

LESSON 9:

Called to Refine

Vocabulary



◆ **Refine:** to go through a process of **improvement and sharpening** so that what is valuable and strong remains and what is weak, impure, or unhelpful is removed

Scripture Study

A prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions.
The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences.



Proverbs 27:12

Question 1: What does this verse teach us about the importance of awareness, wisdom, and being willing to change direction?

Question 2: In what areas of your life or project do you need to start listening, adjusting, and strengthening so that you do not just “keep going” and face unnecessary setbacks?

The Lord gave another message to Jeremiah. He said, “Go down to the potter’s shop, and I will speak to you there.” So I did as he told me and found the potter working at his wheel. But the jar he was making did not turn out as he had hoped, so he crushed it into a lump of clay again and started over. Then the Lord gave me this message: “O Israel, can I not do to you as this potter has done to his clay? As the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand.” **Jeremiah 18:1-6**

Question 3: What does the image of clay in the potter’s hand teach us about how God refines and reshapes our lives?

Question 4: Where in your own journey do you sense God reshaping you so that he can form something better?

Question 5: Who is someone in your life that you can trust to provide you with feedback to help you grow in your work? What about in your relationship with Jesus?

Question 6: How can you be a refiner for someone else? What posture should you take when you encourage a friend or a co-worker to improve?

Project Milestone

Refine pitch. By the end of the lesson, I will have completed the SWOT analysis with my group and addressed any improvements that need to be made to make our project successful.

Instructions

SWOT is a tool to help us see clearly. Complete the activity below to reflect on your project experience.

See Figure 9 in the back of the book to view a completed sample.

| Strengths <i>What parts of your pitch went well? What positive feedback did you receive?</i> | Weakness <i>Based on the feedback, what part of our plan needs improvement?</i> | Opportunities <i>What could we add or change to make it stronger?</i> | Threats <i>What could block success? What risks should we anticipate?</i> |
|--|---|---|---|
| | | | |