

6 Spiritual Formation Life Factors
A Work of Heart
Group Discussion

Vic:

Most significant factor was the **call**.

Providential of moving from other areas into the ministry career from engineer.

When I say the call it's the feeling in my heart along with the circumstances that led to my role in ministry.

Vic was impressed with the concept of keeping the call current.

Heart-shaping was important for me.

Who I am vs. what I'm doing is very important.

Serving in a multi-cultural church now that has been a growing experience for me.

Conflict: shaped me to realize that there will be people who don't like me and to draw from spiritual resources in dealing with conflict.

Samuel

Culturally, feel like I'm on the fringes in the USA.

Multi-cultural from Europe and the Middle East.

Mother from France, father from Northern Italy

Father has been a successful pastor.

Married to a wife who understands my cultural milieu.

All this has colored my call.

I need acceptance and trying to find where I fit.

He was very vulnerable.

I understand other people's difficulties **because of my need of acceptance.**

Gives me a way to bring hope to people because of my challenge of needing acceptance.

Virgil

Conflict is the most challenging to me.

Periodic conflict in my home that I don't like; so, I'm very sensitive to conflict.

Dad has a temper that flares over small things.

In his everyday life there are small things that he'll just blow on.

It's an anxiety attack for my dad.

I am trying learn to deal with that anxiety.

I tend to obsess to distraction.

I have escalated conflict in the past 6 years about 6 times

First church was sick and troubled.

At the end of two years they committed homicide upon me and lopped off my head.

I saw the pain in that church's life and determined through the power of God decided I would change.

Conflict has shaped me by showing me my weakness and see the darkness even in my church and humanity and helped me to want otherwise.

The church has changed me through the models of kindness.

From vulnerability we can be more successful in ministry than in our stability and strengths.

Group of Vic, Virgil, Samuel, and me.

Vic – call

Samuel – culture

Virgil – conflict

Steve -