

Clarifying your Philosophy of MINISTRY

MINISTRY LIFT OCT 2014

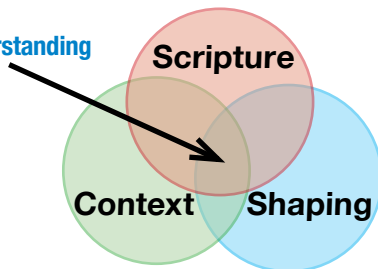


- **A starting definition**
- **God develops leaders over a lifetime**

A dynamic framework of implicit or explicit ideas, values, and principles that govern a leader's decision-making, evaluation, and approach to ministry.
- J. Robert Clinton



- **Dynamic - best understanding to date**



- **Scripture**

THE STEWARDSHIP PARADIGM

Leaders are responsible for the effects of their leadership and will ultimately give account to God for it.

KEY INSIGHTS

- Ministry assignments, tasks, and challenges ultimately come from God.
- God holds a leader accountable for leadership influence and for growth and conduct of followers.
- There will be an ultimate accounting of a leader to God in eternity for one's performance in leadership.

EXAMPLE PASSAGE

- Matthew 25:1-30

THE SERVANT LEADER MODEL

Christian leaders are called to lead by serving and to serve by leading.

KEY INSIGHTS

- Ministry leadership is exercised primarily as service, first of all to God and secondarily as service to God's people.
- Service will require sacrifice on the leader's part.
- Modeling is the main form of exercising influence.
- Abuse of authority, in order to demonstrate one's importance, is incompatible with servant leadership.

EXAMPLE PASSAGE

- John 13:1-20

THE SHEPHERD MODEL

Shepherd leaders see as their major emphasis to know, lead, feed, and protect the sheep.

KEY INSIGHTS

- Strong desire to see transformation in each person.
- Shepherd leaders value each follower as important to the whole body and want to keep them incorporated in the body.
- Shepherd leaders value a personal relationship with followers

EXAMPLE PASSAGE

- John 10:1-18

THE HARVEST MODEL

Harvest leaders see as their major emphasis the expansion of the Kingdom.

KEY INSIGHTS

- Strong concern for those outside the Kingdom and desire to give them a chance to hear and a choice to enter the Kingdom.
- Passion to motivate Christ-followers to take the Kingdom message to others.
- Believe God will accomplish His expansion work and hence are not afraid of small beginnings

EXAMPLE PASSAGE

- Matthew 28:18-20

Analogies of a Philosophy of Ministry



Tree - Depicting fruitful and fulfilling ministry



Sewing Pattern - Weaving together divine and human threads



Skeleton - Providing structure, which underlies how we do ministry



Trellis - Providing support and delivery structure for ministry



Recipe - Providing practical instructions and guidelines



Road Map - Providing focus to ministry



Play Book - Providing practical instructions and guidelines

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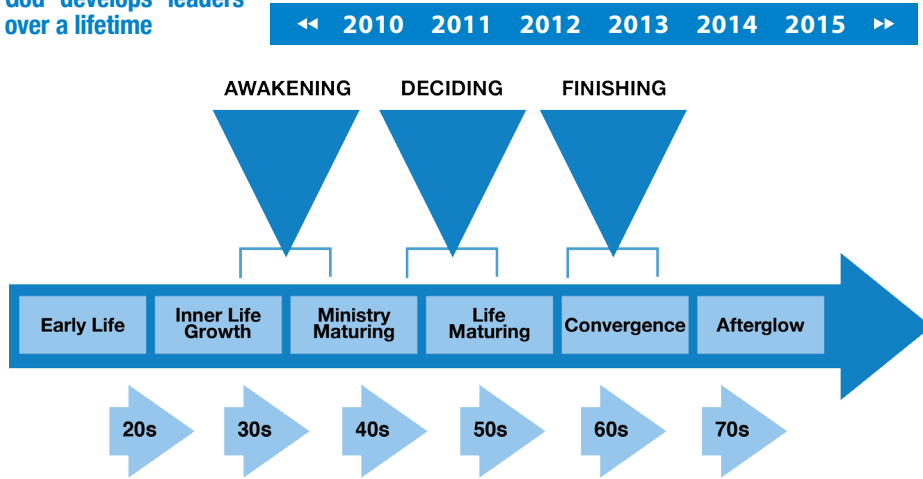
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● **A starting definition**

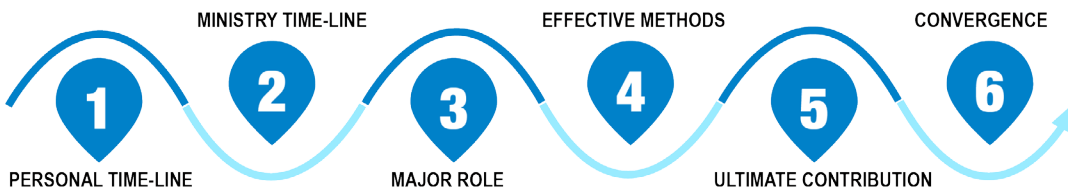
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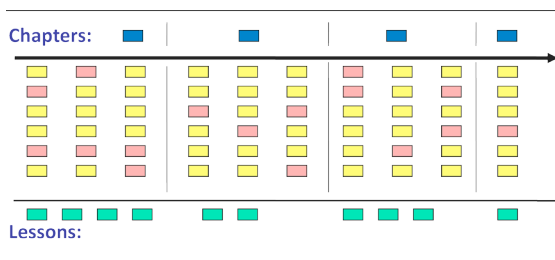


● **God's Shaping Process**

God uniquely wires us and uses people, events, and circumstances in shaping us.

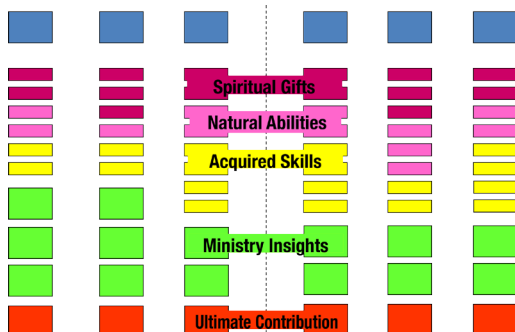


● **Personal Time-Line**



- KEY INSIGHTS**
- Biblical Purpose
 - Values
 - Vision

● **Ministry Time-Line**



- KEY INSIGHTS**
- Turning Points
 - Entrustments
 - Giftedness set
 - Major Role
 - Preferred Methods
 - Ultimate Contribution
 - Ministry Structure Insights

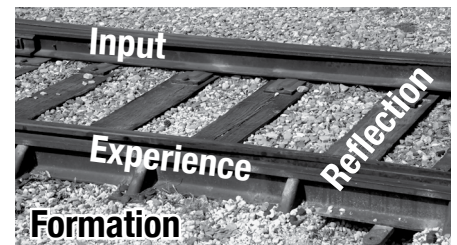
Developing a Philosophy of Ministry

- Examine process items
- Review turning points
- Distill lessons and entrustments
- Clarify Values - underlying assumption or conviction expressed as "may be" or "ought" or "should" or "must"
- Identify principles and paradigms
- Articulate major role
- Describe preferred methods
- Identify ultimate contribution
- Clarify ministry structure insights

Experience and Reflection
Move from implicit to explicit



Fred Holland's
Two-Track Formation



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