PT 651 (Fall 2015) VST Studio for Strategic Leadership

Opening Litany/Recollection of Purpose

We are here to engage:
The God who calls and sustains us in ministry
The world which God loves and in which we offer service
The means through which we offer ministry
Each other as those who seek to serve faithfully, effectively & with joy
The promises and challenges of our heart, soul and spirit
The tradecraft of leadership

Session times (all gatherings in VST Room 202)

Six 3.5 hour sessions – 1:30– 5:00pm (September 28th, October 5, 19; November 2, 16, 30th

Group presentations and work

• No Leadership Situations or Virtues presentations September 28th.

Leadership Groups

• Membership assigned

• No more than 6/group (planning for 3 groups) to be reviewed mid to end of first term.

• Leadership situations must be written up on one page and submitted

Preparing a leadership issue for discussion

(Paying Attention In Our Shared Wisdom)

Format to be discussed first day of class; however, this outline (from Scott, Fierce Conversations, p. 253) provides a helpful guide:

1. Identify the issue
   - one or two sentences: a concern, challenge, opportunity, chronic problem
2. It is significant because
3. My ideal outcome
   - specifically I want _______________
4. Relevant background information
   - how, when, why, genesis of issue, key players, major forces in play
5. What I have done up to this point
   - actual actions; future options under consideration
6. The Help I want from this group is
   - solutions; confidence; affirmation; clarification; alternatives;

The process used to explore a leadership issue (Paying Attention to Contextual Immersion)

1. i) Presentation of a leadership situation or issue that provoked wonder, insecurity, doubt, hope, etc. [accompanied by a 1-page point form sheet]
2. ii) Clarifying questions by members of the studio
3. iii) Curiosity explorations by members of the studio
4. iv) Relevant next steps or resources (not advice)

Leadership Virtues

- maximum of 3/session = 15 opportunities to schedule a presentation
- presented to the home group
- Task: In 7 minutes tell the story of your engagement with a leadership virtue or characteristic. This presentation will not be an abstract discussion but will emerge out of your experience of the presence or absence of the virtue or characteristic in some situation requiring the practice of leadership.

- a one page summary to be submitted

-Format: speak for 7 minutes; 5-7 minute group fills out evaluation; 7 minute – feedback & learning for presenter

- Evaluation to include: extent to which I was engaged; relevance to my ministry – points of coherence, points of resistance

-Leadership Virtues will be listed on Moodle site (sign up sheet). You may select one of these or choose your own. However please indicate (at sign up) what virtue you are working on IF it is from the provided list.
Final Paper for Fall 2015

Options:

1. Christian leadership involves alignment between four “stories”: God’s; that of the society in which ministry occurs; that of the ministry platform; and that of the leader. Identify the key movements in your story and explore how they relate to your understanding of God’s story and the ministry to which you might be called within this society. (1500 words with no more than 300 words devoted to the key movements of your story)

2. Explore in further depth one of the key leadership concepts or theories learned this term. Discuss how it intersects with the particular context of your denomination or public leadership platform. Include analysis of its relevance; theological implications; and how you imagine it informing your ongoing leadership. (1500 words)

Participant Requirements For Each Gathering of the Studio

In addition to spending 8 – 12 hours in your leadership practicum each week, you will be expected to:

1. Be physically, emotionally, spiritually and intellectually present for the studio session and other studio participants.
2. In most of the weeks during which the studio gathers write a blog (no more than 250 words) in response to the previous class (by Thursday). Weeks when this is required are noted on the syllabus.
3. Write an analytical reflective piece (no more than 350 words) as assigned in the syllabus (by Sunday; 4 pm) in response to the required readings or question. (This will not be every week so follow syllabus for relevant weeks)
4. Present, twice per term, some aspect of a leadership situation in which you are involved. This includes a one-page summary of the situation as per the format below (mandatory).
5. In 7 minutes tell the story of your engagement with a leadership virtue or characteristic. This presentation will not be an abstract discussion but will emerge out of your experience of the presence or absence of the virtue or characteristic in some situation requiring the practice of leadership. Submit a one-page summary of your presentation.
6. Prepare a 1500 word integrative paper (or other project agreed upon with the Studio leadership) to be submitted, by email, no later than December 1, 2015.
7. Attend 80% of the Studio sessions and give notice of and reason for absence.
Core Texts


Brene Brown, Daring Greatly: How the Courage to be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead. Publisher: Penguin Putnam Inc (Jan. 1 2013) or [Kindle]


Additional Texts
