



FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND: NEW GUIDANCE FROM THE WINTER NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Many Kairos folks across the country are bothered by the sequence of Saturday evening having the participants washing their slate clean and becoming a new creature through the forgiveness process, and then dredging all the muck up again Sunday morning in Footprints.

The talk tries to balance two objectives:

To provide a process for deeper sharing than they may have done so far as a way of deepening the bond between them in preparation for the deep sharing needed for successful Prayer and Share groups

To help them to understand that God has been with them through the hardest times of their lives, even though they may not have been aware of it at the time.

Here is a method that helps accomplish both objectives.

Do NOT draw a lifeline at all. Simply SHARE about ONE difficult time you went through as a mature Christian, walking in faith.

Describe the pain and difficulties it caused in your life, even though you are a faithful believer, then go back and describe what God taught you, showed you about yourself or did for you. What lessons was he teaching you in allowing you to have such a negative experience?

To say that “He sustained me through that time”, or that “I wouldn’t have made it without Him”, is way to general.

Remember you are setting the model for what we want them to do. We do NOT want them to wallow in their now-forgiven misery. We do want them to acknowledge some of it, and catch the vision that God was with them, even then, although they may not have been aware of it.

So it is crucial to be clear . . . and vulnerable . . . as you share about how he showed you your prideful spirit, your tendency to be prejudiced or judgmental, your selfishness or self-centeredness, your rebelliousness to his leadership . . . or whatever. That description needs to be the focus of the talk.

The talk asks us to look deeper into ourselves, and calls us to set an example in seeing what God was doing with us during that time. Then the sharing around the table needs to be focused more on what God may have been doing to nurture your faith or to benefit your life, rather than focusing on the difficulty you went through.

Thank you for your servant hearts and your commitment to this ministry the Holy Spirit has given to us. I pray He will continue to bless you as you continue to work for his glory.

(The specific instructions are being re-written at National and will soon be posted on the Georgia website.)