

## 49-You Can Become the Conscious-Competent He Designed You to Be

Self awareness is a gift that not everyone embraces! Early in my sales career I was introduced to a Wilson Learning program that postulated that we fall into four classifications-conscious competent, unconscious component, conscious incompetent and unconscious incompetent! Clearly if we are competent and conscious of our talents we are in the healthiest classification. However we are often confronted with the unconscious incompetent- those that are completely unaware of their faults and are completely unaware of how it affects those closest to them!

So how do you deal with the unconscious incompetent? Our natural instinct is to enlighten them. We attempt to help them become conscious of their state and then try to encourage them to develop their talents and become competent. As we struggle to enlighten these folks, we quickly discover that it's hard to bring enlightenment to those who are completely unaware of their need for enlightenment. As much as I want to encourage you to stick with it, I encourage you to understand that attempting to enlighten the unconscious ultimately leads to frustration. The unconscious remain unconscious and the person attempting to enlighten the unconscious slowly begins to harbor negative feelings toward the unconscious. No one wins in this scenario except the devil!!

The only approach is to LOVE the person! Yes, you must embrace them and love them!! Why? It's God's plan and His commandment. Jesus loved everyone. There was no one who was UNLOVEABLE in the eyes of Jesus. In **Mark 12:31** Jesus commands "The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." A second reason is that our mission is to be salt and light to a fallen world. Consider **Acts 26:18** "to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me." Someone who is unaware of their situation needs a massive amount of love. **They need unconditional love!** It is not our job to "fix" people. Only the Holy Spirit has the power to help the unconscious become conscious. These folks are often hurting and the last thing they need is for us to walk away from them. We need to engage with everyone and then listen to the direction we receive from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit knows the best

approach and we will know also if we listen carefully to the leading of our "Helper".

We were created for a purpose. We are on a mission. I find that I can completely miss my mission when I fail to connect with people that God puts in my life. I have come to see these "collisions" as a sign that I need to connect with folks, get to know them and let them know they matter. They matter to me and they matter to God. If you're thinking this is not for you then maybe you need to re-evaluate why you're here! Be encouraged by **Philippians 4:13**- "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me". You have been and continue to be equipped for the missions that your Creator has hand-selected just for you. He has made you a conscious-competent. You are conscious of His design for you and competent because He has equipped you for the mission.

I started as an unconscious-incompetent believer. In time I became conscious of my need to grow if I was going to be of any value for my Creator. Once conscious of my need to grow, then I joined a small group, a men's group and developed close relationships with mature believers. As a leader I was tasked to learn the material I was teaching. I found there is no better way to grow spiritually than to step up and teach. He has made me competent. As I prepared to teach He taught me what I needed not just for my group but for me personally! I am now a conscious-competent not because of me but because I made myself available to be molded and shaped by the Creator who sent me on this mission. Who better to make me into what I need to be than the One who created me!

My encouragement to you is simple---- Be available, be obedient and trust that he will equip you for the mission He designed you to fulfill!

### Personal Reflection:

Are you conscious of your need to grow? What are you doing to fulfill your mission? Are you performing routine maintenance--- daily quiet time, small group and weekly worship?

### Group Discussion:

How can the group encourage routine maintenance? How can you encourage each other to be available and obedient?