

# Your Role as a Change Agent

*Shape the person and you stand a much greater chance  
of shaping everything else.*

James M. Houston

Our role as facilitator and mentor will most likely precipitate growth in the lives of those we walk along side. It is an echo of what the Apostle Paul and others throughout the history of the church cared deeply about—helping the saints grow toward maturity in Christ, “...from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love” (Ephesians 4:16).

One way to speak of your role within the context of your church or community is that you will function (knowingly or not) as a change agent. Whenever people come together to talk about what they deeply care about change begins to take place. Not only in their lives, but in community or context in which they find themselves.

An apt comparison may be an ecological one of what might happen if we were to add turtles to a pond. After a while we would discover that we did not just add a few snappers to a pond, but we effected the life dynamic of the whole pond.

We have found that over time as facilitators particularize and walk alongside others as they go through the VP3 processes together other people within their system begin to notice “something good is going on.” Your role as a facilitator is critical in that you will be serving educationally speaking to help those in your group process some of the most significant questions of their lives. Your influence toward change within the life of another, and within the life of your community is very significant.

We have also found that the role of facilitator over time within a local church or community has had an influence in the following ways:

- A catalyst for noticing the *particular* and *deeper* formation of others.
- Surfaced the importance of a *developmental approach* with adults.
- Helped expose the *callings* and potential *ministry service* of others.
- Indirectly exposed developmental *gaps* within a local system.
- Fostered a desire among facilitators to *come together* for learning.

We would encourage you to meet with others in your setting (other facilitators, pastoral staff, key

