

# ***The Path to Understanding Your Purpose***



***The Pathway to Connecting to Calvary Christian Center***

**2011 STUDENT Edition**

# The **PATH** to **UNDERSTANDING** **YOUR PURPOSE**

\* The Pathway to Connecting to Calvary Christian Center \*

## **Prerequisites for Path:**

- Completion of The Path to Involvement (Path 2)
- Attended an Encounter
- Membership in G12 Life Group

## **Required Materials:**

- Bible
- Notepad or Student Outline
- Writing utensil

## **Homework:**

- Students are required to complete all questions at the end of each class. The homework will not be collected. Pathway Instructors will document completion of the homework on the student's Student Pathway Tracker (located in CCC's Pathway Binder).
- Students are required to complete the entire Path to Understanding Your Purpose homework before they can graduate.

## **Procedures:**

- Students must arrive within 15 minutes of the start of class and must remain in attendance during the entire length of the class; otherwise they will not receive credit for the class and it will need to be retaken.
- If a student misses a class, a Pathway Instructor can setup a make-up class outside of the regularly scheduled Pathway classes. Students can continue attending the Pathway classes even if they miss a class.
- After completing the course: The Path to Understanding Your Purpose (attended all classes and finished all coursework), and opening their Life Group, students are eligible to graduate from The Path to Understanding Your Purpose. All students will receive a certificate and a silver pin at graduation.
- Graduation is tentatively scheduled every 8 weeks at Calvary Christian Center's Main Campus [2667 Del Paso Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95815] during Sunday's 6:30pm service. Please arrive promptly at the North campus at 6:00pm. We will be meeting to discuss the details of the graduation ceremony.

**Questions, Comments & Concerns:** Please contact any Pathway Instructor or Pathway Staff

**Student Pathway Tracker:** Fill in the following blanks with the date you completed each class.

_____ Class 1: The Call of Leadership	_____ Class 5: Consolidation (Rededication/Holy Spirit)
_____ Class 2: The Price & Dangers in Leadership	_____ Class 6: Consolidation (New Member/Follow-up)
_____ Class 3: The Two Fold Working of the Holy Spirit	_____ Class 7: Consolidation (Mock Sessions)
_____ Class 4: Intro to Consolidation/Salvation	_____ Class 8: Customer Service

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# Class 1: The Call of Leadership

**Objective:** All students must understand the concept of leadership, its characteristics and its importance in ministry. All students also must understand the importance of the calling of God for their lives.

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**Biblical Foundational Reference:** Jeremiah 1:5

When people asked the great Master Michelangelo about his masterpiece “David,” he said: “The image was always there, the only thing I did was remove some debris to discover it.”

## I. What is Leadership?

- A. Leadership is the act or capacity to lead and guide, especially by going in advance
- B. Leadership covers 3 essential aspects: 1) Molding a person’s character; 2) discovering their talents, and 3) recognizing their worth.
- C. First and foremost leadership must be formed at the foot of the cross. It’s at the cross, where men and women set aside their sin, pride, arrogance, selfishness, greed, etc.

## II. Characteristics of Leaders

- A. Leadership depends upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In reality the Holy Spirit is the leader and we are simply the vessels He flows through (**Acts 17:28**). Apart from the Holy Spirit we are blind leaders leading the blind (**Matt 15:14**)
- B. Integrity must be the foundation of leadership. In Proverbs 20:7, it says just men and women walk in integrity. Integrity preserves and guides a leader (**Ps 25:21, Prov. 11:3**). Our integrity depends upon the balance of our lives (**Job 31:6**).
- C. In **1 Peter 1:15** and Deuteronomy **18:13**, it tells us as leaders, we must be blameless before the Lord.
- D. In **Matthew 8:7-10**, the centurion had the revelation knowledge of authority. He was a man in authority (in leadership), yet he still humbled himself under authority (Jesus). We must always remain accountable to a man or woman of God. As leaders,

we cannot allow pride to seep into our hearts. In **Psalm 51:17**, we learn to keep a broken & contrite heart before God. Loose all haughtiness from your mind and heart.

- E. **Matthew 5:13** Leaders set the example of being witnesses for the Kingdom of God. They lead others to Christ. If we lose our zeal, passion, and fire to build the Kingdom of God through soul winning; we will not be effective leaders.
- F. Leaders know how to endure times of testing, trials and temptations. They are not tossed back and forth but they stand firm on the Word of God (**James 1:2-3**). Leaders persevere with joy.
- G. Read more about the characteristics of a Leadership in chapters: **1 Timothy 3** and **Titus 2**.

### III. Responsibilities of a Leader

#### A. Encouraging others:

- I. People are most motivated when they know where they are going, when they can see progress in their ministry and when they can clearly see a way to accomplish their goals.
- II. Jesus' leadership had constant motivation; He never ceased to encourage them so that they could fulfill the desire of their hearts by means of having a good will, a correct attitude, and diligence.
- III. Jesus was able to give such consistent encouragement because He had consistent contact with them, showing Himself as a living example
- IV. Leaders should not be jealous or distrustful of their disciples' success. The goal of the leader is to help their disciples develop into their maximum potential
- V. Influence is the ability to have followers. Nobody can say that he is a leader unless he has someone following him. In other words, "the one who thinks he is leading and has nobody following him is merely going for a walk." Show

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others the way to righteousness by allowing them to follow you as you follow Christ (1 Corinthians 11:1).

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**B. Nurturing personal development**

- I. True leadership contributes to the personal development of those that follow the leader.
- II. In **2 Timothy 2:15**, Paul said to Timothy, do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth
- III. A true leader desires a positive change in the personal lives of those who are under him. A firm leader cares for their follower’s interest and for the improvement of their lifestyles.

**C. Forging courageous people:**

- I. Effective leadership is made up of valiant people, those who have overcome fears, insecurity, complexes of any kind, and the like. It will take these valiant leaders the courage to forge like-minded disciples.
- II. David is a clear example of a leader who was shaped by small events who then became a brave man in God’s hands; and in turn developed valiant men like him (1 Samuel 17:45-46; 1 Samuel 22:2).

**IV. The Ideal Purpose of Leadership**

**A. TO SPREAD THE VISION!**

- I. The most powerful way to spread the vision is through life groups and G12 life groups. It is the leader’s duty to pass the vision down to everyone on his team, making sure to relay it clearly so that they too may do the same for those they are leading.
- II. Through the Ladder of Success the vision flourishes and the Kingdom of God gets built. New believers get saved (WIN); then they are CONSOLIDATED into the Life

Groups and *the Path to Belonging*; from there they are DISCIPLINED, graduating from a Life Group into a G12 Life Group; and once they are equipped they are SENT!

- B. Having your own team of 12—**1 Kings 4:7, Numbers 27:20, Deuteronomy 1:13**.
- C. Having a pastor’s heart—**Psalm 78:72**
- D. Being an example to others—**Psalm 45:7**
- E. Being able to teach your family—**Isaiah 59:21**
- F. Having a correct self image—**2 Corinthians 11:5-6**
- G. Living in the Word—**Joshua 1:8**
- H. Being teachable towards God—**Psalm 32:8**

#### V. **What is the Calling of Leadership, Purpose & Destiny?**

- A. Jesus worked skillfully, shaping the character of 12 people who were completely different from each other. He invested most of his ministerial life in these men, and then He sent them on to continue with the redeeming mission He had begun. How could Jesus have taken 12 people without any culture, education, riches or social position, encourage and develop them so, that they ultimately became the pillars of Christianity? The answer is simple. These people responded to the calling of God and were willing to be molded by Him, so that they would be sent out.
- B. If you train 12 people and succeed in reproducing in them the character of Christ that is already in you, and if everyone of them does the same with another 12 and if they do the same with yet another 12, getting them to have the same conviction, YOU and the body of Christ will experience an unprecedented growth.

#### VI. **Recognize the Calling**

- A. Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit is one of the conditions that are essential in order to hear God’s calling and understand it.
  - I. **Ephesians 4:7**—when we are sensitive to the Holy Spirit, the gifts begin to be effective in our lives.
  - II. **Ephesians 4:11-12**—These five ministries are

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the extension of the character of Christ in us

**B. Acknowledging Gods call involves the following:**

- I. **Conviction**—You must be absolutely certain that God has called you into ministry, coupled with the correct motivation **Eph 1:4, 18; 1 Tim 1:11, 18**
- II. **Commitment**—the fact is God chose you from among the millions of humans dwelling here on planet earth. **Isaiah 6:8**—Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? Commitment is displayed by your **Brokenness**—**John 12:24** Brokenness, complete surrender, the self-denial and laying down your life for the cause.
- III. **Anointing**—this is when you experience the presence of God in your life continuously. It is reflected in the way you speak, in what you teach, in what you pray, in what you understand and in the people you lead. **(Isaiah 61:1-3)**
- IV. **Submission**—**Romans 13:1-2**—those who are in spiritual authority must understand that our authority over others is not an imposition but a posture of managing others as we present ourselves as examples in everything.
- V. **Fruitfulness**—One of the great advantages this vision has is that everybody can develop all the potential he or she has inside; and it is reflected in their fruitfulness. **(Luke 17:10).**

**Conclusion:** The Lord has assigned a mission to you. “I looked for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it. I found none” **Ezekiel 22:30.** Be faithful to God’s calling, He has His eyes fixed on you. God assigns us specific tasks in His work. Leadership is in line with God’s purpose for every believer. In leadership, a good leader will have a positive influence on his followers

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without fail. He will help them to develop a new mindset that will lead them to change their entire lifestyle. A good leader should not become tired of monitoring the development of his followers. . The accomplishment of the call depends on the fulfillment of the requirements established in the Scriptures, such as the ones stated in **Exodus 18:21**.

**Homework:**

1. What is leadership?

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2. What are the characteristics of a successful leader?

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3. What does acknowledging God’s call involve?

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## Class 2: The Price and Dangers of Leadership

**Objective:** Students will be able to define what it is to pay the price of leadership and to explain the biblical foundation of each danger in leadership

**Biblical Foundational Reference:** “Jesus replied, “No one who puts his hands to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God”... **Luke 9:62**

When Moses came down from the mount where he had experienced God’s glory, he found the people unbridled and surrendered to idolatry—this broke Moses’ heart. Every leader has to face difficult situations, which cause him/her to think he/she is mistaken. He/she might be tempted to renounce the ministry; however, there is still a fire that burns in his heart that motivates him/her to continue **Exodus 33:12-23**.

**I. PREPARED TO WITHSTAND:** Things will come along the way that we as leaders will have to withstand all the while avoiding any damage in others people’s lives. This displays maturity in our walk with Christ.

**Leaders may face the following situations:**

- A. Criticism**—there are 2 things that deeply affect the servants of God: to see despise and listen to criticism.
  - I. Jeremiah 20:11** Jeremiah opposed criticism through faith: “But the Lord is with me like a mighty warrior”
  - II. Acts 6:1-2** Criticism did not make the apostles change their priorities
  - III. Nehemiah 4:1-4,9** Nehemiah would continue his work for the Lord regardless if others saw its value or criticized the product of his work. Nehemiah would lift them up to God every time they criticized.
  
- B. Weariness**
  - I. Exodus 18:18** The work of the leader is intense and may cause weariness, especially when the leader does not consider how important it is to delegate.

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- II. **Matthew 11:28** When we find that there is an increase in activities, we can avoid tension by laying at his feet. It's those that wait upon the Lord that have their strength renewed **Isaiah 40:31**.

**C. Time**

- I. Jesus was anonymous for 31 years, but in God's timing He began His ministry and turned the world upside down in 3.5 years.
- II. **Psalm 31:15** Our time is redeemed in the presence of God and that's why we work more effectively.
- III. Let us surrender our lives and ministries to the Lord and He will help us redeem the time.

**D. Loneliness** –There are times when the spirit of loneliness tries to bring discouragement or depression upon leaders. Yes, there are times when leaders will be alone, but these are times to draw closer to God in prayer and to stand boldly for righteousness.

- I. **Mark 14: 37-40** Jesus often withdrew Himself to pray but here He wanted Peter, James and John to pray with him and they continued to fall asleep. Jesus didn't let it stop Him from praying. He didn't allow the spirit of loneliness distract Him from His purpose.
- II. **1 Kings 19:10** Elijah felt so lonely at one time; he thought he was the only one left serving God. There may be a time where you will have to stand up for righteousness alone in the natural, but all of heaven is with you and God has gathered a remnant for Himself.

**E. Decisions**

- I. Every leader must make decisions. You'll find the most favorable outcomes when decisions are made as a result of prayer.
- II. **2 Corinthians 2:1** Paul made a decision to be joyful when visiting the believers in Corinth and to always life up their spirits with his words

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- II. The enemy is very aware of the leader who has been chosen to use the gospel of Christ to positively influence those who are lost until they are transformed and are rescued from the grip of the enemy.
- III. Dangers in leadership arise and overwhelm us when we stop depending on God and start trusting in ourselves or in our own achievements.

**C. Paul reminds us:**

- I. **Fighting the battle of faith**—there are days when we feel that our level of faith is the highest in the world, but then we feel that faith has faded away leaving us feeling empty again. Our victory depends on our relationship with God and us standing on the word of God.
- II. **Taking Hold**—you must take hold of the eternal life that the Lord has already given to you. Don’t risk your salvation by flirting with sin.

**IV. SOME DANGERS WE MUST BE PREPARED TO FACE**

- A. PRIDE (Romans 12:3)**
  - Antidote: Think of yourself with sober judgment
- B. MURMURING (James 4:11-12)**
  - Antidote: Know that you are not a judge, because in the same way you judge, you will be judged
- C. REBELLION (1 Samuel 15:23)**
  - Antidote: Absolute obedience to the Word of God
- D. FALSE REVELATION (1 Timothy 4:1-5)**
  - Antidote The Word of God and prayer sanctify everything
- E. DISCOURAGEMENT (Deuteronomy 20:3-4)**—it causes our heart to faint, it causes fear to come, it causes confusion to enter, and discouragement to take over

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- Antidote: God is with us, He fights for us, and He saves us

**F. NEGLIGENCE (Proverbs 10:4-5)**

- Antidote: be diligent and understand that we are living in times of great spiritual harvest. If we believe it and act, God will enrich our ministries

**G. ENVY (Prov 14:30)**

- Antidote:
  - Excellence in everything—because when you arrive at it, frustration disappears.
  - Enjoy others people’s success, as if it was yours—this will renew your spirit

**H. COVETOUSNESS (Colossians 3:5)** Covetousness causes God to be enraged, you to be hurt, God to hide His face from you, and God to become indignant about you

- Antidote: True repentance. Let go of our own ways in order to walk in His path, and allow Him to heal the wounds from your past.

**I. FEAR (Proverbs 29:25)** Fear is the result of a wounded heart; it paralyzes man in every decision he has to make.

- Antidote: (1Timothy 1:7) We have to reject fear in all its manifestations because its mission is to steal, kill, and destroy you.

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**Conclusion:** When you know the rules of justice and the warnings of danger, you know that by simply obeying, you will be protected from evil. It’s written in **Psalms 91:10-12** “*Then no harm will befall you; no disaster will come near your tent. For He will command His angels to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.*” We have been born to lead and to positively influence others. No matter the price we have to pay, the effort we have to make, or the battles we have to fight, we know that God has called us to His service therefore we will lean completely on Him to keep our souls from anguish. Whom God has called, He has equipped!

**Homework:**

1. What should we be prepared to withstand?

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2. What does Paul share with Timothy (and us) concerning warfare?

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3. What dangers should we be prepared to fight against?

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# CLASS 3: The Two-Fold Working of the Holy Spirit

**Objective:** Students will be able to distinguish between the Holy Spirit within verses the Holy Spirit upon.

**Biblical Foundational Reference:** Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Corinthians 12:7-10

**There is a two-fold working of the Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit within us (the fruit of the spirit) and the Holy Spirit upon us (gifts of the Spirit).

**I. THE HOLY SPIRIT WITHIN US** is for character of the believer--Galatians 5:22-23

## A. LOVE

I. Two Types of Love

a) *Filia/Phileo*--love between friends

b) *Agape*--pure and enduring love (**John 15:12-13**). *Agape* love comes from the believer when the Word has been deposited in the heart and has taken the believer to a new birth.

II. **John 13:34-35** Love is a command

III. **Romans 13:9-10** Love fulfills the law

**B. JOY**- is what man desires and what he seeks. Only when man reunites with God, will he retain joy according to his growth in the knowledge of God"...New illustrated Bible dictionary.

I. **Romans 14:17** True joy is found when a repented man turns his eyes and heart to God

II. **Habakkuk 3:17-18** Joy is what allows every believer to stay strong in the midst of pressure

**C. PEACE**-defined as absence of conflict.

I. **Colossians 1:19-20, Romans 5:1** We have peace through the blood of Jesus

II. **Isaiah 9:7** God's peace is unending

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- III. Isaiah 48:18** When we listen and obey God’s commandments, peace flows in our lives like a river
- IV. Phil 4:7** God’s peace passes all understanding; it guards our hearts and minds.
- V. John 14:27** The peace God is not the same kind of peace the world gives (temporary and undisturbed).

**D. PATIENCE-** is considered a virtue. Its definition is the command to voluntarily suffer through adversity. The development of patience is that human virtue emanating from God through the Holy Spirit. It contributes to the strengthening of character.

- I. Romans 5:3-4** Our trials work and develop our patience.
- II. 1 Peter 2:20-23** God is pleased when we endure trials patiently

**E. KINDNESS-** is associated with benevolence, compassion, mercy and godliness. This fruit of the Spirit consists of treating others as we would like to be treated by them

- I. Luke 6:27-31** shows us manifestations of the fruit of kindness: love our enemies, do good to those who despise us, bless those who curse us, pray for those who slander, be willing to be tolerant (offer the other cheek), and give to them what they want to take from us.

**F. GOODNESS-**Although there is a relationship between goodness and kindness, the first makes reference to the way in which we should live because it gives testimony of the existence of God.

- I. Mark 10:17-18** No one is good but God; therefore without God it’s impossible to be a “good person” but with Him we can exhibit His goodness toward others.

**G. FAITH** speaks things into existence even though they cannot be seen (birthing things from the realm of the supernatural until they manifest in the natural).

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**Conclusion:** To receive the gifts, the fruit of the Spirit needs to control our lives. All of us can operate in the 9-fold fruit of the Spirit every day. The gifts of the Spirit are only as God wills, but speaking in tongues is the doorway to the supernatural.

**Homework:**

- 1. What are the fruits of the Spirit? Give scriptural references?

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- 2. What are the gifts of the Spirit that are gifts of utterance and inspiration?

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- 3. What are the gifts of the Spirit that are gifts of revelation?

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- 4. What are the gifts of the Spirit that are gifts of power?

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**Mock Session:**

- Recruit volunteers or appoint students to do a demonstration of what they have learned in front of the class.
- Set two chairs in the front of the room and have them minister Salvation/Assurance of Salvation and/or Rededication. According to the time that is left in the class will determine which ministry types can be demonstrated.
- Students and instructor should critique the demonstration and offer positive, constructive feedback.

**Homework:**

1. What is Consolidation?

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2. Please give an example from the Bible that supports the concept of consolidation.

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3. What are the objectives of consolidation? Give examples of each.

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4. List the ministry types that every consolidator should be prepared to minister when they go to the consolidation room with an altar call responder?

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5. What are the three (3) components of the “confessional” scriptures that are used to minister Salvation/Assurance of Salvation?

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class will determine which ministry types can be demonstrated.

- Students and instructor should critique the demonstration and offer positive, constructive feedback.

**Homework:**

1. Attend one observation session in the Consolidation room before the next class. Inform the Senior Consolidator who is overseeing the room that you are there to observe so they can pair you up with a well-trained Consolidator.

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2. List the prerequisite for receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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3. When assisting responders with receiving the evidence of the infilling of the Holy Spirit (speaking in tongues), as the consolidator, what should you NOT do? Please explain why.

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God the opportunity to do what He wants to do; meet the needs by the power of the Spirit. God wants to use you at CCC!

- C. **... to bind up the brokenhearted.** People come to CCC with all kinds of wounds, but God has given you the anointing to bind up those hearts. (**Isaiah 61:1-3**)
- D. **... to reconcile.** You are anointed to reunite God's children back to Him or back into the church (body). Those that are planted in the house of God flourish-**Ps 92:13**. Just as God has reconciled you, reconcile others (**2 Cor 5:18**)!

**Conclusion:** Souls are so important to God; He gave His only son to win the lost. Souls are our attendees, those whom we labor amongst and even those we serve under or over. We value souls within our church by offering the best customer service. Our actions should always be leading people toward Christ and the Church. Appreciate those that labor with you, over you or under you. We want our brothers and sisters to remain in the church and not allow offense to push them away. Their soul is more important than any duty or responsibility; value their relationship and edify them continually. Show forth sensitivity, kindness and love.

**Homework:**

- 1. Why is customer service important in the Body of Christ?

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- 2. How do we give the best customer service?

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- 3. What are you anointed to do?

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