

Director Module 6 – Persevere Through Adversity and Overcome Obstacles

Core Competency 6

Persevere through adversity and overcome obstacles.

Listen

Watch or listen to this podcast episode of the Craig Groeschel Leadership Podcast with Lysa Terkeurst called, "[How to Lead Through Pain.](#)"

Discuss

1. Craig began the podcast by saying, "If you're not hurting, you probably aren't leading." Why do you think he said this? Would you agree or disagree with that? Why or why not?
2. Lysa said that, "Pain is pain," and that, "All leaders are dealing with some pain." What is causing some pain in your life right now? (Remember that appropriate vulnerability "breeds life.")
3. Describe the difference between privacy and secrecy. How do you determine what to share or not to share with others when it comes to your pain?
4. Respond to Lysa's statement, "The very best time to forgive a critic is before you're criticized." How do you know what criticism to listen to?
5. Lysa said our team notices how we respond to criticism and pain. What have you noticed in a leader you know and how they responded to criticism and pain? What could you learn from them?
6. Craig said that if we want to accomplish more as a leader, we must increase our pain threshold. What is something we can do to grow our pain threshold? (Remember Lysa described the olive tree that needs the harsh winds, that its fruit is not helpful until it's cracked, and that the most valuable thing from the olive tree is the oil that is pressed out.)
7. Craig said the difference between where you are and where you could be is the pain you are unwilling to endure. Is there something you know that you need to do that will be difficult, but on the other side will be worth it? What is it?

Exercise

Find someone who you look up to who has been in leadership for a minimum of 6 years. Ask them these questions:

1. Describe a season of adversity that you have had to lead through.
 - a. How did you lead through it?
 - b. What did you do well?
 - c. What would you have liked to have done differently?

2. When it came to sharing and being vulnerable about this pain with others, what did you share with who? Would you do that over again?
3. How have you responded to criticism? What kind of criticism do you pay attention to?
4. Describe a time where you had to make a difficult decision but knew it was the right decision. How did you push through the pain with that decision?