

VISION, VALUES, FAITHFULNESS

Inside Out—Session 2

Servant leaders write down their vision, and faithfully serve others according to their values.

Before the session: *Read chapters 4, 5 & 6 of Inside Out by Rich and Robyn Wilkerson*

Introduction:

Begin by discussing the following questions together.

Today we'll look at how vision, values, and faithfulness help us lead inside out.

- As a child, what did you dream of being when you grew up?
- Think of one person or organization whose values you admire. What stands out to you the most?
- People often demonstrate faithfulness to a cause. What evidence do you see of this in the news? In our community? In others' lives?

Video: Let's watch this session's video from Rich and Robyn Wilkerson.

- What is one thing that stood out to you in the video?

VISION

Of all the traits we need to lead inside out, Rich and Robyn began with vision, so we'll begin with vision too. Let's read Habakkuk 2:2–3.

- Does it surprise you that the Bible is that clear about writing down a vision? Why or why not?

Now turn to page 49 in *Inside Out* and review the steps. We begin by determining and writing down our vision. Take a few moments and do that.

MY VISION:

Rich and Robyn encourage us to share our vision with others, so let's practice that now. Share your vision statement if you are willing.

- Has your vision statement changed during your life? If so, what caused it to change?

VALUES

In the video, Robyn Wilkerson reminded us that our values drive everything and shape who we are. Let's look at the three ways values impact our lives from page 51 of *Inside Out*.

1. Our values influence our decisions.
2. They motivate our actions.
3. They affect the way we treat other people.

Values are important, but some values are more vital than others. Page 53 describes superficial and sacrificial values. What are some of these types of values that you see in others' lives?

Superficial

Sacrificial

Reflection: Review the lists above. If others are looking at your life, which values would they say are motivating you? Circle those values.

If there are values you'd like to have in your life, put an * beside those values.

FAITHFULNESS

The final trait in this session is faithfulness. Rich and Robyn identify four ways we demonstrate faithfulness. Let's review pages 58–61.

- What is one thing you want to remember about each of these ways we demonstrate faithfulness? *(if you are doing this in a group, you may want to divide up these four sections, and then share together.)*

Faithfulness to yourself:

Faithfulness to your team:

Faithfulness to the cause:

Faithfulness to the outcome:

INSIDE GOD'S WORD

Isaiah—Vision, values, and faithfulness in service

Isaiah served people by speaking for God. In this passage below, we are reminded that God wants us to be willing to serve others too.

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" He said, "Go and tell this people: "'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.' Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed." Then I said, "For how long, Lord?" And he answered: "Until the cities lie ruined and without inhabitant, until the houses are left deserted and the fields ruined and ravaged" (Isaiah 6:8–11).

Isaiah is known for his prophecies about the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ, and about Christ's sacrifice for our sins. Jesus was portrayed as the "suffering servant." This was a controversial word in biblical times, as the Messiah was assumed to be the conquering King who would rescue Israel and defeat her enemies.

Prophets were not always popular people in Israel. When they presented messages of God's impending judgment, they often found their own lives at risk. Isaiah prophesied through war, idolatry, captivity, and reconstruction, and he never wavered in his commitment to speak God's words, regardless of the consequences to his own life. He faithfully served four kings of Israel over a span of nearly sixty-five years, and he was instrumental in delivering God's words to King Hezekiah in a time of war with the Assyrians. All of this is important because it helps us understand Isaiah's heart for his mission.

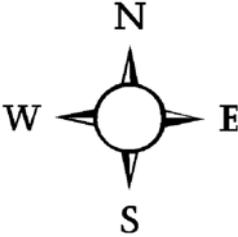
Look again at these verses from Isaiah 6. Isaiah had a vision, and he had the courage to write that vision down, to spread the word about it, and to serve God and His people until the very end of his remarkable life. He stood face-to-face with kings, counseling them on matters of war, which is hardly a prophet's area of expertise. Isaiah served faithfully for more than half a century, and his chief values of holiness and integrity were never far from his heart.

- What can we learn about servant leadership from Isaiah?

RESPONSE

Reflection: On page 56, Rich and Robyn encourage us to close our eyes and picture our own personal moral compass:

“Good lies solidly to the north, bad to the south.



Now picture your actions for the last few days. How many of those are on the horizon to the north of you? How many are to the south?”

Leading Inside Out: Be conscious of your decisions for the next few days. Take time to ponder why you are making the decision, and where it falls on your moral compass. This process may take a few minutes for a big decision (deciding to confront someone who slighted you), or just a moment for a small decision (how you answer someone’s question).

PRAYER

Close in prayer. Record prayer requests here and continue to pray for these needs throughout the week.