

Sierra Leadership Network Curriculum: Month 10, Year 3

Participation in the Sierra Leadership Network (SLN) is a process of adult learning. It is the responsibility of the participant to do their assignments and seek out the necessary accountability. It is the responsibility of the participant to schedule time with their mentor, not the other way around. Here is a checklist of this month's exercises and space for comments. All useful generated materials should be placed in your Sierra Leadership Network binder. The mentor will look over the exercises and be given opportunity to add their own comments. Be sure you take your binder to the meetings at Granite Springs Church to also be available to the SLN directors.

Month 10, Year 3

Date Completed

____/____/____ Spiritual Formation

[Estimated time: _____]

Mentor Comments:

____/____/____ Preaching/Teaching

[Estimated time: _____]

Mentor Comments

____/____/____ Self-Leadership:

[Estimated time: _____]

Mentor Comments

Participant Signature

Mentor Signature

I. Spiritual Formation

Terms come and go in the Christian vocabulary. An important one recently is “Spiritual Formation”. As with most terminology transitions it brings new elements to the articulation of many things that are old and known. The Spiritual Formation movement has been an attempt to rediscover ancient Christian practices in shaping disciples. Dallas Willard and Richard Foster have been two scholars who have spearheaded the movement and written extensively on it.

1. Read the following articles on Spiritual formation:

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2005/010/9.42.html>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/le/2005/003/2.20.html>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2002/013/4.46.html>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/bcl/features/recommends/spiritualformation.html>

Other good books that are examples of the Spiritual formation movement:

The Divine Conspiracy by Dallas Willard

The Spirit of the Disciplines by Dallas Willard

The Life You’ve Always Wanted by John Ortberg

Renovation of the Heart by Dallas Willard

II. Preaching/Teaching

The church is supposed to be about spiritual growth and transformation. How do you get specific in terms of giving instruction to your congregation, Sunday school class or small group on how they are to participate in their growth? Develop a sermon/sermon series or lesson/series on spiritual formation/transformation/growth. Apply some of what you learned from your readings. The purpose of this exercise is to give you practice in teaching practical application, so make sure your sermon/lesson gets practical and specific.

III. Self-Leadership

The most important person in your church that needs your leadership is you. No one else is more responsible for leading you than you are. Ministries rise and fall based on the self-leadership of its point leader. Time to do some examining with your mentor.

The best stuff I’ve heard on this is from Bill Hybels. Chapter 9 in his book Courageous Leadership contains some of what he’s presented on this. There are tapes out there on 360 degrees of leadership and here are two web links:

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/bcl/areas/vision-strategy/articles/le-2001-003-13.86.html>

<http://jmm.aaa.net.au/articles/8448.htm>