

Most of the time we find that our plan and path is not the same as God's plan and path. Why? Simple...We are human and want to control things. We want things in our timing, and we want it to be done our way. I too, went through this same exact process while following my path to coaching. Shortly before I got pregnant with my last child, I began wondering what I would do after I was finished having children. Although my calling of being a mom and wife is one, I take seriously, I felt that God also had another thing in store for me. So, I started my search and came upon life coaching. My heart swelled at the idea of being able to help others and I knew then that God had a future for me in Life Coaching. Once that was decided I wondered what my next steps were. For 5 years I kept telling people, "I want to be a Life Coach." I started wondering if I ever would get there. When does a dream begin to become a reality? So, I started to pray that God would make the timing clear to me. I knew turning it over to HIM left it out of my hands and out of my control. Soon after I me to applied to a coaching company where I would receive training to become a coach. I was excited! I sent in my application, was chosen for an interview, and then turned the interview down! Now, I know what you are thinking. Why would you turn it down??!! If this is something you believed God was calling you to do?! Isn't this what you wanted?

I started having concerns and started seeing God telling me this was not the right time for me to receive training. I started realizing that it was me wanting to apply and focusing on my timing instead of God's timing. We were not financially ready and for other unexplainable reasons God was just telling me "No, not now child." Reluctantly, I obeyed and passed on the opportunity. I didn't understand why God would lead me to being a coach and give an opportunity for me to study at a school and then tell me not

to go through with it. This all happened in January 2020. Right before Covid...hmm. Right before all the change was to come upon us. During some of the most difficult times some of us have ever seen. The months of quarantine. I began to wonder if this was the reason, he was telling me to turn down the training. During the months of quarantined COVID I was blessed to work from home or in the home of the people who employ me. My husband was able to do so as well. We ended up saving money during this time and building a stronger family unit. In the July 2020 after doing some further research, I kept reviewing and going back to one particular company-Christian Coach Institute, something compelled me to look at their site again. I had been watching to see when they were offering their classes. As I opened their website, I felt the Holy Spirit urging me to sit down and fill out their application. As I opened their application I found it was overwhelming with all the information that needed to be filled out. You see, sometimes I struggle for words, and I wanted to make sure this application showed WHO I was and WHAT I believed. So, I prayed. I told God that if he is wanting me to do this then I need him to provide me with a clear mind and the words I needed to fill in the application. After a short 15 mins that application had been filled out and submitted. God had provided! I knew then there was more to this than just filling out an application. A few days later we were meeting family on vacation. During this time, I received an e-mail telling me I had been accepted into the Christian Coach Institutes program to become a Certified Life Coach. They informed me that they would e-mail me again when time got closer and see if I still wanted the spot in the class. I was overjoyed. Not only did the timing seem right but we were more financially prepared to do this! As fall drew near, I did apply to another coaching program. The Christian Coach Institute did

not have openings until January of 2021, so I knew I had to wait awhile. After applying however to the other company God made it very clear why he had chosen Christian Coach Institute for me and that I just needed to be patient a little longer. Although the other company would have had me certified sooner, God had a plan. God also had a plan for a very dear friend of mine. God encouraged her through me to go and get certified as a Life Coach! She too was encouraging me to keep moving forward with my coaching. God has a funny way of using your experiences and stories to speak to others!

Knowing that January would be here soon I rested in my decision and began to pray and prepare. I had no idea what to all expect when it came to classes. I honestly treasure every moment I had though in the class and outside of that class. The good, exciting moments and the hard moments that really made you take a second look at yourself were true moments of growth. I will always look upon that time very fondly.

My training began January 2021 and ended May 2021. We had class every Wednesday night online for three hours. Two of those hours were normally instructional with classroom participation and the last hour was saved for coaching with our instructor and classmates. Having some much class participation was amazing! I learned so many things from so many different people. I loved to see the way in which they viewed things. After class most of us spent 10+ hours on homework which did not include the coaching we had with our buddies or triads. As you can see, we were well prepared for what was to come. When our classes ended, we then did our practicum where we chose two different clients, gave 4 complimentary sessions and did all the follow up paperwork before and after. These sessions were great practice on how we would

conduct ourselves with a future client once we were certified. We submitted our sessions for review to our instructor and she then gave us feedback and if we passed, we could then call ourselves a CPLC (Certified Professional Life Coach). A title that is a true honor to hold. I look forward to continuing my work as a Life Coach and coaching to glorify my Lord!