

MID-ATLANTIC LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE

The Church and Political Engagement

Speak Prophetically, Think Strategically

By Rev. Dr. Christopher Zacharias





Overview

The goal of the class that participants will have practical steps to take for effective political engagement of their church or social justice ministry to have the best opportunity to accomplish its purpose of **Speaking Prophetically** and **Acting Strategically**.



**WHAT DOES IT
MEAN TO (YOU)
TO SPEAK
PROPHETICALLY?**

BASICALLY...

TO SPEAK PROPHETICALLY IN
OUR DAY IS TO TAKE UP (IN A
SENSE) THE **MANTLE** OF THE
PROPHETS. THE PROPHETS
(OLD TESTAMENTS) AND
APOSTLES (NEW TESTAMENTS)
CONDEMN THE WORLD AND
CALL THE CHURCH TO LIVE AS
PILGRIMS, STRANGERS, AND
EXILES.

”

DAVID F WATSON

Previously...

**Attending Marches of National
or Local Protest**

**Attending meetings
(ecumenical or in partnership
with) NAACP, Urban League,
Black Lives Matter, or**

**Ecumenical press conferences
or Worship services of Political
Engagement**

Currently...

**All of the previously, PLUS
Establishing a Connectional Social
Justice & Advocacy Team including
promoting and initiating connectional
involvement in social and economical
justice matters.**

**Providing resources to A.M.E. Zion
Churches to assist in local advocacy
endeavors, etc.**

**Assisting in the statements and
demands from the A.M.E. Zion Church
by way of the Board of Bishops
nationally & globally**

Let's

ENGAGE

Name some *Social Justice Matters* that the A.M.E. Zion Church can speak prophetically to. Moreover, what *Social Justice Matters* can your church speak to or is speaking to and how?

**SILENT INACTION
TO SPOKEN ACTION**

**SPOKEN PROTEST
TO SPOKEN ACTION**

**SPOKEN ACTION
TO
SPIRITUAL
LIBERATION**

Biblical Example

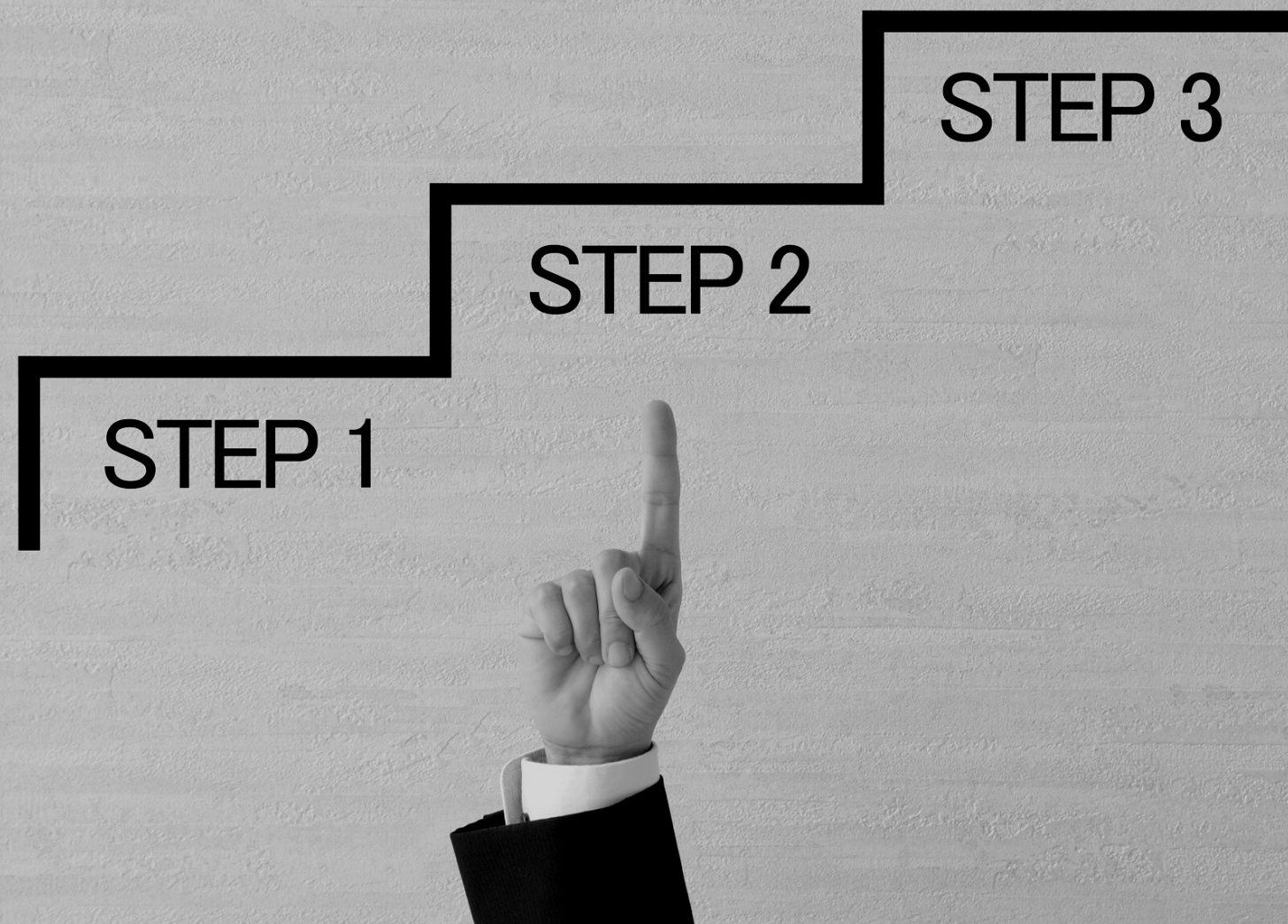
Esther 4:12-16:



BOOK OF
ESTHER

ACT STRATEGICALLY





**WHAT ISSUE DO
YOU WANT TO
CHANGE?**

**WHAT ARE YOUR
ACTION STEPS?**



**Connect with
Decision Makers**



**Press
Conferences**



Prayer Vigils



**Things
to
Consider**

**Public
Demonstrations
/ Marches**



Advocacy through Social Media

Advocacy

The act of pleading or arguing in favor of something, such as a cause, policy, or interest, or the active support of an idea or cause.



Social media platforms can be influential when used to disseminate messages, organize groups of people, and communicate with decision makers.



OTHER RESOURCES

**RESEARCH
AND DUE
DILIGENCE**

**BOOKS &
PERIODICALS**

**LOCAL AND
NATIONAL
GROUPS**

**COURSE
HANDOUT**

Thank you!

LOOK FORWARD TO JOINING YOUR MOVEMENT!