

Sierra Leadership Network Curriculum: Month 3, Year 2

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 quarterly meetings at Granite Springs Church to also be available to the SLN directors.

Month 3, Year 2

Date Completed

____/____/____ Acts: [Estimated time: _____]
Mentor Comments:

____/____/____ NT Acts Interpretation Exercise:
Mentor Comments [Estimated time: _____]

____/____/____ Knowing your Spiritual Story:[Estimated time: _____]
Mentor Comments

Participant Signature

Mentor Signature

Acts and Paul's Story

1. Read the book of Acts and create a thematic outline of the book that can fit on one side of a sheet of paper. This means you can't be detailed, just hit the main points. Present the points, however, with thematic sentences. I believe the "thesis statement" for the book of Acts comes early in chapter 1. Any ideas what it may be? Defend it by your outline.
2. Who is the main actor in this book? Who is the Acts of? What does this say to the church today?
3. Find the New Testament parallel passages of Paul's conversion. Any thoughts in comparing them?
4. Consult a good study Bible or a New Testament introduction and browse a timeline of Paul's life and ministry. Any observations?

Interpretation Exercises: Do exercise 1, and then do either 2 or 3.

1. Compare Peter's sermon at Pentecost to Paul's sermon in Athens. What can we learn about different evangelistic approaches for different audiences? How might this apply to your present ministry context? Are you ministering more in "Jerusalem" or "Athens"? Develop your observations, thoughts and reflections into a sermon, study or short paper.
2. Make a careful survey of the work of the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts. The Holy Spirit at first glance sometimes appears to be the most under-cover person of the Trinity, but the book of Acts is all about the work of the Holy Spirit. Develop a sermon, study or paper on the Holy Spirit based on the book of Acts.
3. Make a careful survey of the ministry methods of Paul. Chart out (maybe make your own rough timeline) according to the book of Acts where he went, how long he stayed, etc. Where did he concentrate his ministry efforts? Who did he work with first? How did he work with them? What were his goals? What can you learn from Paul's ministry? Develop your work into a sermon (or series), study or paper.

Your Spiritual Story

The book of Acts begins with Jesus' command "you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses..." The book of Acts also chronicles Paul's conversion and much of his ministry. Our God is the mover of history through his Spirit. In year 1 some of you had to write your testimony. Take this time to reflect a bit on your Spiritual journey. Your journey might have begun before you were born, with your parents. How has God worked through the obvious and the not so obvious to draw you to himself and to make you his witness. You don't need to share this in detail with anyone you don't want to, but run through the main points and reflections with your mentor. Help him or her to reflect with you on the narrative God his weaving into your witness.