

DISCOVER AND FINE-TUNE YOUR DIRECTION



The book of Proverbs was written to make the unwise wise and the wise wiser (1:4-5). We learn wisdom hearing from God and His people, so Proverbs 20:5 is particularly interesting.

A plan in the heart of a man is like deep water, But a man of understanding draws it out. (NASB)

What do we see the person “of understanding” doing here? In this case, this person is not impart-

ing wisdom. Rather, this person is drawing the other out. What’s being drawn out is “the deep water” that is the plan in another’s heart. So it makes sense that, in this instance, the wise person is not telling the other what to do for the plan is already within the other person. Wisdom here is helping another clarify, perhaps even discover, his or her direction.

I see this wisdom principle play itself out in coaching. Typically, when one hears the word *coach*, an image comes to mind of a person on a sideline with a whistle telling you what to do. The definition of coach that we use in the Advocate Network is the one that people used 100 years ago. A coach is a vehicle. Vehicles move you from where you are to where you want to be.

love to serve you in your advocacy. Coaching conversations are 30-minute phone calls where you have the opportunity to engage an aspect of your advocacy that you want to move forward in. Full disclosure: Your coach won’t tell you what to do. Rather, they’ll ask questions that are intended to draw you out. They’ll give you time to think — an opportunity to hear the Holy Spirit. They’ll learn your agenda and hold it in front of you. This helps you “speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves” by helping you find clarity, discover your direction, and move forward in action.

If you would like to learn more about advocacy coaching, or desire to be connected with a coach, please contact me at idurias@compassion.com. We would love to help you into your ministry’s driver seat.



By **Ian Durias**
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And you’re the driver.

Coaching is one of the ways that we would