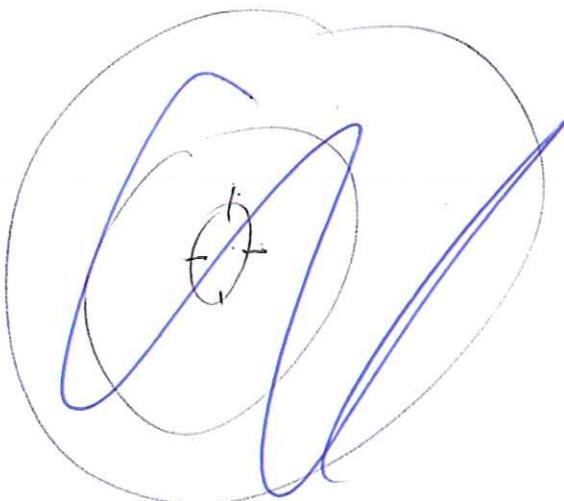


Your Journey From Success to Significance

Igniting a Life of Impact and Adventure

Hong Kong Halftime Summit

April 2016



HALFTIME[®]
Asia

- ~~① enclose Foundational Assessment~~
- ~~② Road Map I~~
- ~~as an~~
- ~~③ Road Map I~~
- ~~separately~~

Halftime Defined

"PEOPLE NOW HAVE TWO LIVES – LIFE I AND LIFE II – AND THEY ARE OVER PREPARED FOR LIFE I AND UNDER PREPARED FOR LIFE II, AND THERE IS NO UNIVERSITY FOR THE SECOND HALF OF LIFE."

— PETER DRUCKER

Many of us a point in life where we have achieved some measure of success, we have accumulated more than we probably need, and yet there is still something missing. At our most honest moment we realize that the prospect of spending the rest of our lives accumulating more things, or pursuing career advancement is simply not enough. We want our lives to really count for something, something that will live on long after we are gone. We want to move beyond success to significance. Bob Buford has labeled this stage of life **Halftime**.

Halftime is a time out, a time to think seriously about one's purpose in life, and draft a game plan for the second half. It's a time when the quest for success loses meaning, and you ask, "Is this it? I've achieved some level of accomplishment, and done much of what I set out to do. What's next?"

While most Halftimers are not financially independent, they do have options about how they can spend their time, talent and treasure.

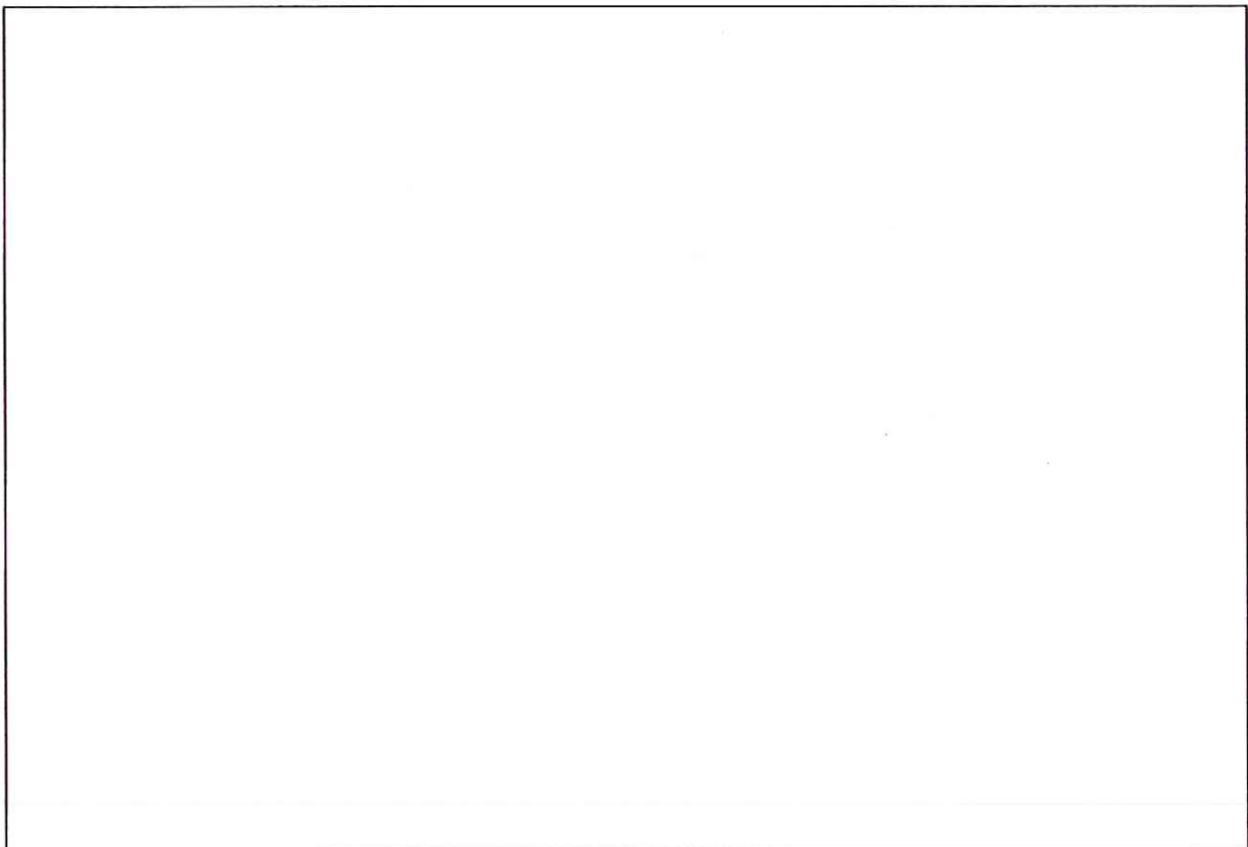
"HALFTIME IS A PAUSE IN MIDLIFE TO REFLECT ON WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED, WHO WE HAVE BECOME, AND WHAT WILL MATTER IN THE END. IT IS ALSO A POINT TO REDIRECT OUR TIME AND RESOURCES FOR THE SECOND HALF."

-BOB BUFORD

Understanding Your Halftime Journey

The Sigmoid Curve

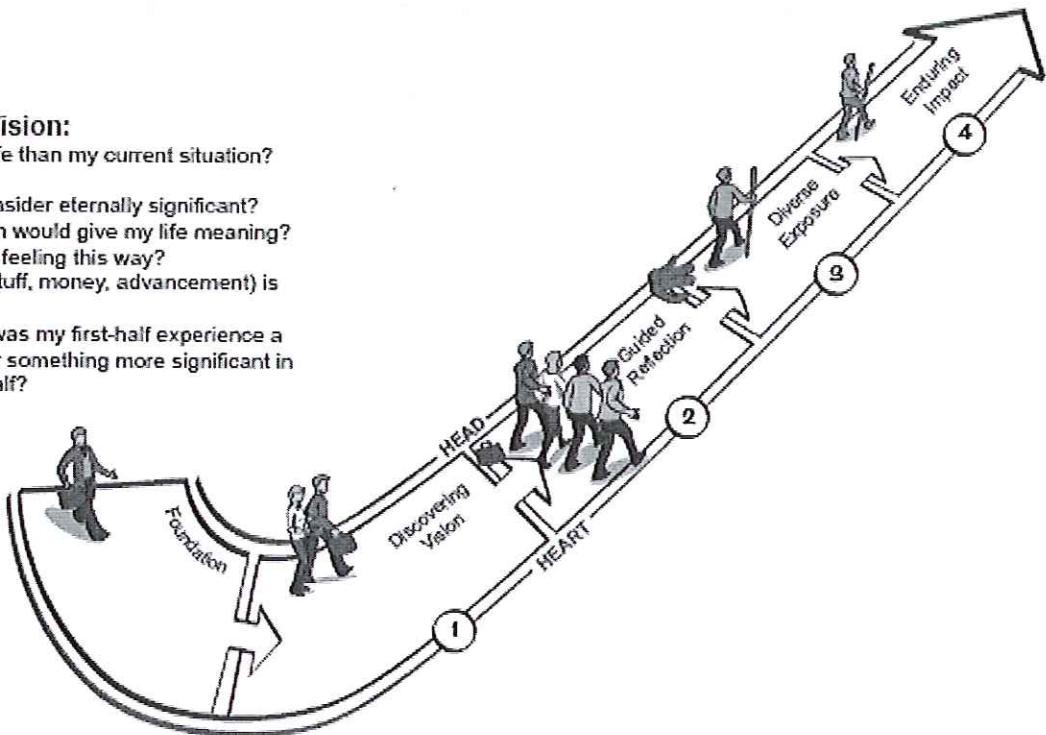
(Feel free to draw along with the facilitator)



Discussion Questions:

- What grabs your heart about the story in the video?
- What is an “aha” that you discovered that might apply to you?
- What is most exciting to you about the concept of Halftime?
- What is most challenging for you about the concept of Halftime?

Four Stages of Halftime



① Discovering Vision:

Is there more to life than my current situation?

- What do I consider eternally significant?
- What on earth would give my life meaning?
- Am I alone in feeling this way?
- How much (stuff, money, advancement) is enough?
- In what way was my first-half experience a foundation for something more significant in my second-half?

② Guided Reflection:

What are my greatest strengths and core values?

- What am I really passionate about?
- What makes me come alive?
- What is my personal mission statement?
- What role do I play most effectively in an organization?
- What is my spouse thinking about his/her second-half, and what is our vision together?
- Who can come alongside me in this journey and provide wisdom and insights?

③ Diverse Exposure

How can I begin to create the margin in life to explore all that I feel called to do?

- How do I prepare my family and myself for this transition?
- What responsibilities do I have to my parents, and how will I leave a legacy through my children and grandchildren?
- In what arena should I serve: the marketplace, my church, my community, or in some very needy area of the world?
- How do I begin to find service opportunities that fit me?
- What unique configuration of family, work, recreation and service best fits what I feel called to do?
- Should I stay engaged in my business with new parameters on my time and a renewed sense of purpose?
- How should I manage and structure my financial situation to live out my calling for the second-half of my life.

④ Enduring Impact

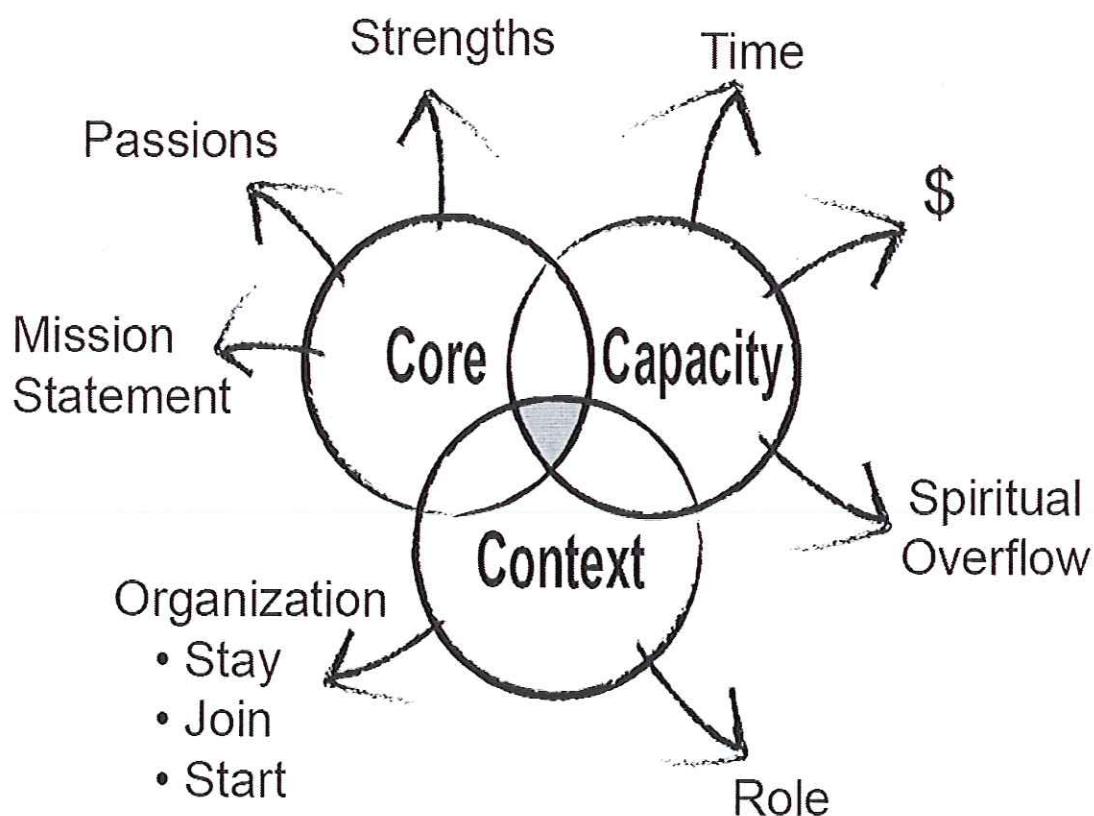
How do I decide between the serving opportunities I have been experimenting with? Should I create a portfolio of serving roles?

- Does this work environment give me energy? Do I need a different office arrangement, different support structure, more or less variety, etc?
- Based on the work I have done so far in my second-half, what is my highest and best contribution?
- Is this working with my financial situation? What adjustments do I need to make for this to be sustainable?
- Am I growing closer to God and to those I love as I pursue a second half of eternal significance?

Three Issues to Solve for

To live a life of significance is to give yourself away, but not just anywhere. The Bible makes it clear that you were created by God in a unique way (see Psalm 139) and that He has a specific assignment for you to do. Ephesians 2:10 says “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which he prepared in advance for us to do.”

The challenge is to discover where your unique abilities combine with what you are most passionate about and then to join in what you can see God is already doing in that arena.



Personal Reflection

To begin this journey, take a few minutes to answer these questions:

- What do I want to be remembered for?

- Where am I in this journey?

- What am I wrestling with in this season of life?

What is God saying to you?

- What one thing is God trying to say to me?

- What have I heard from Him so far?

Your 80th Birthday

No one can build an intentional plan for their future if they don't have some vision of what they want it to look like. This exercise will help you envision a second half of life that you consider meaningful and satisfying.

Imagine it's your 80th birthday and your spouse has planned a quiet evening for just the two of you at your favorite restaurant. When you arrive at the restaurant, you're surprised to see that the whole building has been reserved for you. There are many of your closest family, friends, and colleagues there. Then, one-by-one, each attendee comes up to the microphone in front of the room and speaks to the three issues below. What would you hope to hear?

- Here's what I admire most about you.

- Here's the difference you made in my life.

- Your #1 lifetime achievement of significance is...

Foundation Assessment Exercise

A life of significance is built from the inside out. Without a solid foundation from which to grow, a Halftimer's ability to make a sustainable difference in the world is minimized. Kingdom impact is exciting and scriptural, but a truly significant life is balanced and fully integrated. This exercise will assess where you are right now in three important categories: your inside world, your surrounding world, and your outside world. Score yourself (on the following page) for each of these factors on a scale from 1-10 (10 being you "feel great" about how things are going in that area) and then ask your spouse and one close friend to do the same.

A. Your Inside World

- Personal Growth - To what extent are you learning and growing?
- Health - To the degree you can control it, how healthy are you?
- Marriage - To what degree is your marriage thriving?
- Faith - To what degree are you connected with Jesus in a living, daily relationship?

B. Your Surrounding World

- Finances - How effectively have you and are you stewarding your finances?
- Parenting - To what degree are you connected with and leading your children and grandchildren?
- Career - To what degree has your career been successful and God honoring?
- Friendships - To what degree are you starting and deepening personal friendships?

C. Your Outside World

- Community Impact - To what degree are you making a positive, eternal impact in your local church and/or community?
- Global Impact - To what degree are you making a positive, eternal impact regionally, nationally and internationally?

Workshop Goals

1. Explore and discover your God-given Skills and Passions

"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place." —Psalm 139:13-15

"God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well."

—Romans 12:6

"God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them."

— 1 Peter 4:10

2. Write your personal mission statement and outline a best fit serving role.

"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." — Philippians 1:6

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." — Ephesians 2:10

3. Develop an action plan for specific next steps

"The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty." —Proverbs 21:5

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed."
—Proverbs 16:3

Clarify Your Core

Your Core –skills, roles & passions

Psalm 139 teaches us that we are fearfully and wonderfully made by the hands of a loving Creator. That creative process did not stop at childbirth. God has been molding and shaping you over the years with a care that exceeds that of the most meticulous craftsman. He put you in a unique family, He gave you a unique personality, He has given you unique abilities, and He has woven a unique assortment of motivators into the very fabric of your life. God made you absolutely unique for a purpose.

We have found that many people have yet to discover their God-ordained uniqueness or their distinctive purpose in life. Dan Sullivan, a business consultant, speaks to the first element by saying, "The vast majority of individuals spend most of their lives focused on activities where they are either incompetent or merely competent. Only rarely do their excellent abilities come into play, and almost never do they experience uniqueness."

Bob Buford addresses the issue of purpose in his book, Halftime. He states, "Most of us spend the first half of our lives becoming adults, getting an education and seeking our own version of 'success.'" He then provides a clarion call to pursue lives of significance — of higher purpose. His message has resonated with many of us because we inherently recognize that true meaning is found somewhere "beyond the pursuit of success."

The fundamental principle that all believers share in any discussion of meaning and significance is the call to love and serve Christ by loving and serving others. However, a deeper sense of significance may be eluding you because you have not had the opportunity to focus your life work around a clear understanding of your God-ordained, distinctive contribution.

Skills, Roles & Passions

We have seen that as people identify and embrace their uniqueness, God often opens a door to a whole new world of significant and energizing contribution.

This exercise is designed to help you consolidate what you already know about yourself:

Skills

The tasks in which you excel and are internally energized by as you do them.

Your Best Role

The functions that enable you to make your best contribution to an overall effort and that fulfill you as you work with others.

Passions

Those few areas you strongly desire to focus on in order to have an impact. They give you energy. They are the types of things you would be willing to do for free.

Skills

What are your greatest strengths or abilities that you also enjoy doing?

To help jog your memory here is a short list to choose from:

- Analyzing
- Writing
- Coaching**
- Creating
- Designing
- Hospitality
- Influencing others
- Implementation
- Leading teams
- Managing people and/or projects
- Managing Numbers/Money
- Manual skills _____
- Marketing
- Organizing
- Persuading / Sales / Fund-raising
- Performing (art, music, theater, etc)
- Recruiting
- Researching
- Speaking
- Teaching
- Strategy**
- Technical skills _____
- Other skills not listed _____

Based on everything you know about yourself, write down your top 2-3 Strengths:

Roles

"When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, or the son of man that you care for him?

You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings, and crowned him with glory and honor."

Psalm 8:3-5

What is your best serving role?

Part of our created individuality concerns the ways in which we were designed to function in a group. To jog your thoughts here is a short list of roles people fill in their second-half:

Board member

Consultant (bring formal assistance to the organization around specific issues or outcomes)

Expert (bring a narrow scope of expertise to a wide group of ministries)

Informed Donor (bring funding to ministries with the wisdom to drive results)

Organizational Leader (day to day leadership of all or part of the organization)

Social entrepreneur (launch a new ministry)

Silent Partner (support a ministry leader behind the scenes in a non formal role)

Spokesperson (use your platform and skills to get the word out for a ministry that you care deeply about)

Project Leader (provide day to day leadership to a specific project for a limited duration)

Strategist (either organizational strategy help or specific to projects)

Team member (you don't want to lead the effort but would be happy to lend a hand where needed).

Write down 2 or 3 roles you think you are equipped for and would be interested in and energized by:

Passions

"Don't ask yourself what the world needs.

Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and go do that, because what the world needs is people who have come alive."

Author Unknown

From Wild at Heart

What Makes You “Tick?”

Passion is the fuel of life. It is the great source of energy and drive. It's what makes us explore new vistas, develop new relationships and seek solutions to perplexing problems. Unfortunately many people—especially men—possess very little awareness of their deepest inner drives and motivations.

For many people their passions compete for attention with mounds of demands, responsibilities and activities. We envision an individual's driving passion as a hot coal buried under a stack of wet blankets.

Below there are four points of reference on what we call the “Passion Spectrum.” While you may recognize hundreds of needs and be sensitive to many concerns, you are only impressed by a few burdens. And if you are like most people, you are only moved deeply by one or maybe two passions.

THE PASSION SPECTRUM			
NEEDS	CONCERNS	BURDENS	PASSIONS
<i>Recognize thousands</i>	<i>Sensitive to many</i>	<i>Impressed by a few</i>	<i>Moved deeply by one or two</i>

Unfortunately, the challenges and busyness of life have hindered many people from identifying the burdens and passion(s) that God has put on their hearts. Their passion remains buried. This simple faith-driven inventory is intended to help you take a significant first step toward narrowing the field.

Thought Joggers

What **cause** could you give your life to?

Poverty, homelessness, **marriage**, education, financial management, inner city, crime, drugs, prostitution, medical care, domestic abuse, government, environmental, entertainment, cultural ethics issues or other causes

What **groups** of people are you most interested in serving?

Infants, children, students, college students, singles, **young married** **couples**, boomers, seniors, internationals, people of other faiths, women/men, handicapped, professionals, **executives**, educators, government leaders, athletes, military personnel, other groups of people

What **spiritual** needs are you most keen on meeting?

Mentoring, evangelism, **discipleship**, worship, fellowship, shepherding, mobilizing or other spiritual needs

How do those interests **combine**?

(For example, children in the inner city who need mentoring.)

Write down the group, the cause and the spiritual need that sums up your passion in life.

Creating Capacity

Excess time and talent

Creating Capacity

How can I create capacity (margin)?

Margin is about having excess time, energy and money left over at the end of the week, month and year to use as you wish. This excess capacity enables us to begin to discover the opportunities around us and to have the resources (emotionally, physically, financially and spiritually) to address them. Margin enables us to do life at a pace that lets us listen to God's calling and direction. In what areas of your life do you need to work at opening up margin?

We have discovered that there are two steps toward creating margin: eliminating the low value things from your life and overlapping the high value items.

Here's one model to help you eliminate lesser priority items from your life:

On a single piece of paper make six columns, the left one listing the competing activities and roles you play, then four columns to rank those activities based on how valuable they are to you in terms of:

- Heart (do you enjoy it)
- Growth (is it enabling you to learn and grow)
- Obligation (are you responsible to do this role)
- Impact (are you making a significant eternal impact in this area).

Ranking?

Rank each activity 1 to 5 in each of the categories, with one being low obligation and five being high obligation. In the last column add the scores across – consider eliminating those activities that score the lowest.

Creating Capacity by Cutting Low Value Activities

Now that you have done this exercise – what low value activities or roles will you eliminate to create capacity?

Designing Your Context

Your best-fit serving role

Craft a Personal Mission Statement

A first step toward defining your best-fit serving roles is to craft or revisit your Personal Mission Statement. Peter Drucker defines mission as your statement of why you do what you do; your declared reason for being; your purpose. Your personal mission statement says what, in the end, you want to be remembered for. It articulates what you believe God is calling you to do, and it assists you in making life choices in alignment with your mission.

A personal mission statement is dynamic. It will change over time as God grows and leads you, and as your circumstances change.

Your mission statement is an effort to answer questions such as:

- In light of my unique design, what do I believe is my "highest and best" contribution in advancing the cause of Christ on this earth?
- Given my gifts and abilities, what type of activity offers the greatest potential for service to the Lord and others?
- In what direction is God leading me to invest my talents, time and treasure?

Here are a few examples:

To turn the latent energy of American Christianity into active energy

To be a thought leader in mobilizing marketplace leaders for Kingdom impact

To use my business skills to assist churches in running more efficiently and effectively

- *Manging oneself* Peter Drucker
- *Binkers app's* Binkie

Look back on your work in the Core and Capacity exercises and then choose one of the following three approaches to drafting a mission statement.

Option 1 Write It

I am trusting God to use my _____
(Significant Strengths)

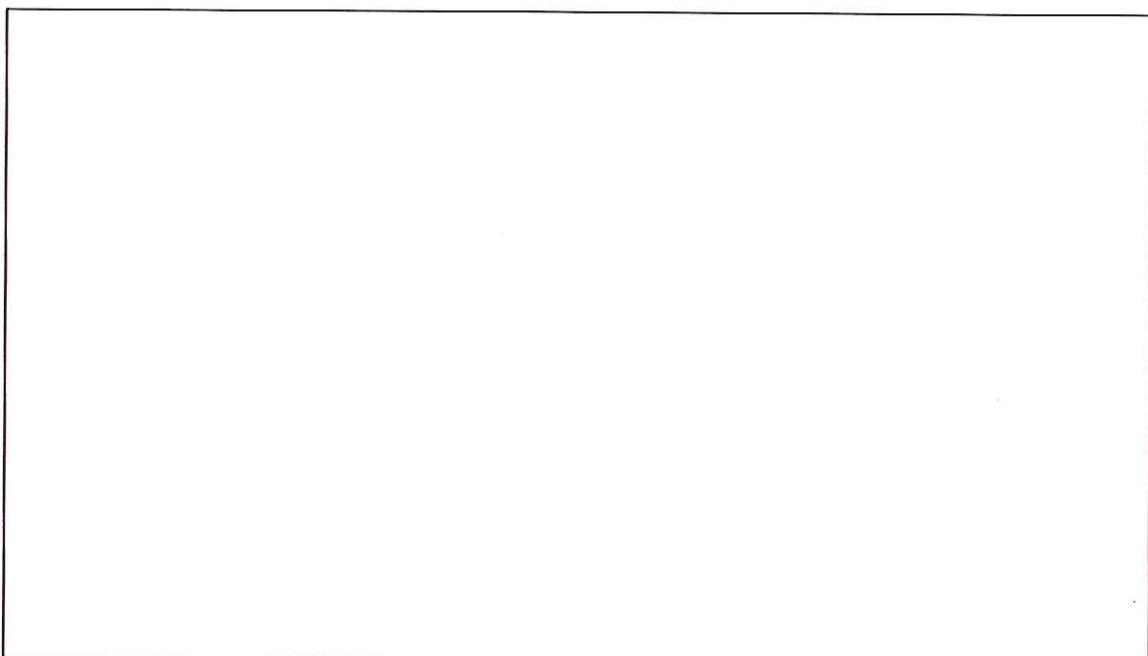
to impact and serve _____
(Pressing Need of Preferred Audience)

in order to _____

(Desired Outcome) *80th birthday*

Option 2 Draw It

Some people can visualize living out their mission in life long before they can put words around it. If that's you than just begin to draw what comes to your mind and heart and worry about putting words to it later.



Option 3 “Rush Writing” Your Mission Statement

Without over thinking it, write from your heart how you dream of investing your second- half of life.

Case Study and Devotion: “True North”

Rick was suddenly forced out of the company he had built from the ground up through a complex set of legal maneuverings. While he was fairly well-set financially, his identity took a major blow and he found himself with more time on his hands and a vacuum that had been filled for thirty years by the adrenalin and perks of his success. He used this turn of events as an opportunity to pursue significance for his second half – something he had wanted to do for a long time. After eight months, however, he had tried four serving roles from consulting to board member to project manager. He found them each interesting at the start and then he quickly lost interest. Discouraged, he wondered if he should just go back to building another company. In this wilderness experience he felt ineffective and began to question his purpose in life. When Rick’s wife became ill, he needed to put his plans aside and started focusing on her health. While he began to find deep satisfaction in helping with her healing, he was still anxious to go make a difference in the world.

Rick’s Halftime Coach noticed two competing emotions in Rick: Joy in serving his wife and frustration in not being able to engage in a significant Kingdom-building endeavor. His coach saw value in the fact that Rick had not glided smoothly from a successful career to a successful ministry role. Why do you think his coach felt this way?

"Yes I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5-6)

Discussion Notes:

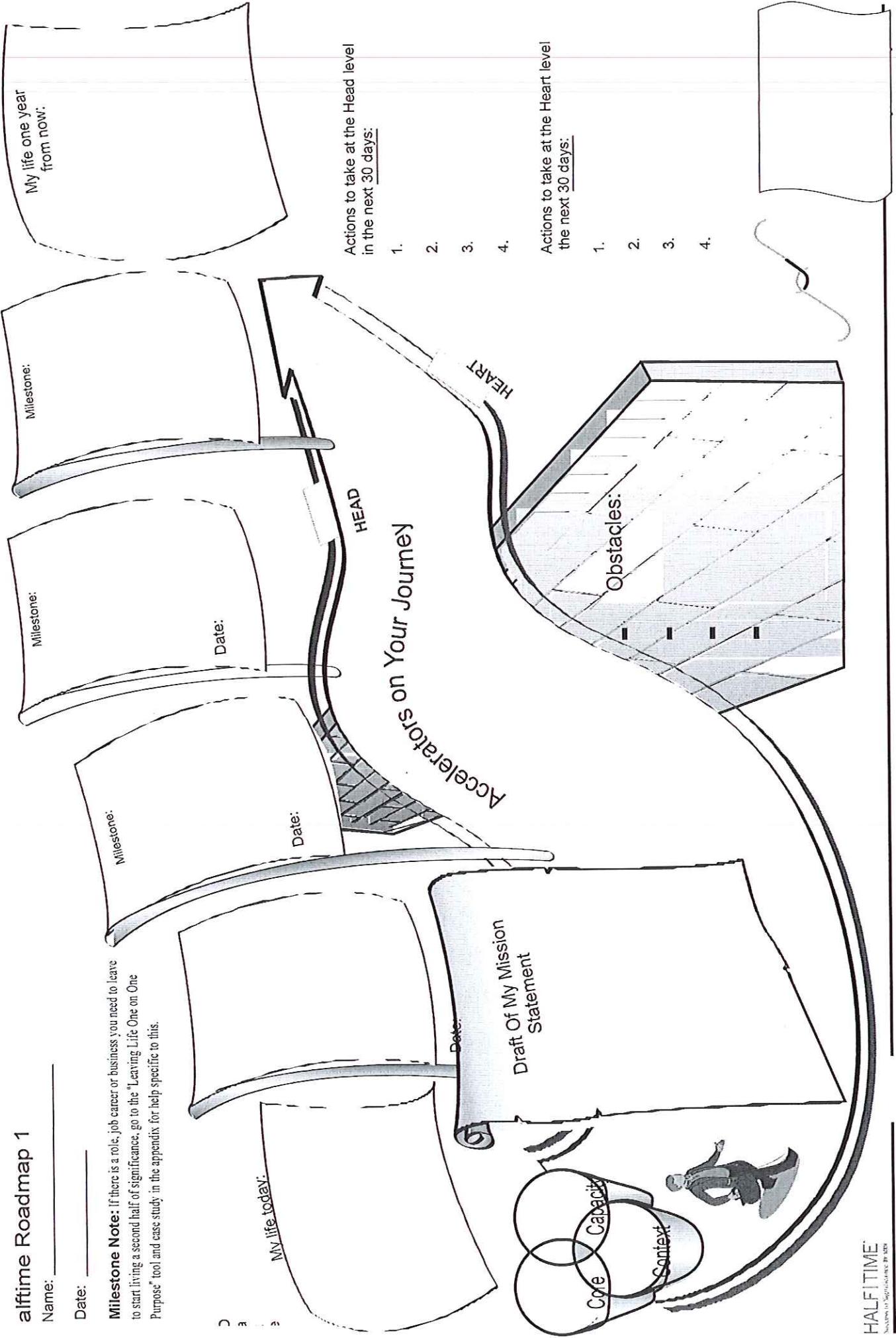
- Head to Heart to journey
- He focus on the parts and not vine.
- Story of the pastor from Sime to K.L
- Tyre not used is broken:
- Hearts not align with God is broken to. 3

Halftime Roadmap 1

Name: _____

Date: _____

Milestone Note: If there is a role, job, career or business you need to leave to start living a second half of significance, go to the "Leaving Life One on One Purpose" tool and case study in the appendix for help specific to this.



The Heart Journey At Halftime

By Lloyd Reeb

(The following is an excerpt from *Unlimited Partnership, Igniting a Marketplace Leader's Journey to Significance* by Lloyd Reeb and Bill Wellons.)

Halftime, by its very nature, is a journey. It's not an event, and it's more than just a decision. There are two important tracks to this journey:

1. ***The Head Journey*** - The Head Journey involves thinking through who you are at the **Core** (your strengths and passions), creating the **Capacity** or margin to begin to give yourself away, and then discovering or designing the ultimate serving **Context** that fits you. This context will include the type of ministry, the role you would play, the work environment, amount of time, etc.

2. ***The Heart Journey*** – This is what God wants to do in your soul as he takes you through Halftime to redefine success and pursue significance. The Heart Journey is equally as important as the Head Journey, but it can easily be overlooked. It will involve a change of heart in at least five areas:

- Creating a new identity outside your career
- Learning a new way of measuring your performance
- Discovering the strength of interdependence
- Finding the confidence to long for intimacy with Christ and others
- Seeing the hero in servanthood.

How Did I Get Here?

For many successful people, midlife is the first time they address emotional issues that have been buried on their rush toward accomplishment. The risk at Halftime is to short-circuit the Heart Journey enroute to significance or to confuse these soul issues with our desire to leave a legacy. We run the risk of missing much of the growth and blessing at midlife if we rush off *only* to more accomplishments, even though they may be eternally significant accomplishments.

Perhaps there are four primary seasons of life: struggle, success, significance, and surrender. Our early years are filled with the struggle of getting a good education and landing our first job. Our twenties to mid-forties often are filled with the pursuit of success. Once we begin to achieve some level of success, we begin to see that it will not satisfy and we long for significance.

We have dedicated this entire Roundtable experience to the transition between the season of success to the season of significance. But, as we pursue significance by living out God's call on our lives, we realize that the deepest satisfaction comes not so much from accomplishing big things for God (as wonderful as that is) but from surrendering our hearts and agenda to God and living each day in community with Him. The Heart Journey at Halftime is about this last issue—letting God change our hearts now that we have loosened our grip on life. Many of us learn these things best in the trenches of serving alongside God, not sitting at home reading a Bible commentary.

To really understand the Heart Journey of your second half, you must start with a short but quiet reflection on the Heart Journey of your first half. Stop here for a few minutes and ask yourself a few deep questions.

How did you get to where you are, and what was the price along the way?

What drove you to pursue success?

What feelings or needs have you covered up along the way?

The Value of the Wilderness

You'll recall that the Bible simply says of Moses that "he fled to Midian, where he settled as a foreigner" (Acts 7:29). Moses left behind his first-half environment that had provided him with his identity, his security, his sense of belonging, and all the perks that come with being a successful leader. While the wilderness time wasn't comfortable, it did enable God to work on his heart in ways that were essential before he could be used in such a profound world-changing way as he was in his second half.

You may be pushed out of your normal environment by being downsized, through early retirement, or after selling your company. Or you may find yourself still in your normal environment but in an emotional wilderness. You go to the same office every day, but those dreams and rewards that used to captivate you have lost their luster you find your heart just wandering. It no longer means much that your business card says Director, Partner, or Principal. The corporate goals seem stale.

A friend told me recently that, as his business was growing, he used to love to sit down on Saturday morning and read his own company's advertisements in the city paper. Even though he had helped write those ads, had signed off on the final version, it was very satisfying to see the ads in the paper. But one recent Saturday there was an entire article about a large project his company was building a front section piece - and he found himself completely uninterested. In fact, he had to admit to his colleagues that he had not read the whole article. He called to ask, "What is wrong with me?"

Nothing is wrong with him, but he is in the wilderness of Halftime. God is weaning him from the things that he clung to for his security and identity. This is a healthy place to be for a short time, but it's not a healthy place to stay for long.

Risks and Rewards of the Journey

The heart lessons God wants to teach us in Halftime can only occur as we loosen our grip on the things that protect us. Many people who have achieved some level of success in their first half are afraid of failing in new endeavors. The Heart Journey is fraught with the additional risk of being somewhat vague and intangible.

Many of the tools that enable people to succeed in their career are not useful in this soul work. Moses was asked by God to put down his staff which represented his security, income, and identity to just loosen his grip. Then, as he picked it back up, it became the rod of God and was used in a powerful way in his second half. You too must lay down your "staff".

My friend who used to sit down on Saturday mornings to read his own company's ads is now well *into* this journey. I can already see in his life the rich benefits of living life with a more healthy identity and new measures of performance that are not as tied to the business.

Five Elements of the Heart Journey

As we have served thousands of Halftimers over more than a decade we observe five areas where a transformation of the heart occurs: your identity, performance measures, interdependence, intimacy, and servanthood.

1. Your Journey to a New Identity

Many of us are defined by our work, sometimes without even realizing it. Others find their identity defined by other status symbols (titles, awards, cars, homes, their children's accomplishments, how attractive they are) that indicates to them (and perhaps to those around them) that they are of worth. Perhaps you're defined by the sense of having been successful. One of the most devastating occurrences at midlife is when we have this identity stripped away and we come face to face with having to determine who we really are without the title.

My identity is formed when I subconsciously adopt a set of symbols or indicators that define what I feel about myself. When you introduce yourself to someone, what do you instinctively draw on to define who you are? Are those really the things you cling to for identity? A midlife crisis is often triggered when some of these status symbols or markers are taken away from us involuntarily and we're thrust into the messy process of redefining our identity. This can happen if you sell your company, get downsized, retire early, begin to look decidedly older, or if the meaning and value of the things that used to define you dissipate.

Halftime provides us with the opportunity to rethink our identity in a thoughtful, intentional way and reshape an identity grounded on something that will not shake or move. What truths about you *currently* define your identity? Don't over think; just write.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

What truths about you do you *want* to define your identity? Before you answer, let me share with you what mine have slowly become: God loves me; I am making an eternal impact in the world using my unique design; I matter deeply to a few people. Whereas the things that used to define me had to do with my net worth, creating high-class buildings, being focused and aggressive.

Now it's your turn. Write in the three things you feel you most want to define your identity.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

Now ask God to help you live out this new identity.

2. Your Development of a New Performance Standard

We often train our heart to measure our worth and satisfaction based on our performance. Living a life of eternal significance may result in days and years invested in things that are hard to measure. At other times it may appear as if God is squandering our time and talent that we sacrificially give to him.

Psalm 139:16 says, "All the days ordained for [insert your name] were written in your book before one of them came to be." What does this say about God's intentionality in your life and mine? God has a bigger picture of our lives than our little measures of daily performance. Even as you work hard to make an eternal impact for God through your new ministry, always remember that it is our privilege to partner with God and he reserves the right to determine the results.

3. Your Discovery of the Strength of Interdependence

I loved developing real estate, not only because it's about creating beautiful spaces, but because I loved the independence. As a developer,

you decide what land you want to buy, you determine what you want to build, you hire an architect and a contractor you like, and you keep the profits. When all was said and done, I always liked walking around the buildings my business partner, Andrew Mitton, and I built and feeling a deep sense of satisfaction.

The Heart Journey that accompanies our journey from success to significance involves learning that in the spiritual realm there is an even deeper satisfaction that comes from interdependence partnering with those people God has uniquely gifted to bring what you simply cannot bring. As you read over the case studies in the coming Roundtable meetings you will see how this interdependence has played out in almost every one of their second half stories.

What we can offer together is more than the sum of what we could offer independently. This, to me, is a stunning contrast to the corporate and entrepreneurial self-made ideal that I focused on in my first half.

4. Finding the Confidence to Long for Intimacy

God has always existed in deep, intimate community between the Father, Son, and Spirit. His intent was for us to live in intimacy with him and with each other, but sin created barriers in every direction. Some Christians learn to live in intimacy in their first half. But many of us are so caught up in the pace and pursuit of goals that we have little or no time to understand the value of intimacy or to learn to dismantle the barriers that stand in the way. Most men arrive at midlife with no really close friendships I know because I ask them. Every guy I coach through Halftime, I ask about their friendships. As I drill down, I find that nine out of ten men don't really know what it is like to have friends. What happens when we let off the gas in pursuing success is that we realize

relationships are not optional; they are essential. A new preoccupation becomes the journey from isolation to intimacy, and it's easier to feel than it is to understand.

Many fear the process because it appears weak. Others fear it because they feel that if God or a few close friends really saw who they were on the inside they'd walk the other way. As we fight being exposed, we miss out on what God has in mind for living out significant second-half lives. The only two things in life that last are the truth of God and relationships. Most of the legacy we are going to leave will occur through being able to draw close to those God brings across our pathway.

5. Seeing the Hero in Being a Servant

Our heroes are most often the strong and valiant, but Jesus gave his followers a different ideal: "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"

(Matt. 20:25-28).

We set out on the pursuit of significance to do something big for God only to find that this Heart Journey that God will take us on at Halftime moves in the exact opposite direction of our first-half ascent up the corporate ladder. Part of the "detox" that we must be prepared for is taking internal steps downward to find deeper satisfaction pursuing significance as a servant. It's Saturday morning. I drop my daughter Jennie off early for soccer practice and skip over to the bakery shop for breakfast and time to read and reflect. I notice the mentally handicapped man who wipes tables,

and as our eyes make contact, I smile, hold the garbage container open for him since his hands are full, and ask him how his day is going.

I thank him for the work he is doing. The heroic moments in my inner world now are times like this when I find myself treating a handicapped man who wipes tables with just as much respect as I do the CEOs that I coach through Halftime. These are the changes I most long to see in my heart, even more than accomplishing big things that may be apparent to thousands, and only God can make these heart changes happen.

The Halftimer's Prayer

So what can you do to expedite the Heart Journey? How can you cooperate with the transformation that God desires most and which you secretly long for yourself? Here are two ways:

1. Understand what God is doing so that when this inner transformation challenges you,
you'll have a bigger perspective.

2. Pray specifically for God to do this work in your heart. Let me challenge you to shut
the door, go on your knees, and pray the Halftimer's Prayer.

"Dear Lord, I am on a journey to find and live out what you placed me on this earth to do. I need your clear direction. I need to see your hand at work and sense your pleasure in what I do. Even more importantly, I want you to transform my heart, even as I partner with you in what you are accomplishing in this universe. Please soften my heart and bring clarity to my thinking so that you can create in me a new identity, a new measurement of my performance, so I become strong through interdependence, enjoy greater intimacy, and live as a servant. Amen."

Case Study and Devotion:

“Mid-Course Corrections”

Larry had a business career that most would admire: sharp, successful, often quoted in the Wall Street Journal, profiled in Fortune magazine and sought after as a CEO by several Fortune 50 companies. When a natural transition in his CEO role started to evolve, he decided it was time to go "all in" with God. The thought of another turnaround challenge, board position, or doing the speakers tour seemed boring and selfish. At this stage of life, God had blessed him with extra time and talent and he was ready to surrender it to God and sink his teeth into something that could change the world. He felt God calling him to address world hunger. Armed with a vast personal network of influential friends in business, US government and the mega-church world, Larry cast a vision of ending hunger in a strategic area of Africa. He led a fund raising effort to build a sustainable, locally-led program for increasing agricultural production and more efficient food distribution. Just as his vision began to take shape, some of the pieces of the puzzle began to fall out of place: A key church that had signed on to sponsor farmers backed out. The local leaders in Africa and Larry's team reached an impasse on two issues that were critical to the success of the program. A longtime business colleague who was essential to the strategy got caught up in a scandal that required him to focus on issues at home. Within a month, everything he had so selflessly worked for fell apart. He was crushed. He checked his heart to see if his ego had gotten in the way and he sincerely felt God's agenda had been in the forefront from the very beginning. Today Larry is bitter toward God, disillusioned, and on the sidelines of the Kingdom-building game.

The apostle Peter experienced a similar level of anger and disillusionment when it appeared Jesus' plan was unravelling as the guards arrested Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. "Then Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. So Jesus said to Peter:

'Put your sword back into its sheath. Shall I not drink from the cup of suffering the Father has given me?' (John 18:11 NLT)

1. At about 5 months into the Halftime Journey, many people find that the excitement of their second half dreams is degenerating into very hard work and, at times, failure. How do you deal with the fact that the slow pace and lack of "success" you may have experienced in your Halftime Journey thus far may actually be a part of God's plan?
2. How do you go about striking a healthy balance between taking action and leaving the results in God's hands?
3. Share an example from your life where something happened that seemed contrary to your wishes and God's plan, yet ultimately you see how it was God's intention all along.

Notes:

Fears, Challenges and Obstacles You May Face

Write down the top 3 or 4 fears or obstacles the group came up with that you face as you begin to implement your Halftime Roadmap.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

What does God's word say about these issues?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

What are the implications in your life? Take a moment to brainstorm some ideas right now that would help you accelerate past these fears and obstacles. Some accelerators are directly linked to obstacles, but some are not.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

Next Steps

Halftime Coach —We believe that Coaching is the most important next step you can take, and we believe you need a coach to talk with each month in order to see have the lasting results you desire.

Contact David Wong [davidsh.wong@yahoo.com.sg] to schedule an appointment.

Halftime Roundtable—A multiple month program for 7-8 Halftimers to continue on the Halftime journey together. The Roundtable meets is facilitated by a trained Halftime facilitator/Coach.

Books - Bob Buford's books *Halftime* and *Finishing Well* or Lloyd Reeb's books *From Success to Significance* and *Halftime For Couples* (www.halftime.org/couples) will provide you with models, strategies and encouragement www.halftime.org