

THE HEART OF A LEADER: IN CRISIS

Interactive Workshop



WELLSPRING
GROUP

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The Heart of the Leader: in Crisis

External crisis - around you

Internal crisis - within you – in your heart

Biblical model of the heart

- Desires
- Feels
- Thinks
- Chooses

Your heart determines how you will respond to the external crisis

We see this in David's crisis at Ziklag (I Samuel 30)

David faced an external crisis and an internal crisis. In David we see three critical heart skills that empower him to be an effective shepherd leader.

Connecting with his own heart

Connecting to God's heart

Connecting to the hearts of his people

the External Crisis:

Internal Crisis:

David connects with his own heart

David connects to God's heart

David Connects with the hearts of his men

These three critical heart skills determine whether you will win the internal battle that directly affects how you engage the external battle.

What's at stake in you living and leading out of these three heart skills?

Revealing God's heart to your domain – sphere of influence

Giving your people an opportunity to experience authentic human connection – to be seen, heard, valued

Developing the relational and leadership capital to lead your people into the difficult decisions that you and they have to make now and in the coming months and years

Coming through as a human being and a shepherd leader

REFLECTION

Take several minutes to write out your responses to the following questions. Seek to be gut level honest.

1. In your current leadership domain what are your primary challenges right now?

A. **Externally** | What is happening around you?

B. **Internally** | What is happening inside you at a visceral – gut level?

2. What do you perceive are the primary internal challenges of the people in your leadership domain?

3. As you reflect on this, what happens in you as a human being and a shepherd leader?

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION: Share with your group what was most significant for you from this reflection.

Crisis is disruptive producing high degrees of vulnerability.

³⁶ When he (Jesus) saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." (Matt. 9:36-38)

Vulnerability produces a feeling of being exposed, naked, helpless, out of control – what has been working is not working, there is a fear of harm

In this place of vulnerability, you and your people have two primary options

Avoid vulnerability and return to familiar patterns of coping, safety, comfort – though they may be broken cisterns

Own your vulnerability and embrace change – possibly radical change potentially leading to fullness of life

To embrace change requires trust – that regardless of what it may look like right now God's heart is good toward you – he will bring you through

Your people often struggle believing that at a visceral level

So God sends you to them as a shepherd – a trustworthy guide leading them to good pasture – ultimately to see Christ the Good Shepherd

How do you build trust?

Through vulnerably connecting to the hearts of your people as you cover their vulnerability –

Give them space to identify what they are experiencing

Identify with them as human beings – just like Jesus

Affirm them in their vulnerability

Share from your own life - show them the way

How you are connecting with your own heart - what you are grappling with

As appropriate how you are connecting to the heart of God in your vulnerability

As you cover their vulnerability you are becoming a safe, trusted shepherd giving them the opportunity to risk change and effectively move through the valley of the shadow of death to good pasture

APPLICATION

Observe these three heart skills worked out in the lives of two leaders.

As each leader shares, make notes on what most strikes you. What is God stirring in your heart? *We will give you a few moments after each leader shares to make some notes.*

Leader #1:

Leader #2:

REFLECTION

1. What was most significant to you in these testimonies?

2. Look back at your responses to the first reflection.

In light of what you have just experienced, how might this affect the way you:

a. Connect with your own heart?

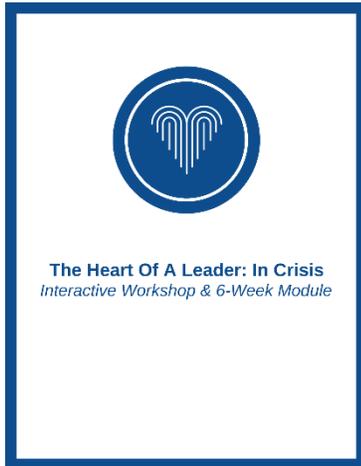
b. Connect with God's heart?

c. Connect with the hearts of your people?

3. As you consider the three heart skills of effective leadership (from the question above) , what is one action item you would like to take coming out of this workshop?

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION: Share with your group what was most significant to you from this reflection.

Six Week Follow Through Experience



After the workshop you will receive a 6-week equipping resource to assist you and your small group in grappling with the concepts discussed in the workshop while applying them to your life and leadership.

Through teaching videos and testimonies, connecting with the heart of God through Scripture, examining your own heart, and then sharing in your team you will:

- Connect to God's heart and purpose for you as a person and leader
- Grapple with your own internal struggles that are being stirred by these unprecedented events in our world
- Discover the heart and skills to effectively relate to the vulnerability of your people
- Build relational and leadership capital that will allow you to lead your team through uncertain territory

WRAP UP

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION:

- Share just a few words on how you experienced this workshop (E.g. stimulating, challenging, boring, convicting, inspiring).
- Discuss plans for your next meeting.
- Pray.
- We will be here for questions if you'd like to come back into the large room.
- As you leave remember to “above all else guard your heart for it is the wellspring of life.” Prov. 4:23
- Take a few minutes to fill out the [feedback survey](#)



For more information on workshops, retreats and resources visit our website:



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