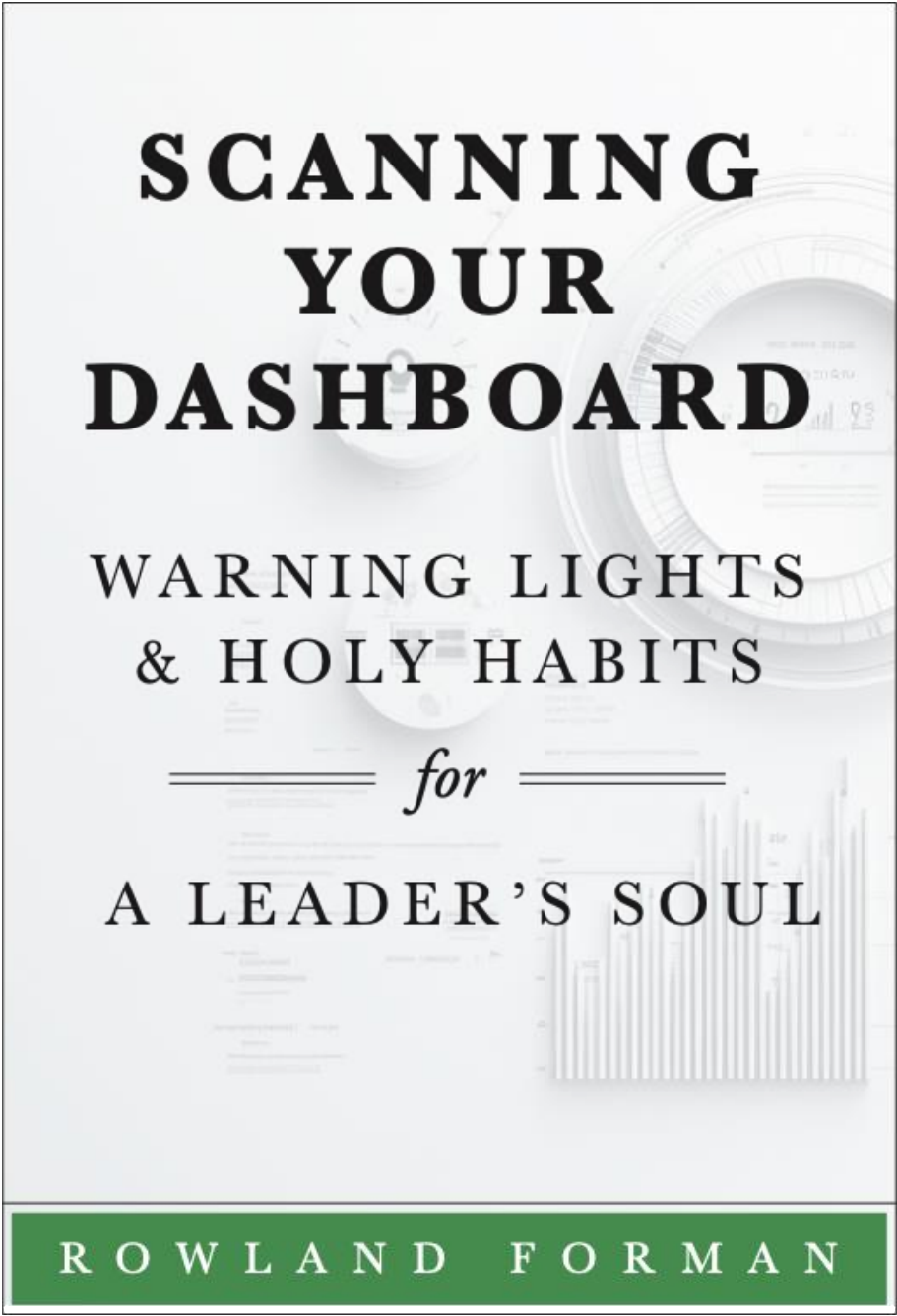




SCANNING YOUR DASHBOARD

WARNING LIGHTS
& HOLY HABITS

===== *for* =====

A LEADER'S SOUL

ROWLAND FORMAN

Leader & Mentor Guide

Welcome

Scanning Your Dashboard is more than a mentoring resource. It is an invitation to slow down, listen to God together, and encourage one another as you become more like Christ.

The purpose is not simply to complete seven Dashboard Indicators. It is to cultivate a lifestyle of abiding in Christ, humble dependence on the Holy Spirit, and growing honesty with one another. Genuine transformation rarely happens in a hurry. It unfolds as we reflect, pray, practice what we are learning, and encourage one another along the way.

As you journey together, you will naturally learn and practice many of the foundational skills of spiritual mentoring.

When you meet, resist the temptation to rush through the questions or search for the "right" answers. Instead, listen carefully, ask thoughtful questions, allow space for silence, and pray often. Celebrate any evidences of God's grace, however small they may seem, and trust the Holy Spirit to continue his work of forming Christlike character in each of you.

Remember, this is not about one person mentoring another as the expert. It is about two followers of Jesus walking together, helping one another keep a close watch on the condition of their souls and responding faithfully to the Holy Spirit's prompting.

General Guidelines

Preparing for the Journey

1. This Is a Journey

Scanning Your Dashboard is about character formation, not simply completing a resource. Resist the temptation to rush. Give the Holy Spirit time to deepen your love for Christ and shape you into his likeness.

For this reason, we recommend meeting every two weeks or once a month. The time between meetings allows you to pray, reflect, and begin putting into practice what God has been teaching you.

Don't worry if some conversations take longer than expected. It is better to explore one question deeply than to rush through them all.

2. Pray Throughout the Journey

Prayer is not simply something you do at the beginning and end of each meeting—it is woven through the entire mentoring journey.

Pray before you meet, during your conversations whenever appropriate, and after each session. Continue praying for one another until you meet again.

3. Encourage One Another

Some of the Warning Lights may uncover areas of weakness that are difficult to discuss. The Holy Habits provide wonderful opportunities to encourage one another and celebrate God's grace at work.

Look for evidence of growth. Affirm one another often. Encourage progress rather than perfection.

4. Use the Audio Resources

If you are using the accompanying audio recordings, distribute them before each Dashboard Indicator and encourage participants to listen beforehand.

Some groups prefer listening to the audios together. One helpful approach is to listen to the Warning Light, pause for discussion, take a short break, then listen to the Holy Habit before continuing your conversation.

5. Create a Safe Environment

Everything shared within your mentoring relationship should remain confidential.

This is especially important in Dashboard Indicator #5, where deeply personal issues may be discussed. Trust grows when confidentiality is honoured.

Because of the personal nature of these conversations, we strongly recommend that men meet with men and women with women.

6. Practical Matters

- This resource works best in mentoring pairs or, at most, groups of three.
 - Larger teaching groups of up to thirty participants can be used for introducing each Dashboard Indicator, but the mentoring conversations themselves should remain in pairs or triads.
 - Some groups prefer printing the entire resource, while others distribute one Dashboard Indicator at a time.
 - This resource is freely available for ministry use. If you wish to translate or adapt it, please contact the author.
 - Certificates of Completion are available on request.
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A Simple Rhythm for Every Mentoring Conversation

Although every mentoring conversation will be different, the following rhythm provides a simple pattern that many have found helpful. Don't feel bound by it. Be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit and to the needs of the person you are meeting with.

1. Begin by Catching Up

Take a few minutes to reconnect before beginning the session. Start by asking how the person has been since you last met.

Then spend some time reflecting on the previous Dashboard Indicator.

- Where have you seen God at work?
- What has encouraged you?
- What has been difficult?
- How have you sought to put into practice what you learned?

Celebrate even the smallest signs of God's grace.

Mentoring Principle: *Celebrate evidence of God's grace before talking about areas of growth.*

2. Explore the Dashboard Indicator Together

Work through the Warning Light and Holy Habit together.

The questions are conversation starters, not a checklist to complete. Don't worry if you don't discuss every question. It is often better to explore one question deeply than to cover them all.

Listen carefully. Ask follow-up questions such as, *"Tell me more about that..."* Resist the temptation to give quick advice. Often your greatest gift is simply to listen well.

Remember that this is mutual mentoring. If one person is leading the conversation, they should also answer the questions honestly and openly.

Mentoring Principle: *Questions often shape people more deeply than answers.*

3. Pray as You Go

Don't wait until the end to pray.

If someone shares a struggle, pause and pray immediately. If someone celebrates God's grace, stop and thank him together. Let prayer become a natural part of your conversation.

4. Respond to God's Voice

Before finishing, ask:

"What do you sense the Holy Spirit has been saying to you today?"

Then ask:

"What is one practical step you will take before we meet again?"

Aim for one simple, realistic step rather than several ambitious ones.

Don't measure success by how many questions you discuss or how much ground you cover. Measure it by whether each person leaves with a clearer sense of what God is saying and one practical step of obedience to take before you meet again.

Mentoring Principle: *Transformation usually happens one obedient step at a time.*

5. Continue the Journey

Pray for one another during the weeks ahead.

A brief text message or phone call between meetings can be a wonderful way to encourage one another and to remind each other that you are walking this journey together.

Session One Dashboard Indicator 1

Are You Drifting or Abiding in Christ?

Mentoring Guidelines:

- This resource is all about mutual mentoring. One person may ask the questions but they should share their own answers as well.
- The questions are prompts, and the main thing is to be a good listener. From time to time say, “Tell me more about that...”
- Questions 1, 2 and 5 are the main ones to cover in Warning Light #1, and Question 1 and 2 in Holy Habit #1.
- As these questions are so personal, pause to pray for each other during the time together.

Before You Meet Again

- Pray for one another.
- Put one practical step into practice.
- Be ready to share what God has been teaching you next time.

Reflect & Discuss:

WARNING LIGHT #1: DRIFTING: Am I Trading Performance for Intimacy with Christ?

1. When you think about the past six months, would you describe your relationship with Christ as close, drifting, or distant? What has most shaped that reality?
2. In what ways might activity for Christ be crowding out intimacy with Christ in your life right now?
3. Jesus says that “apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15:5). How does that verse challenge the way you currently approach your leadership, work, or ministry?
4. What are some early signs that you are operating on “performance” rather than “dependence”?
5. What would it look like this week—not to try harder—but to simply abide more intentionally in Christ?

HOLY HABIT #1: ABIDING: Depending on Christ Daily

1. What might it look like for you to “abide in Christ” in the ordinary moments of life this week?
 2. Has God been pruning anything in your life recently? How have you responded?
 3. What does it look like to practice what Jesus meant by If ... my words remain in you (John 15:7)?
 4. As you reflect on Warning Light #1 and Holy Habit #1, what has the Holy Spirit been saying to you? What steps will you take?
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Session Two

Dashboard Indicator 2

Are You Praying Less or Praying More?

Before you begin, briefly share how God has been at work since your last meeting. Then follow the mentoring rhythm introduced in Session One.

Reflect & Discuss:

WARNING LIGHT #2. PRAYERLESSNESS: Am I too Distracted to Pray?

1. When you hear the term “prayerlessness” what is your response?
2. How does distracted busyness relate to less prayer in your life?
3. With which of the three examples of prayerlessness (1 Samuel 13, Luke 22, and Mark 9) do you most identify? Why?

HOLY HABIT #2: DEPENDENCE: Praying as Your Way of Life

1. When you think about Jesus praying so often, what does it reveal to you about his life of dependence on the Father?
2. Which kind of prayer comes most naturally to you right now: meditative, free, routine, or scheduled? Which feels hardest?
3. What is one moment in your daily leadership rhythm where you could simply “send a quick prayer to heaven,” like Nehemiah?
4. As you reflect on Warning Light #2 and Holy Habit #2, what has the Holy Spirit been saying to you? What steps will you take?

Session Three

Dashboard Indicator 3

Are You Prideful, or Humbly Serving Others?

Before you begin, briefly share how God has been at work since your last meeting. Then follow the mentoring rhythm introduced in Session One.

Reflect & Discuss:

WARNING LIGHT #3 PRIDE: Am I too Big for My Boots?

1. Would those closest to you describe you as humble or prideful? What evidence might they point to?
2. More importantly, how do you think God would describe your current posture—self-reliance or humble dependence?
3. Which of these three pride indicators resonated most with you?
 - Thinking you don’t struggle with pride.
 - Talking more than listening.
 - Fishing for compliments

HOLY HABIT #3: HUMILITY: Becoming More Like Jesus

1. Which of these three metaphors—serving like a waiter, washing feet, or climbing down—most challenges you right now?
2. Where might pride be quietly shaping your leadership decisions or relationships?
3. Which of the suggested “practices that may become habits” could you implement this week?
4. As you reflect on Warning Light #3 and Holy Habit #3, what has the Holy Spirit been saying to you? What steps will you take?

Session Four Dashboard Indicator 4

Are You Running on Empty, or Learning Unforced Rhythms of Grace?

Before you begin, briefly share how God has been at work since your last meeting. Then follow the mentoring rhythm introduced in Session One.

Reflect & Discuss:

WARNING LIGHT #4 FATIGUE: Am I Running on Empty?

1. Which description of fatigue in this devotional resonated most with you?
2. How do you distinguish between satisfied tiredness and debilitating tiredness in your own life?
3. What might repentance and rest look like for you in this season?

HOLY HABIT #4: RHYTHMS: Learning When to Engage and When to Disengage

1. When leaders are fatigued, what might it signal?
2. Which of these life rhythms do you tend to ignore: ceasing, withdrawing, resting, and celebrating? Why?
3. What might a “Sabbath pause” look like for you this week?
4. As you reflect on Warning Light #4 and Holy Habit #4, what has the Holy Spirit been saying to you? What steps will you take?

Session Five Dashboard Indicator 5

Are You Slipping Morally, or Guarding Your Heart?

Before you begin, briefly share how God has been at work since your last meeting. Then follow the mentoring rhythm introduced in Session One.

Reflect & Discuss:

WARNING LIGHT #5: IMPURITY: Am I Spying on Greener Grass?

1. What do you understand to be the difference between impurity of heart and immorality of behavior?

2. What might “greener grass” represent for you—not just sexually, but in terms of desire or coveting?
3. Where do you see the danger of small, unchecked glances becoming larger compromises?
4. How does David’s story both warn you and give you hope?

HOLY HABIT #5: PURITY: Guarding Your Heart

1. When do you feel most vulnerable when it comes to purity?
2. When temptation comes, what Scripture could you access immediately for your protection?
3. What are some of the challenges you face in your quest to find a safe person with whom you could be more honest?
4. As you reflect on Warning Light #5 and Holy Habit #5, what has the Holy Spirit been saying to you? What steps will you take?

Session Six Dashboard Indicator 6

Are You Isolated, or Investing in Others?

Before you begin, briefly share how God has been at work since your last meeting. Then follow the mentoring rhythm introduced in Session One.

Reflect & Discuss:

WARNING LIGHT #6: ISOLATION: Am I Drifting Away from God’s Design for Interdependence?

1. Where have you noticed Isolation creeping in through busyness, pressure, or success?
2. In what ways might your strengths or gifting be contributing to isolated leadership?
3. Who currently has permission to ask you hard questions like Jethro did with Moses?
4. What kind of decision-making, approval-giving or burden-bearing depends on you alone? Why?

HOLY HABIT #6 INTERDEPENDENCE: Learning to Invest in Others

1. Who can you trust to be able to understand and support you through the real pressures and vulnerabilities of your leadership?
2. When are you most tempted to drift into isolation?
3. What would it look like to take one step toward a mentor-friend relationship this week?
4. As you reflect on Warning Light #6 and Holy Habit #6, what has the Holy Spirit been saying to you? What steps will you take?

Session Seven Dashboard Indicator 7

Are You Prideful, or Humbly Serving Others?

Before you begin, briefly share how God has been at work since your last meeting. Then follow the mentoring rhythm introduced in Session One.

Reflect & Discuss:

WARNING LIGHT #7: INAUTHENTICITY: Am I Pretending to Be What I'm Not?

1. If inauthenticity is a drift rather than a sudden failure, what small shifts or compromises do you think may often initiate that drift in leaders?
2. Where do you feel the greatest pressure to appear spiritually healthy?
3. David spoke of keeping silent and wasting away. What keeps leaders silent when confession and transparency would bring healing?
4. Using the iceberg image, what aspects of your life are most visible to others? What aspects are mostly below the surface? Whom do you allow to see below the waterline?

HOLY HABIT #7 INTEGRITY: Leading From the Inside Out

1. Why might Christian leaders be tempted to live a split life—one version public, another private?
2. What are some little compromises that could slowly erode leaders' souls over time?
3. Which aspects of Daniel's life of integrity inspired you most?
4. As you reflect on Warning Light #7 and Holy Habit #7, what has the Holy Spirit been saying to you? What steps will you take?

Looking Back

As you conclude all seven Dashboard Indicators, take time to reflect together:

1. Looking back over all seven Dashboard Indicators, where have you seen God change you the most?
2. Which Dashboard Indicator do you think you will need to keep returning to throughout your life?
3. Which Holy Habit do you most want to become part of your daily life over the next year?
4. Pray together, thanking God for what He has begun and asking for His grace to continue forming Christlike character in your lives.

A Final Word

When I look back over the years, I am deeply grateful for the many people God has allowed me to walk alongside. Some journeys have lasted decades. Others have been surprisingly brief. I have discovered that lasting spiritual growth rarely comes through having all the right answers.

More often, it begins when someone takes the time to listen.

To listen without rushing. To ask thoughtful questions. To pray together. To create space for the Holy Spirit to speak. Those moments have often become turning points in people's lives.

If there is one lesson I hope this guide leaves with you, it is this: you do not have to be an expert to be a spiritual mentor. You simply need to love people well, listen carefully, ask honest questions, and trust the Holy Spirit to do what only he can do.

Don't measure success by how much material you cover or how many questions you discuss. Measure it by whether people are growing in their love for Christ and taking one more step of obedient faith.

If those you mentor become more attentive to the voice of the Good Shepherd, more dependent on his grace, and more willing to follow wherever he leads, then your time together has been well spent.

My prayer is that this guide will help cultivate thousands of Christ-centred mentoring friendships around the world—friendships where people are encouraged, challenged, prayed for, and gently formed into the likeness of Jesus.

May the Lord use your life, your listening, and your love to help others follow him more closely.

Your servant for Christ's sake,

Rowland

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others." — 2 Timothy 2:2



ROWLAND FORMAN
MINISTRIES