

Foundational Principles

Lesson 1-1: Getting to Know Each Other

Discussion Guide

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

Welcome and Introductions

- Share a little about yourselves:
 - Your education and background;
 - Your family;
 - Your job and responsibilities; and
 - What do you hope to gain from participating in this series?
- Share two things about you that are true and one that is false. Everyone take a guess on which is false.

Purpose of 210Leaders

- 210Leaders is based on Ephesians 2:10, "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." You are His "masterpiece." Our desire is to help you fully understand this and how you can apply this at home, at work and in your community.
- 210Leaders seeks to:
 - Help you grow yourself. You will not grow unless you spend time learning. Learning is the energy required for growing.
 - Help you build your business. The best organizations operate according to Biblical principles, whether they understand it or not. There is trust, integrity, honor, humility, investing in others, providing great service or excellent products, etc.
 - Help you lead others. There is no substitute for quality leaders in an organization. Leaders attract other leaders. If you want to really have a great company, grow your leadership to gather other leaders and wonderful customers.
- 210Leaders seeks to help participants grow, build and lead through small groups led by seasoned business leaders. Our hope to connect you with community through these groups.

Discussion:

- How do you need to grow? How can this group help you?
- What does your business do well? What aspects of your business needs to improve?
- What is one thing you would like to improve about your leadership?
- How might you recognize you are a masterpiece created for great works for Him? How might this apply to your work?
- Is it possible there could be a divine purpose for you in your work? How might you learn and experience this?

Bottom line: God created you for His glory and views you as his masterpiece. He has established a plan and a purpose for each one of our lives; not just on Sunday or at home, but also at work.

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Dig Deeper

Want to learn more?

- *Video:* [The 210Leaders Story](#) – You Are God’s Masterpiece.
- *Video:* [Every Good Endeavor](#) discussion with Katherine Leary Alsdorf
- *Book:* [Every Good Endeavor: Connecting Your Work to God’s Work](#), by Timothy Keller with Katherine Leary Alsdorf
- *Study guide:* [Study Guide for Tim Keller & Katherine Alsdorf’s Every Good Endeavor](#) by Nance Erisman, Theology of Work Project

Our work performance is a reflection of our faith.

Dorothy Sayers illustrates in her essay “Why Work?” about how our work product reflects our faith:

The Church’s approach to an intelligent carpenter is usually confined to exhorting him not to be drunk and disorderly in his leisure hours, and to come to church on Sundays. **What the Church *should* be telling him is this: that the very first demand that his religion makes upon him is that he should make good tables.**

Church by all means, and decent forms of amusement, certainly – but **what use is all that if in the very center of his life and occupation he is insulting God with bad carpentry?** No crooked table legs or ill-fitting drawers ever, I dare swear, came out of the carpenter’s shop at Nazareth.

Work was a significant aspect of Jesus’s life, as he spent an estimated twenty years working and just three years in ministry. God’s purpose for our lives is for us to be leaders in our workplaces by setting examples for others by applying his principles to our offices. 210Leaders seeks to teach you how to practically live this out and honor God in your workplace.

We were made to grow in community.

Just like God established community for himself through the trinity, we are also made to exist in community. During the COVID crisis, we came face to face with this reality. Whether you are an extravert or introvert, we all need each other. Our families need each other. Our co-workers need each other. Our friends need each other. Consistent with this theme, business leaders need the comradery and learning from other business leaders. Inherent in 210Leaders is building a network of business leaders that seek to better themselves by learning from each other.

How do you find the good works God intends for your life?

This is a very simple question everyone should ponder. We would suggest there are three things:

- Be dependent on the Father. He will guide you, but this means you need a relationship with Him, which allows two-way fellowship with Him through the Holy Spirit.
- Start where you are doing the things he would want you to do. This would be at home and at work.
- Connect with a community of believers that will give you wise counsel. You will need strong believers to help you sort through questions and challenges in your life with Biblical wisdom and truth.