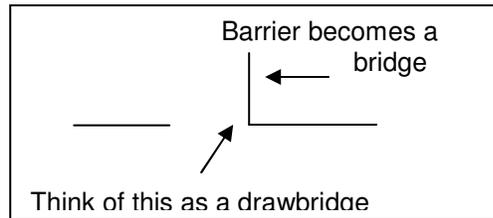


Breaking Plateaus and Moving Into Your NEXT

Introduction:

Can't live in the past or get stuck in the present
What is next? How do we get there?



Barriers Become Bridges

How do you get to the next level?

Illustration of drawbridge that is a barrier or a “roadblock”

By going through a barrier you become who you need to be for the next season!

5 Common Barriers – Personal Level

1. Barriers of the Heart.
 - a. Jesus always starts inside out
 - b. **Why** would God give us more if we are not grateful for what we have now?
 - c. Psalm 51: Heart check looking for such things as bitterness, ungratefulness, jealousy, pride....
2. Barriers of the Head
 - a. All growth starts with the head
 - b. Check for small thinking, scarcity mentality, lack of faith.....
3. Skills Develop
 - a. Note: what got you to and thru your last level, **will not work** for the next barrier.
 - b. We need to “hear” what skills need to be developed to move on
4. Personal Disciplines – one example
 - a. Ken was working on writing the next book...
 - b. He realized that he was not using his evenings the best way...
 - c. For him it was watching less TV, get up earlier....
 - d. He also needed to get up earlier
5. Relational Barriers
 - a. You are who you are around
 - b. If you look at your 10 “friends” and their income levels; yours will be the average of their income
 - c. Group “think” is good
 - d. Friends take us either up or down...people inspire us!
 - e. If you want to get to the next level, you might need some “new” friends around you.

Take a moment ~ which one of these five stands out?

- Information apart from application doesn't do anything
- Information with application brings transformation
- What **barrier** that maybe has me stuck...living in the past – if I work my way thru it, it will be the **bridge** to get me to the next level.

4 Areas To Re – Consider – Organizational Level

Reconsider as you look at the next ten (10) years.

1. Re – Listen to God
 - a. Pause and re – listen to God
 - b. Re – listen to others
 - c. Do not assume the past will be your future!
 - d. What has been is not necessarily your future (can't be assured)
 - e. The longer we go the greater the tendency we have to decline into human activity.**
 - f. What is your next season?

2. Re – Clarify your “why” – what’s the picture on the wall? Your target on the wall?
 - a. Why do you exist?
 - b. Why do you do what you do?

3. Re – Align your how - - the how to accomplish your why
 - a. How to accomplish your why
 - b. Over time our activities do not align with the “why” and “how”

4. Re – Commit to your cause
 - a. Re – evaluate your commitment to the next level or season in your life.
 - i. Let it be yes or no.
 - ii. Today we honored the past – now we must re-commit to the next season
 - iii. Tennis illustration of not being in no-man’s land. Yes person or no person.
 - iv. How many of you get frustrated with people you are leading that are non-committal.
 - b. Greatest challenges in thinking about re-committing
 - i. Everyone is busy
 - ii. Church / ministry / business is growing
 - iii. Season of acceleration
 - iv. You are in crisis or survival mode
 - v. Conflict in your heart toward others in the city/region – the longer you go in trying to build unity together, the more challenging it can be with offenses that come up.
 - vi. Envy or jealousy of what others are doing – so you don't want to see them in a Serve The City luncheon.
 - vii. Growing mistrust or offense
 - viii. Those with larger congregations/ ministries have to ask “Is it worth my time or energy? Do I believe in this thing?”
 - ix. Do I or my ministry really need it? What's in it for me?

Conclusion:

Story: rowing 4 canoes across the lake in the boundry waters. Difference between those that are paddling in sync and those that aren't in sync.

Story: Storm looked like 50 bulldozers lined up next to each other and pushed everything back.

- Think what we could do if we linked arms and moved as one in a region.
- It's hard to get the bulldozers linked and moving in the same direction.
- If we do it, we will make an impact.