

Journey Toward Ordained Ministry Telling Your Story

Beginnings

- Who were you when you began discernment?
- What was your context?
- What event initiated your discernment?
- How did you respond?
- Why did you respond that way?
- Where was God moving? (Think theologically.)

Transitions

- What has been your context between your beginning and now?
- Has your response been consistent or have you responding in different ways? If they've changed, why?
- Where was God moving? (Think theologically.)

Now and Next

- What is your context now?
- How are you currently responding?
- Why are you responding the way you are?
- Where do you think God is leading you into the future?
- Where was God moving? (Think theologically)

Affirmations

- Examples of how are you being affirmed by God (vertical affirmations-prayer, scripture, meditation, contemplation)?
- Examples of how are you being affirmed by others (horizontal affirmations-family, friends, peers, students, church members)?



Other Tips

- Start with the end in mind... and **Keep it Brief**
- Focus on you, not others... and **Keep it Brief**
- Cater to your audience... and **Keep it Brief**
- What are you learning about God?... and... **Keep it Brief**

Recap

- Your **BEGINNING**
 - *Make sure to include:*
 - *Affirmations you've received*
 - *Where did you experience God moving*
- Your **TRANSITION** (growth/middle)
 - *Make sure to include:*
 - *What was happening in your life*
 - *Why did you make the choices you made*
 - *Affirmations you've received*
 - *Where did you experience God moving*
- Your **"NOW"**
 - *Make sure to include:*
 - *What was happening in your life*
 - *Why did you make the choices you made*
 - *Affirmations you've received*
 - *Where did you experience God moving*
- Your **"NEXT"**
 - *Make sure to include:*
 - *What was happening in your life*
 - *Why did you make the choices you made*
 - *Affirmations you've received*
 - *Where did you experience God moving*