLUEPRINT →



How do we define our agenda?

- Selfish agendas are about getting what we want.
- People who are conformed to the image of Christ have agendas that are God's agendas.

Christ's Example Luke 22:42

- Not my will but yours be done.

What is God's will for believers?

- It is God's will that you should be sanctified. 1 Thess. 4:3a, 5:23-24

What would be a God focused agenda? Proverbs 1:7 & Matthew 6:9-10



RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 4 MEDITATION

Meditate on the following passage some time this week: Colossians 3:1-17

RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 4 WRAP UP QUESTIONS

How would you describe your agenda for the day?

Did you include God in forming that agenda?

Based on your agendas, what did you need to achieve them? (See needs chart)

Ask someone you interact with regularly to tell you what they think your agenda was for a given day?

How did they respond?

What did you think of their response?

Which situations can you see God using to shape you?



BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE - EXPERIENCES

1. What does the Bible Teach about God's Involvement with experiences:

- Psalm 115:3 God does what pleases Him
- Psalm 135:6 God does what pleases Him
- Psalm 139:16 All the days are ordained
- Proverbs 16:9 God directs the path
- Proverbs 19:21 God's purpose prevails
- Romans 8:28-30 All things happen for God's determined good

Experience is life.

2. How do experiences come about?

<u>EXTERNAL</u>	<u>INTERNAL</u>
People	Hunger
Circumstances	Stress
Weather	Lack of skills
Availability	Personal errors
Intimacy	Intimacy
Organizations	

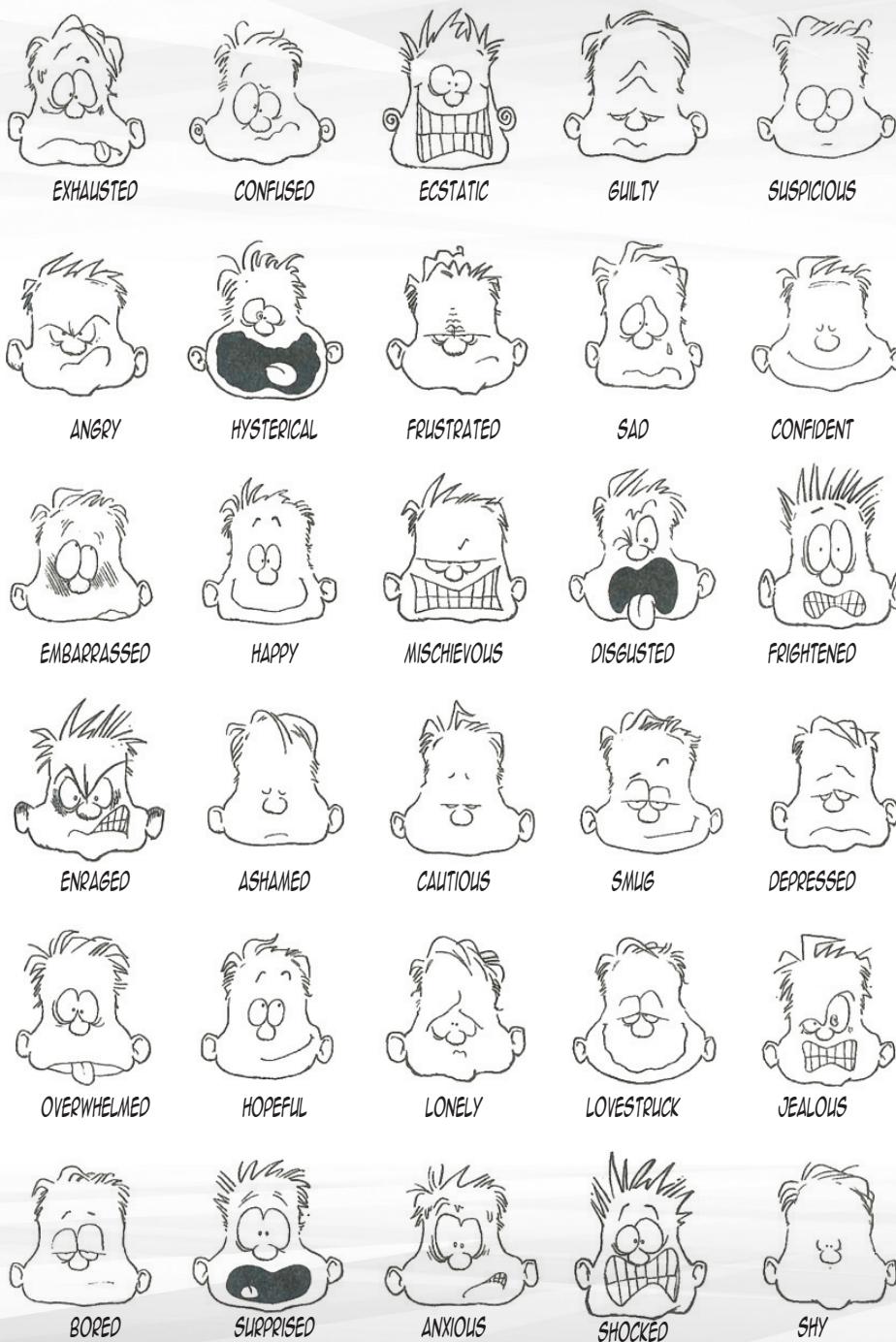
Experiences are not always negative: we must understand that all events are a part of God's will.

Experiences are those ordained moments by which God is shaping the redeemed for His pleasure.



BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE - TENSION

Tension-Responses—Emotions
How do you typically respond?



What do the emotions reveal?

- Luke 6:43-45 The purity of our hearts
- James 4:1-3 The purity of our desires
- Proverbs 19:23 The object of our adoration

Emotions are the litmus test that reveals what we “really” need.

Personality plays a major part in the type of response.

Look at the Book of Job for examples of experiences.

As the reader we get a view and understanding of the supernatural world but Job only saw the experiences what happened to him.

<u>EXPERIENCE</u>	<u>WHAT HAPPENED</u>	<u>IMPACT ON LIFE</u>
Sabeans attack	Loss of property	productivity
Natural disaster (fire)	Loss of property	source of food and clothing
Chaldeans attack	Loss of property	transportation, trade
Natural disaster (wind)	Loss of Family	
Physical affliction	Loss of function	pain, disability (momentary)
Personal attack (wife)	Loss of respect	
Personal attack (friends)	Loss of compassion	
Fatherly rebuke	Loss of Self	humbling, brutal honesty

What responses did Job have?

Early and late

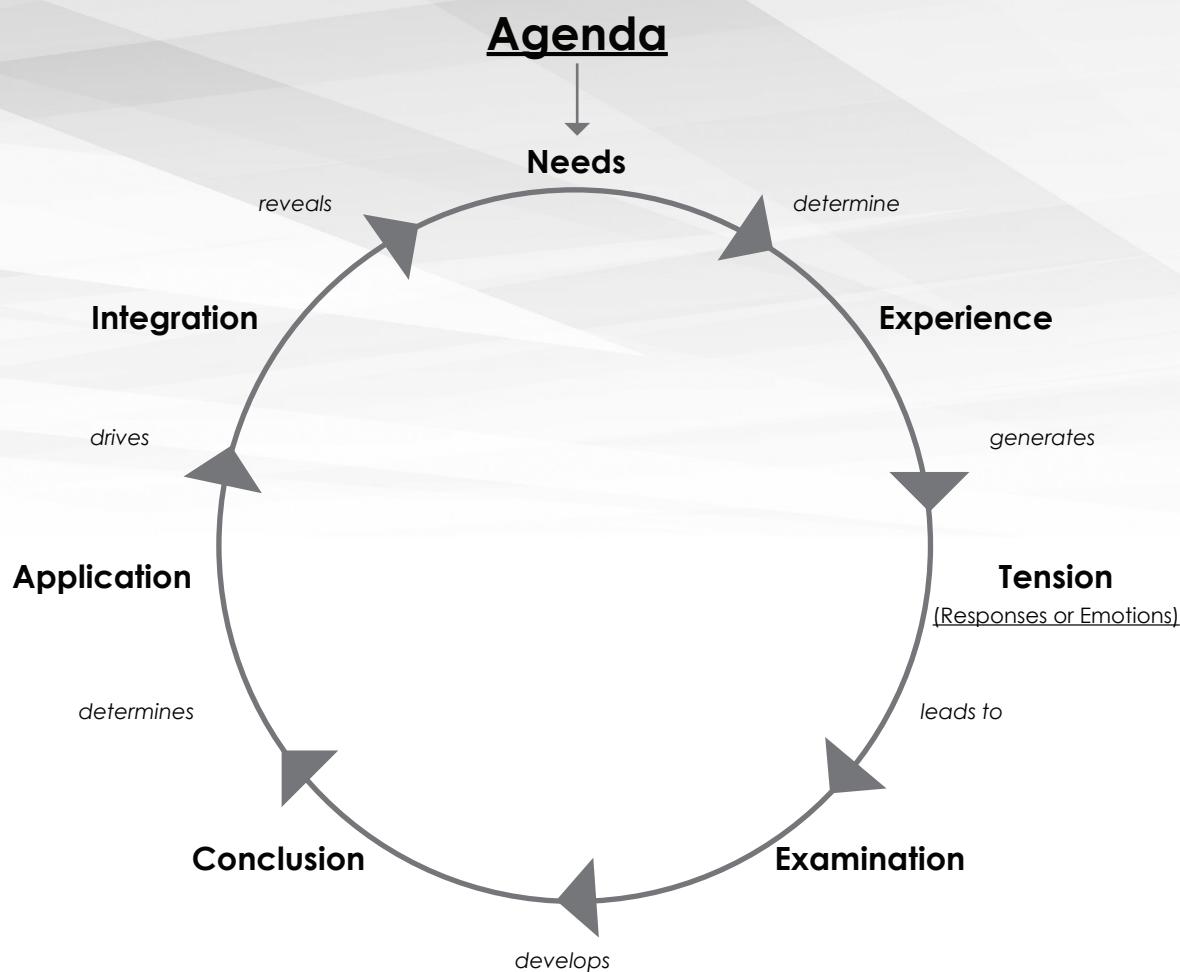
Job 1:20-22, 2:10, 3:1, 42:4-6

Was it a bad thing for Job to experience these things?

Would it have been better if Job had not experienced these things?



BLUEPRINT →



The goal of understanding this material is to honestly recognize the type of responses we have when not getting what we want.

Realize that this is the method that God uses to shape us.



RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 5 MEDITATION

Meditate on the following passage some time this week: James 1:1-25

RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 5 WRAP UP QUESTIONS

What is one experience you had today?

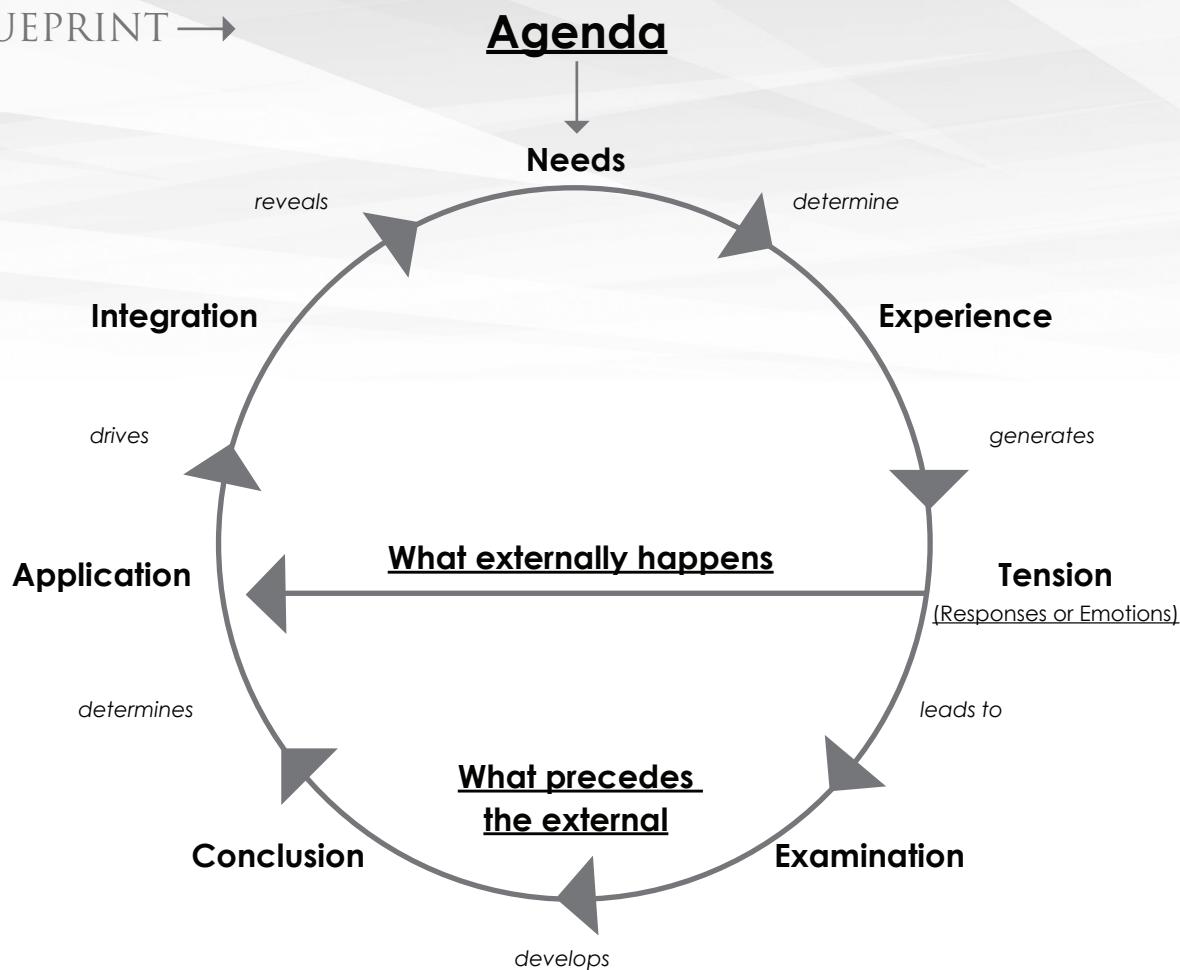
What emotions did you have during that experience?

Did you recognize any needs that were revealed by your emotions?
(Yours or Gods assessed needs)



BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE - THE CURVE

BLUEPRINT →



Emotions lead to Examination

Examination is the step in the process by which we conclude what is a logical application for our emotions.

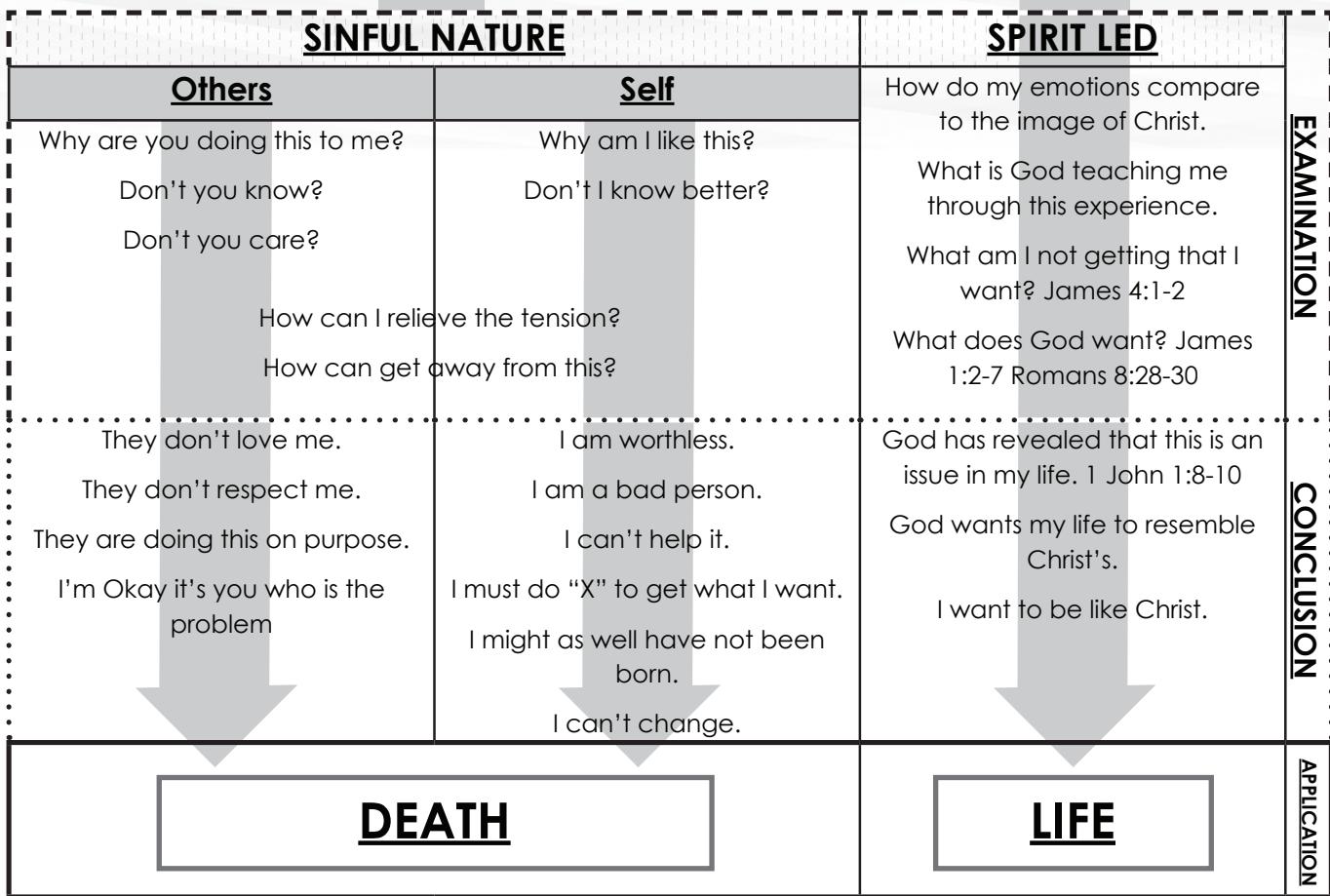
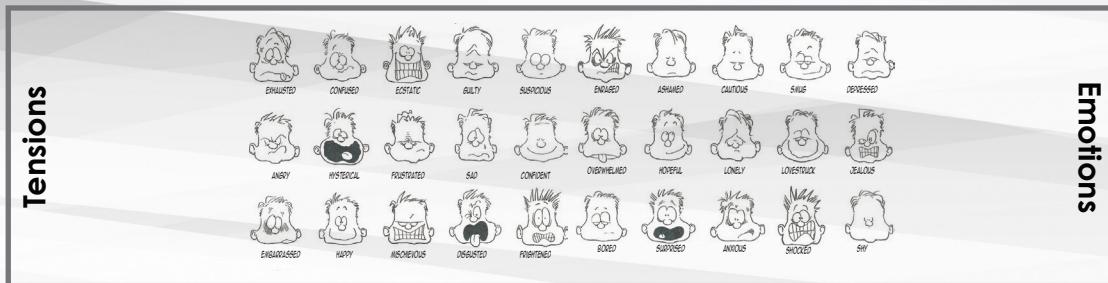
This is where learning happens. (on the curve)

I learn that to get what I want I need to do what is natural or I learn that in order to be like Christ I need to obey.

Without questions there is no learning.



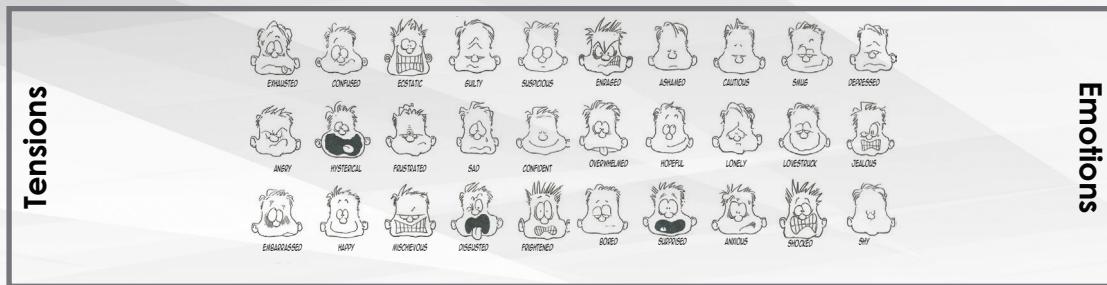
THE CURVE→



How do we develop our questions?

The grid we use determines the types of questions and conclusions.





Tensions

Emotions

THE GRID

SINFUL NATURE	SPIRIT LED	EXAMINATION
<p>Romans 7:14-23 Galatians 5:16-21 Colossians 3:5-10 People Family Media Satan -Appearance of Truth</p>	<p>Psalm 1 Psalm 119 Proverbs 1 Proverbs 3 Romans 12:1 Philippians 4:6-9 2 Timothy 3:16&17 James 1:22-25 2 Peter 1:3-4</p>	:CONCLUSION
Would you be willing to let others examine your conclusions?		
Death	Life	APPLICATION
<p>1 John 5:16-17 Romans 8:13 James 1:13-15</p>	<p>Romans 8:11-13</p>	



RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 6 MEDITATION

Meditate on the following passage some time this week: John 15:1-17

RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 6 WRAP UP QUESTIONS

Take some time and review your answers to the reconnaissance sheet from session 1.

How do your answers to those questions shed light on the types of questions you ask?

Honestly evaluate which grid from this week's lesson do you use more during your day?

Why?

What are some challenges you face for including the Biblical grid in your life?

What are the benefits of applying the Biblical grid to your life?

What area(s) in your life have you recognized that God wants to conform to the image of Christ?



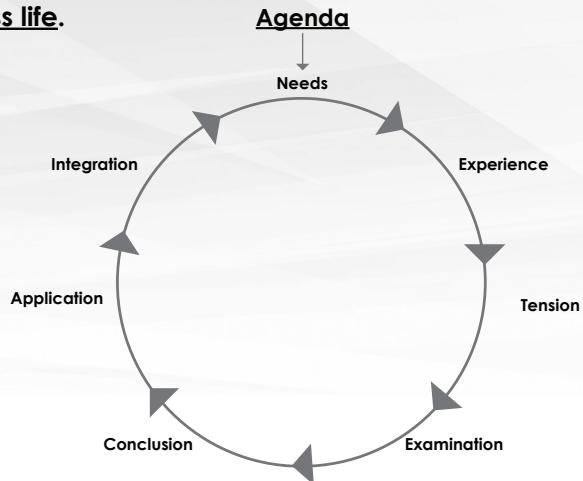
BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE - THE FRUIT

Application and Integration are the fruit of how we process life.

- What does the Bible teach about fruit?
- John 15:1-17
- The Gardener prunes—Experiences

The vine provides—The Grid of Examination

- Abide in Jesus—obey my commands



The Branches produce—The application and integration

- Love one another—show yourselves to be Jesus' disciples

Bearing fruit means obedience

- Living Fruit or Dead Fruit
- Which one do you want to be known by?
- What does God expect?

Application is the strategy by which we hope to achieve our conclusions.

Integration is the action taken to fulfill our strategy.

Both application and integration are directly related to the grid we use.

- Sinful Nature = Dead fruit
- Spirit Led = Living Fruit



APPLICATION AND INTEGRATION ARE DIFFICULT TO STOP AT THIS STAGE.

How can we get to a place where our applications and integration more regularly resembles the life of Christ?

Confession: Admission that God is showing your insufficiencies.

"*You are right God. I have things that need to be worked on.*"

1 John 1:5 - 2:6 Psalm 51

Meditation: Transforming of my mind to think Biblically.

"*Teach me Lord, to live life Your way.*"

Psalm 1 Psalm 119
Romans 12:1 John 15:1-17 Colossians 3:1-15

Specific Bible Study related to the revealed insufficiencies.

Accountability: Inviting the body of Christ to walk with you and call you out.

"*I want to produce good fruit, let me know when you notice that I'm not.*"

Romans 12:4-8 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 Ephesians 4:11-13
Hebrews 3:12-13 Hebrews 10:19-25 Colossians 3:16,

Discipline: Getting about doing the hard work of pursuing Christ's likeness.

"*I will consistently work at these areas until they become the norms.*"

1 Timothy 4 1 Corinthians 9:24

Making a commitment to be obedient.

Biblical grid formation takes time but will transform you into the image of Christ.



RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 7 MEDITATION

(Individually specific based on what God is revealing in your life)

RECONNAISSANCE: SESSION 7 WRAP UP QUESTIONS

At some point this week think about the following.

Confession: What have you had to admit that God is right about?

Meditation: What scripture are you meditating on?

Accountability:

Who have you or are willing to invite to walk with you?

What might be stopping you from asking them?

Discipline:

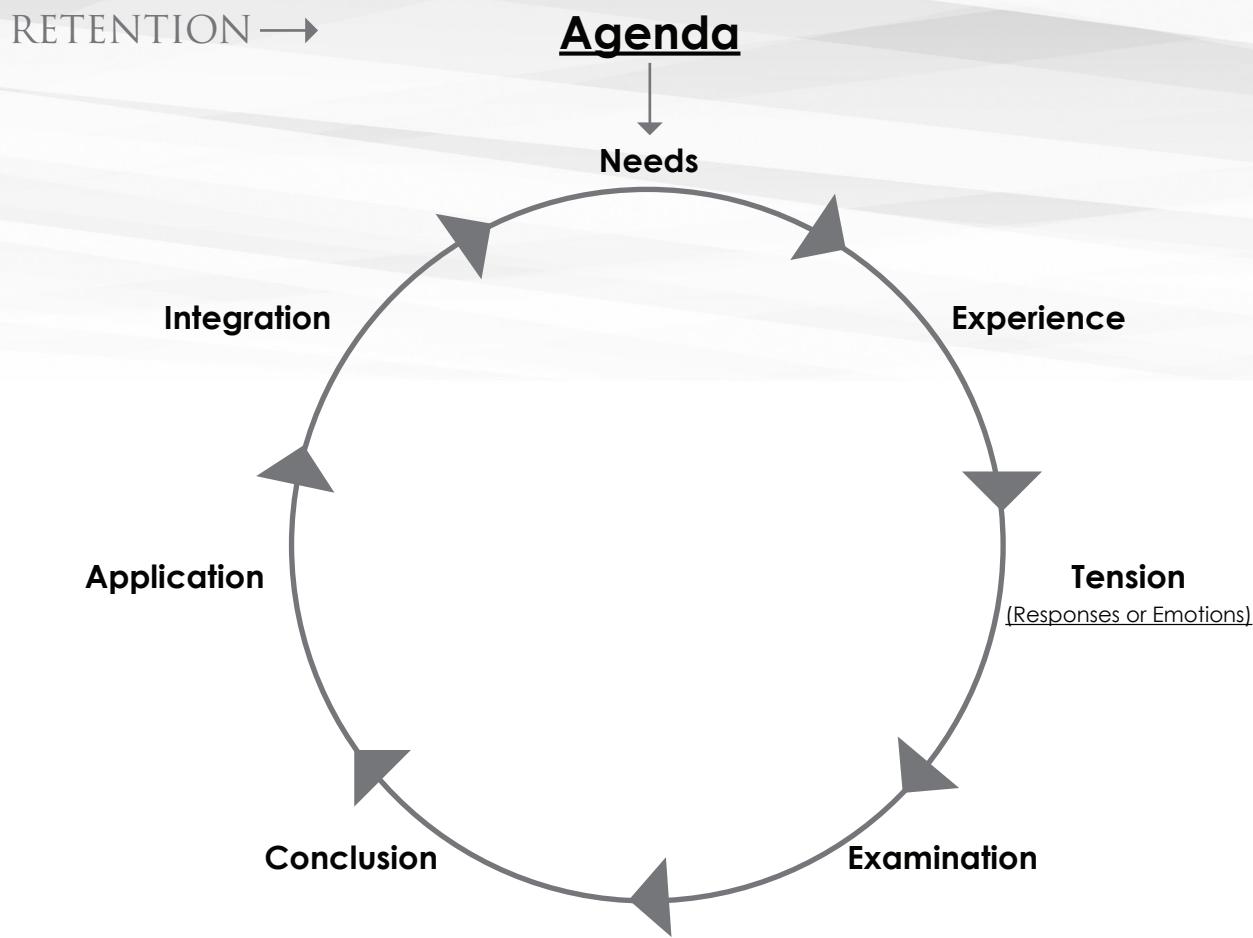
Which of the above do you find to be the hardest to included in your life?

WHY?

Who is one person that you know would benefit from what you have learned during this series?



BIBLICALLY PROCESSING LIFE - NEXT STEPS

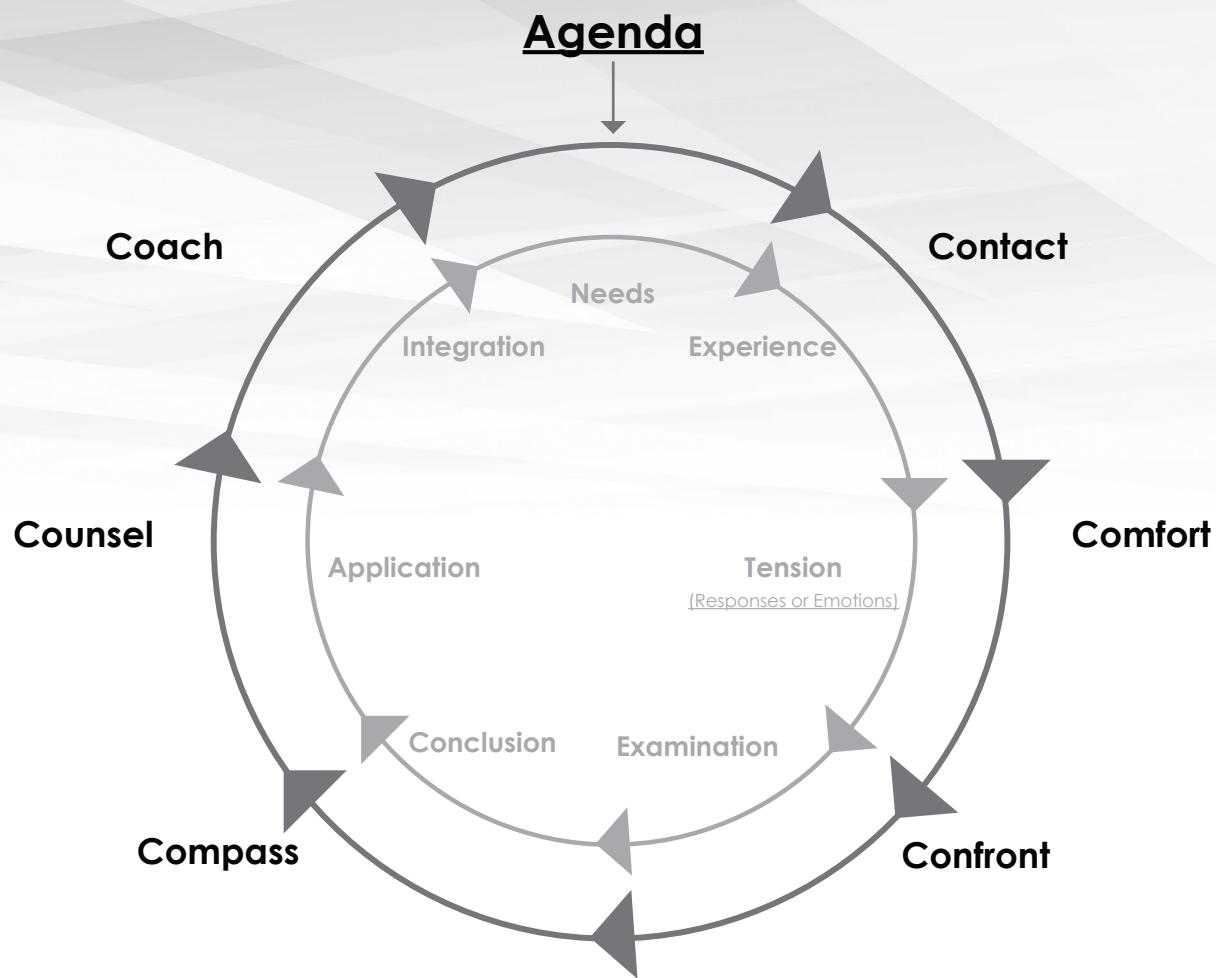


Keys to Remember:

- God is sovereignly in control
- God desires to sanctify His people
- The Bible is the critical grid for our formation.



NEXT STEP →



A minister understands that the agenda is God's agenda to shape the individual into the image of Christ.

The minister can begin to see what the assessed needs are without being the assessor.

- Contact – stepping into the lives of others. It's normal that you are there.
- Comfort – Stable presence, you just puked on me but I love you and want to keep walking with you until you get better.
- Confront – Acting like a mirror to help them see what they can't at the moment. I observe that you are tense.
- Compass – Directing towards God's Word and Christ's likeness.
- Counsel – Is this a good plan, what might the implications be?
- Coach – how are you doing, what adjustments might be made?

