

Intro to Spiritual Leadership- CPC Southern Connecticut Seminar
Life on Life

I. How does God bring his influence into peoples lives?

God intends to use people as his delivery system of redemption. Life on Life

“God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things in the lives of others”

Spiritual Leadership, Oswald Sanders

- **At the most basic level, what was Adam and Eve’s sin? What broke the world?**
- **How did God rescue the world? Who did he send? so how is he going to rescue sinners today?**

Tripp- “God transforms peoples lives as people bring his word to others.”

Powerful truth wrapped in self-sacrificial love is what God uses to transform people.”

Life on Life- not curriculum on life.

Luther: “Now this is the fruit, that even as we have eaten and drunk the body and blood of Christ the Lord, we in turn permit ourselves to be eaten and drunk, and say the same words to our neighbor, Take, eat and drink; and this by no means in jest, but in all seriousness, meaning to offer yourself with all your life, even as Christ did with all that he had, in the sacramental words.”

Why is this scary? Why is it so like God to change people this way?

Tripp: “In personal ministry, I want to bring more than a heart of compassion, a willingness to listen, and a commitment to help bear someone’s burden...I want to bring the heart-changing truths of Scripture to people in the midst of their situations and relationships.”

Testimonies of life on life-

II. Why isn’t it working?

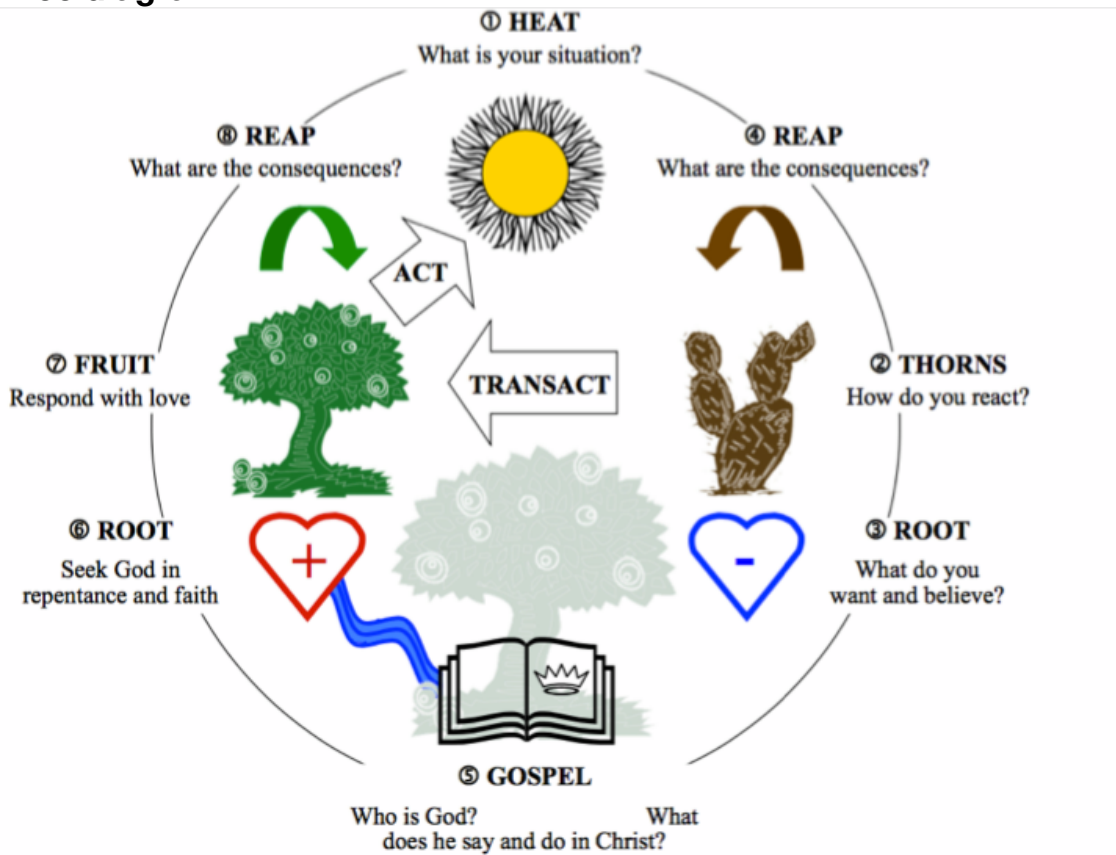
But I listen to sermons, my kids, my friends, my fellow church members are hearing the word all the time- but they don’t seem to be changing? **Why aren’t they changing?**

The word in the heart.

- Luke 6:43-45- know a tree by its fruit. “an organic relationship b/w the root of a plant and the fruit it produces.”
- “We must humbly admit that relationships and circumstances are only the occasion in which our hearts reveal themselves.” So many of our attempts to change behavior ignore the heart
- the body always goes where the heart leads. The moment you remove the outside pressure- the behavior reverts back.
- Fruit stapling.

Leading from the balcony- Getting off the dance floor to get on the balcony- what is really going on here. Helping someone see the whole field- watching film.

Two Tree diagram.



Jeremiah 15: 5-15

- What then is maturity? What is our goal as spiritual leaders? Faster recovery. Quicker Repentance. Leading in repentance- Chief Repenter, First to bow. The fight for first apology

Workshop: So how do we help someone believe the word of God at the heart so they might turn and be saved from their sin?

Role Play- Siblings who keep bickering, punches the other-

Volunteer? An actual situation in your life-

At tables- pick a scenario-

a father who is always getting angry with his children

a coworker/roommate who is experiencing intense anxiety because money is so tight

A family member who is stilling at home, unwilling to help around the house, wont get a job, doesn't want to do anything.

In the context of discipleship or even counseling a particular issue, it is helpful to have a few good “go-to” questions that will help you get to heart matters. David Powlison’s article “X-Ray Questions” walks through 35 such questions. Here are some good examples.

2. What do you desire? What desires do you obey?
4. Where do you bank your hopes?
5. What do you fear? What do you tend to worry about?
7. What do you think you need?
10. Where do you find refuge, safety, comfort, escape, pleasure, security? 13. Whose opinion of you counts?
15. On your deathbed, what would sum up your life as worthwhile?
16. How do you define success?
21. What do you see as your rights?
24. What do you pray for?
28. What are your characteristic fantasies, either pleasurable or fearful? 32. How do you live as a slave to the devil?
33. How do you implicitly say, “If only...”?

Training language: Model it before them; Do it with them; Show them how; Tell them why; Keep em going

Possible resources

Training language- for life on life

Faith Acronym

Two tree diagram

Evaluating your spiritual leadership quotient

Getting to the Heart: Introduction to Lay Counseling and Discipleship

The "S" Cycle

Keller- Getting to the heart of idolatry evaluation

Sanctification from the Balcony

Biblical Decision Making

Shepherding the Tempted

Reconciliation

Shepherding the Afflicted

Shepherding the Accused

Family Systems Counseling

Great Questions in Counseling Contexts

Life on Life Discipleship