

Faithful

God's *faithfulness* keeps us faithful.

"He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it."

1 Thessalonians 5:24 ESV

REFLECTION QUESTION

Instructions:

Form groups of four and spend 5 minutes discussing the following questions:

1. Do you believe leaders are born (nature) or developed through experience and learning (nurture)?
2. In what ways are leadership in the wider world similar to, and different from, leadership within the church?

Definitions of Leadership

- “... the behavior of an individual in directing a group...”
- “... the influential increment over compliance...”
- “... the process of influencing the activities of a group..”
- “... about articulating vision, embodying values....”
- “... the ability to start evolutionary change processes...”
- “...the process of making sense of what people are doing...”
- “... the ability to influence, motivate and enable others...”

Sample definitions from Yukl (2013)

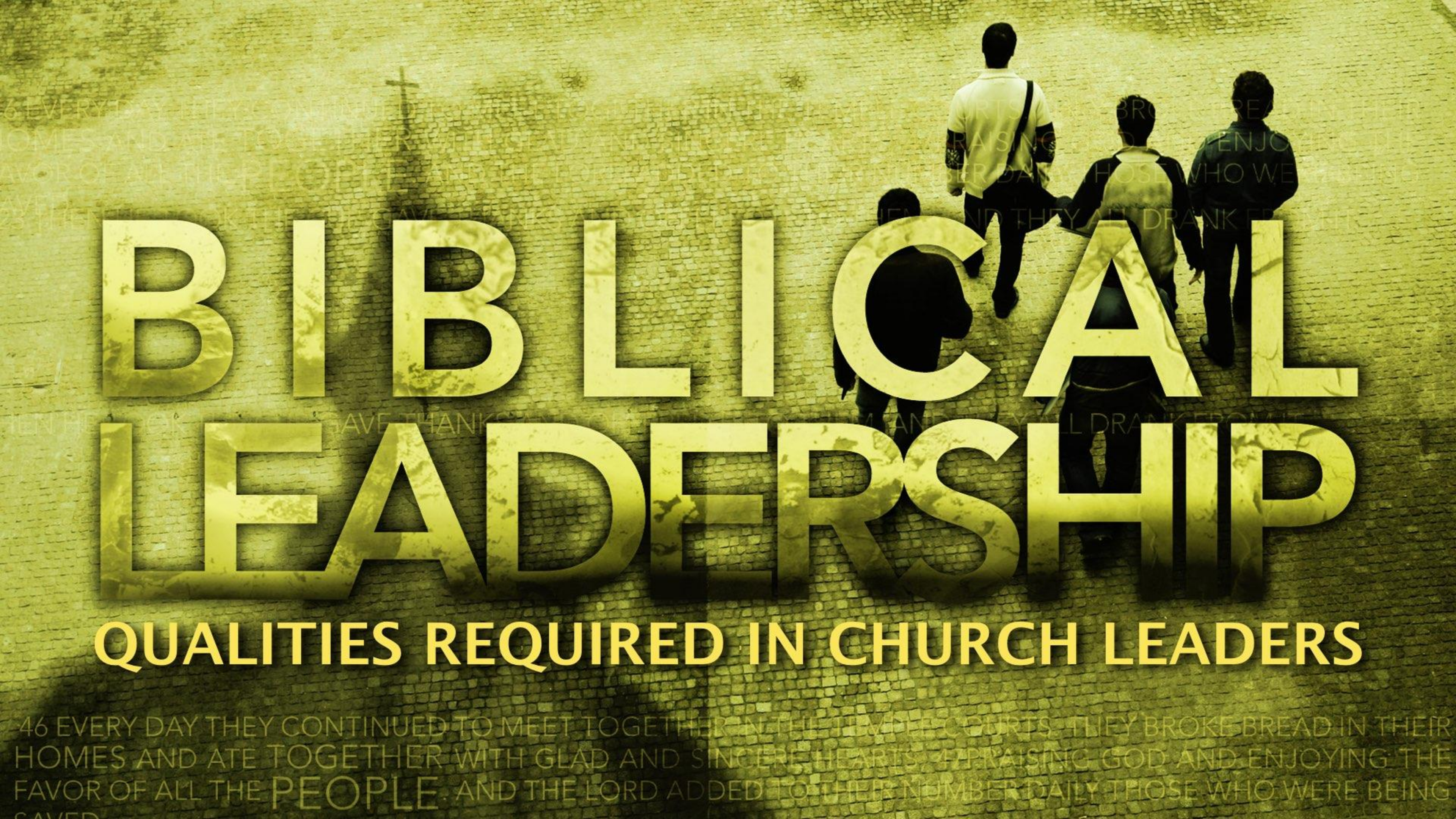
Definitions of Christian Leadership

“Biblical leadership is taking the initiative to influence people to grow in holiness and to passionately promote the extension of God’s kingdom in the world”

(Howell, 2003, p.3)

Definitions of Christian Leadership

*“If leadership theory and practice is to be truly Christian, it must be grounded in a biblical model that begins with Christ ...like Jesus, study the ancient sources of the past in order to establish a foundational depth from which to lead.... will not always lead to success or popularity...a strong sense of purpose adaptable to the facts of reality”
(Sloan, 2011 pp 21- 22)*

A group of people, including men and women, are walking away from the viewer on a cobblestone path. In the distance, a cross is visible on the path. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP

QUALITIES REQUIRED IN CHURCH LEADERS

46 EVERY DAY THEY CONTINUED TO MEET TOGETHER IN THE TEMPLE COURTS. THEY BROKE BREAD IN THEIR HOMES AND ATE TOGETHER WITH GLAD AND SINCERE HEARTS, APPRAISING GOD AND ENJOYING THE FAVOR OF ALL THE PEOPLE. AND THE LORD ADDED TO THEIR NUMBER DAILY THOSE WHO WERE BEING SAVED.

Character

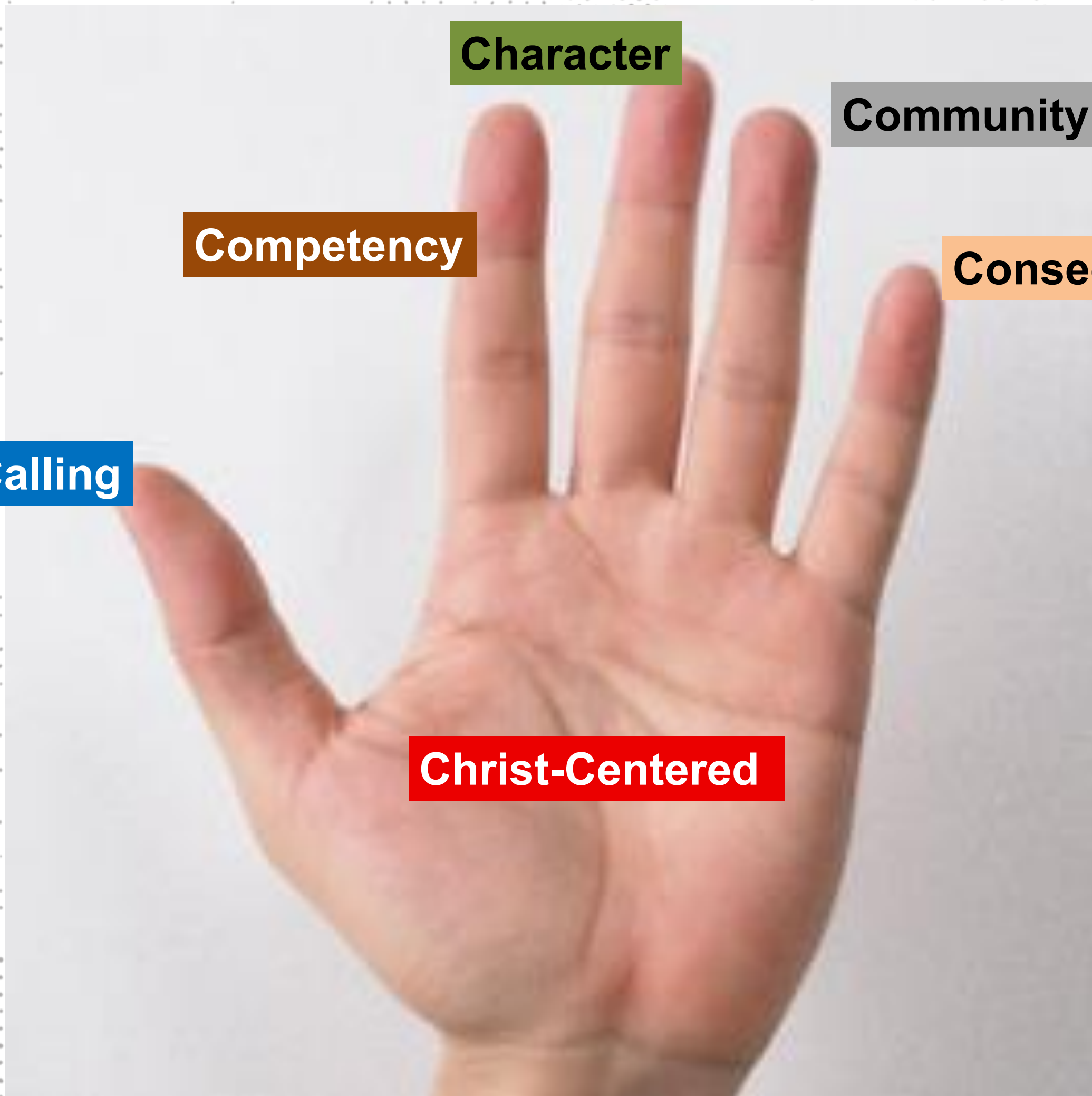
Community

Competency

Consecration

Calling

Christ-Centered



Essential Christian Leadership (**Christ-Centred**)

1. **Christ-Centred**

Christ-centered leadership means leading like Jesus—serving others, valuing them as equals before God, and sacrificing self for their good. It is leadership marked by humility, love, and obedience to God's will.

Following Jesus' model of servant leadership
(Luke 22:25–27; Ephesians 5:25–30; 1 Corinthians 12:14–26).

In Christ, we are Saved

Titus 3:5 (ESV)

“**He saved us**, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.”

Ephesians 2:8–9 (ESV)

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, **not a result of works, so that no one may boast.**”

In Christ, we experience **fruitfulness.**

John 15:4–5 (ESV):

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

Essential Christian Leadership

In Christ, we bring glory to God.

John 15:8 ESV

By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Essential Christian Leadership

In Christ, we diminish so He may increase.

John 3:30 ESV

He must increase, but I must decrease."

Galatians 2:20 ESV

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.



2. Calling

In calling you do what God wants you to do for others.

Calling has that God-given ability to do the job and God-given enjoyment in doing it. You have a passion in doing it. Passion can be dissipated and has to be nurtured to keep its flame burning.

Essential Christian Leadership (Calling)

Mark 3:14

Primary Calling
"To be"



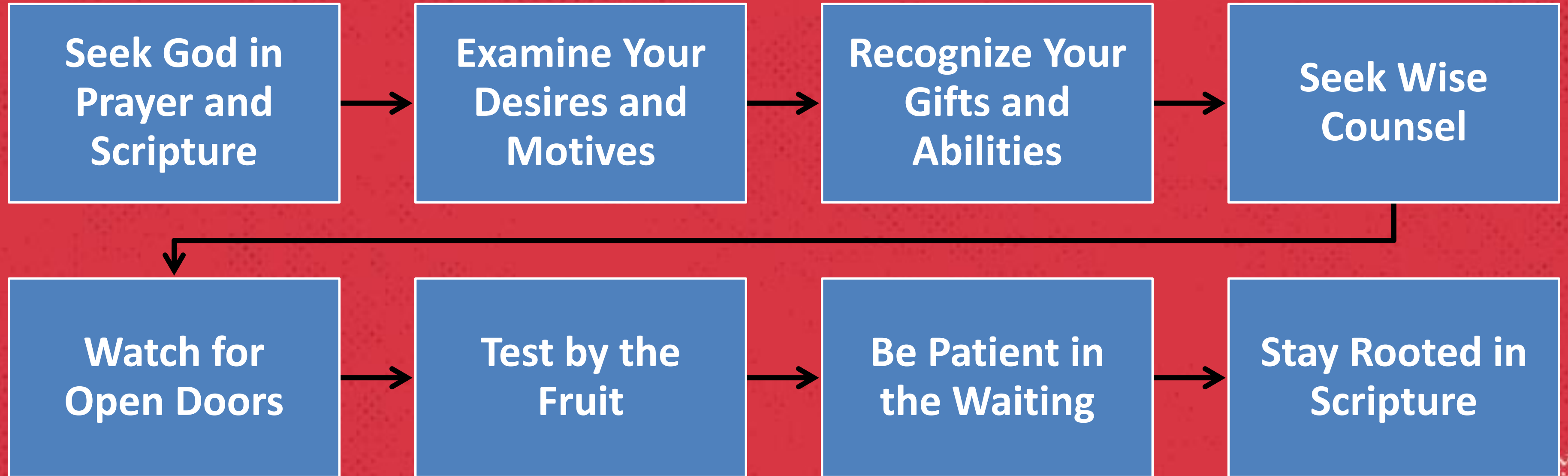
And He appointed the twelve
(whom He also named
apostles) so that they might
be with Him and He might
send them out to preach...

Secondary Calling
"To do"



*Secondary callings matters only
because primary calling matters most.*

Essential Christian Leadership



3. Competency

So David shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart; And guided them with his skillful hands.

Psalm 78:72 (AMP)

He trains my hands for war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

Psalm 18:34 (AMP)

3. Competency

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)

Proverbs 22:29 (ESV)

“Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men.”



Experience in teaching doesn't tend to sharpen my abilities; rather it dulls them. It is evaluated experience that improves my skills.

Howard Hendricks



4. Character

“The greatest legacy one can pass on to one’s children and grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one’s life, but rather a legacy of character and faith.”

Billy Graham

4. Character

“Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens.”

Exodus 18:21 (ESV)

4. Character

1 Timothy 3:8-13 ESV

Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. [9] They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. [10] And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. [11] Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. [12] Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. [13] For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

3:8	dignified (emotionally mature and stable, consistent, faithful)
3:8	not double-tongued (reliable, trustworthy, not gossips or backstabbers)
3:8	not addicted to much wine (not prone to addiction or vice)
3:8	not greedy for dishonest gain (not self-centred, hungry for power)
3:9	hold on to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience (spiritually mature)
3:10	tested (proven experience and success in life and in the church)
3:10	blameless (a good reputation)
3:12	husband of one wife (healthy marriage dynamics). As we saw earlier, Romans 16:1 refers to a female deacon. Therefore, this verse is not advising gender limitations. It is establishing that if married, a godly marriage is an essential quality.
3:12	managing children and household well (orderly, godly and well-behaved children)

Essential Biblical Christian Leadership (Character)

4. Character

Who is FIT to lead?

Faithful

Integrity

Teachable

5. Community

Motivated By Love

Galatians 5:13 (ESV)

“For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, **but through love serve one another.**”

5. Community

Benefit of Others

Philippians 2:3–4 (ESV)

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

5. Community

Collaboration & Connectivity / Dependency

Romans 12:4–5 (ESV)

“For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.”

5. Community

Mentor (Help Others to Grow)

Proverbs 27:17 (ESV)

“Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.”

6. Consecration

“But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.” (2 Corinthians 4:7, ESV)

2 Timothy 2:20–21 (ESV)

“Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good

6. Consecration

Zechariah 4:6 (ESV):

Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts.'

Character

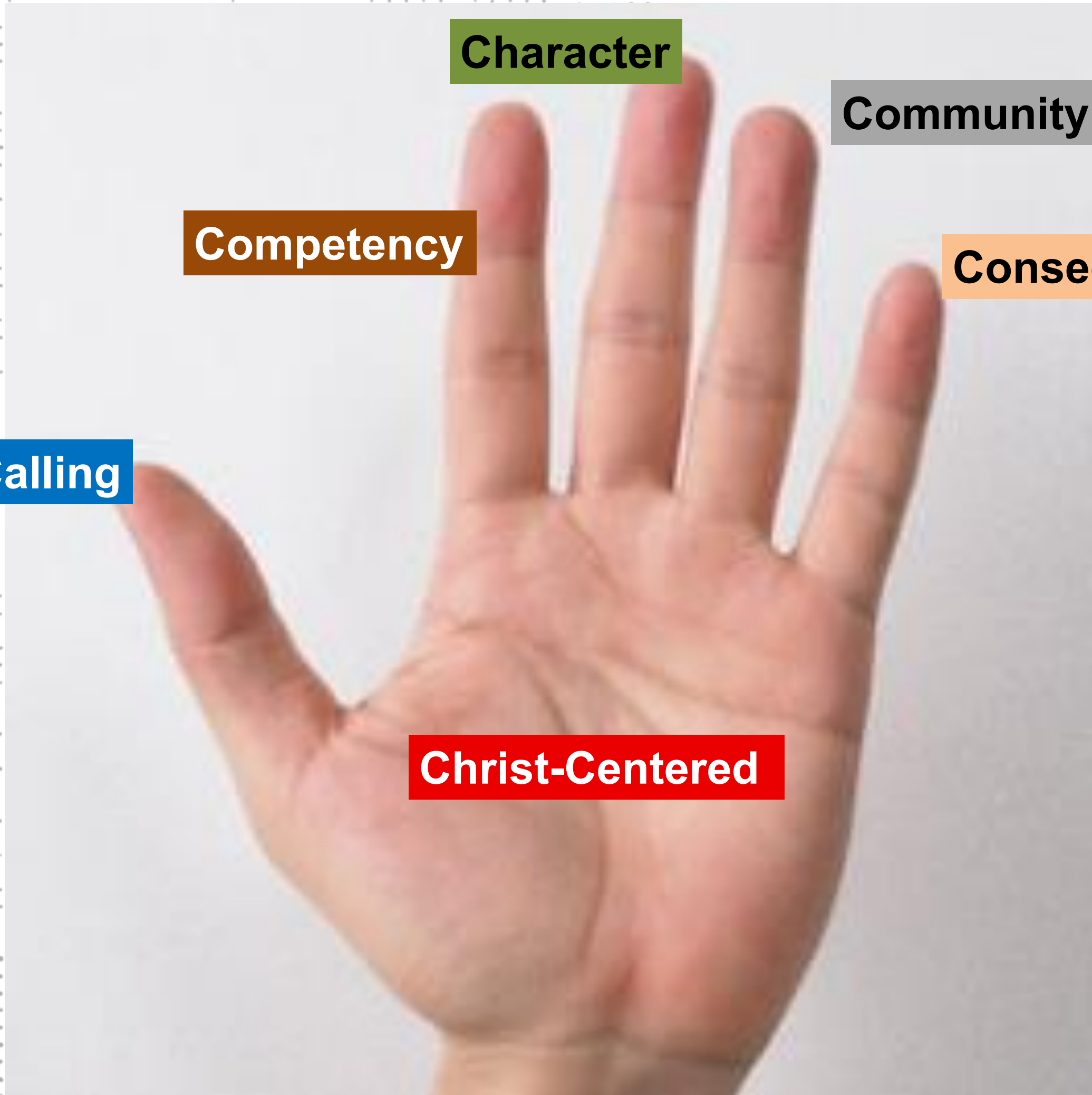
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Exercise... (Finger)

Try hitting your lap with one of your finger.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Instructions:

Form groups of four and spend 5 minutes discussing the following questions:

1. If you had to choose, would you prefer a leader with character or competence?
2. Which of the following do you need to work on?

Prayer Time