

SESSION 6: THE THREE C'S

Welcome & Review Last Week's Homework/LIFE Starters: 15 minutes

Session #6 Teaching: Calm, Courage and Consistency: 10 minutes

As you consider our last session and your willingness to GROW spiritually and make sure that growth has a foundation of integrity, some of the most practical servant leadership traits are to stay calm, have courage and always be consistent!

When leading, reacting with calming-the-storm words in tense situations is truly foundational! Servant leaders recognize the power of words and speak with words that people can understand, words that build self-esteem, words that calm the storm, and they do it in as few and simple words as possible. Leaders also need courage. Staying on mission takes courage. Making tough decisions no one will understand at the time takes courage.

Doing what is right, every time, when those around you are trying to find an easy way out takes courage. Living your values on a moment-to-moment basis takes courage. Not allowing anyone or anything to change who you are even in those pressure moments takes courage. Lastly, when it comes to leadership of any kind, consistency is a vital component of success. People are drawn to consistency, but it takes time to demonstrate real and effective consistency in leadership.

Peter had to learn the three C's the hard way (see Luke 22). Some might say Peter was the brash disciple; he rushed in with answers and jumped out of a boat. Peter made big statements. He pledged with great boldness that he was ready to go anywhere with his friend and mentor, Jesus, even to death. But in the moment depicted in Luke 22, Peter denied not once, **but three times that he even knew Jesus**.

Thankfully, Peter's lack in one moment did not dictate his future. Peter needed to learn how to be a leader, and soon realized the need for the three C's. Staying on mission takes a calm, consistent courage. Making tough decisions no one will understand, doing what is right, every time, when those around you are trying to find an easy way out. Living your values on a moment-to-moment basis and not allowing anyone or anything to change who you are even in those pressure moments.

Peter redeemed himself in the book of Acts as he stood and courageously proclaimed the message of Jesus. In this moment, Peter (the same Peter who denied Jesus to a servant girl) is speaking to thousands of the religious power group and he blatantly accuses them of killing Jesus. He reminds them that, "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12). Very risky and courageous words to say to this group! They were stunned by his boldness' and calm in face of calamity and constant display of courage. What follows next in the story is amazing, too. After being beaten and threatened several times, Peter and John return to their home team. They reported everything that had happened, and they directed the people's attention to what God had done, because it was not about them. One leader, transformed by God and filled with the three C's, created a new culture of unity, love and generosity.



One cowardly moment doesn't dictate our future. Whether you are on mission in a bank, an auto repair shop, a school, an investment company, or a church, you have the opportunity every day to lead with the three C's. You can choose to make decisions personally and corporately that will be in alignment with your faith and values or not. The three C's come through a God-centered perspective and focus. When you live a calm, courageous and consistent life, all those around you will recognize God's transformation in you and be drawn to the One who will transform them and their culture.

Small Group Discussion: 20 minutes

- •What would cause YOU to fold in the midst of trouble? Some say Peter had a lack of faith, but I don't think he lost his faith; he lost his calm courage and chose NOT to be consistent!
- •Have you ever had a really bad moment like Peter? A moment when you let yourself down and others who depended on you? A moment when you were not your best self? A moment that would embarrass you if others knew? Be honest and real and discuss how you may have blown it in the past.
- •Discuss what you can learn from Peter's story?
 - 1. One cowardly moment doesn't dictate our future.
 - 2. Moments when we are not our best selves can be redeemed by love.
 - 3. Knowledge comes through personal experience.
 - 4. Risks are not so much a risk when you know whose you are and who you are.
 - 5. Hanging out with Jesus empowers you with God-given calm, courage consistency to accomplish His purposes
 - 6. Leaders who live out the three C's will impact their families, organizations and all those in their spheres of influence.

Small Group Wrap-Up: 10 minutes

•What were the biggest take-aways and action items from your small group time?

Discuss This Week's Homework: 5 minutes



Read <u>Luke 22:54-62</u>

Journal about your consistency in following Jesus.

L=Listen in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal.
I = Investigate the context around today's Scripture reading. To whom was this written? Why? How does this passage fit with what comes before and after it? What is the Holy Spirit communicating throug this text? Feel free to use Bible study tools for commentary: Bible Study Tools, or Easy English Bible.
F=Focus to the text to make it applicable for your own life. What is God saying to you personally through this passage? How can you apply what you've read?
E = Engage God. This can either be a short prayer or an action that you can take that day after reading the text. Is there a command to follow in the text? How are you different because of what you've learned?



Read <u>Philippians 4:1-9</u>

Journal about worry and how that might effect your leadership. Can YOU choose to be more calm?

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Read <u>Joshua 1</u>

As you read about Joshua, journal about ways you can step up and be more courageous.

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Read Galatians 6

Journal about how you can become more consistent in your leadership and modeling of Christ.

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