

Leadership

Timothy is a great book to study about Leadership. Paul's instructions on how to lead and his leadership. Another great study is the kings, what made them successful or what led to their downfall.

Am I a leader?

Leadership is a process of influence. Anytime you seek to influence the thinking, behavior, or development of people in their lives you are a leader.

Ask yourself do you love God enough to love his sheep.

We are actually all leaders whether you realize it or accept. Your actions, your words all influence people.

Matt 20

24When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. 25Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 27and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— 28just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Servant leadership is the only way to lead.

Leadership is a transformational journey. It is about growth not perfection. You don't want to become a leader for the sake of being a leader. You want to become a leader to influence and make a difference in the world. Your convictions, your heart doesn't let you stand by. The church, people are too important to just stand to the side and let things happen.

Leadership is a willingness to speak out for your values.

Heart

Are you a servant or self-serving?

It is important to note that a candidate for leadership, their life was looked at as a prerequisite for higher levels of leadership.

1 Timothy 3:1-7

1Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer,[a] he desires a noble task. 2Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. 5(If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) 6He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 7He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap

Leadership is not a role that is just given, it is you being you, and people following.

Effective leadership starts on the inside. You need to start with yourself.
You need to constantly think “Who am I trying to please?”
What is success is important to keeping your heart while you lead.
Why did God put you here on Earth?
What does he want to do through you?
Your success will be depends on how much control you give Him of your life.

It is not about organizational abilities, it is about your own credibility of your life.

The biggest barrier to leading like Jesus is a heart motivated by self-interest.

Philippians 2:1-7

1If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

5Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

6Who, being in very nature[a] God,

did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

7but made himself nothing,

taking the very nature[b] of a servant,

Driven people can think they own everything. They own their relationships, possessions, their positions. It becomes their identity. Spend time protecting.

Called people - believe everything is on loan.

Many leaders can act as if the sheep are there only for the benefit of the shepherd.

Self-serving - tend to react fearful and defensive, especially when they receive negative feedback. They think negative feedback means people don't want them to lead anymore.

Called people tend to see feedback as a gift.

Leader is mentioned 6 times in the King James, servant is mentioned more than 900 times.

People follow great leaders because they respect them, not because they have power.

Jesus was a great leader, but he didn't choose “great people” to lead.

He chose ordinary people. Un-liked people.

You need to look at people through different eyes.

You need to see people's strengths not weaknesses

Ex. Holly - gone through a challenging time, children are becoming Christians, they respectful, giving, serving. What lessons has she learned, what gives her strength?

Instead of seeing weaknesses, see strengths!

We need to make sure we are servants.

Being a leader is not trying to be more committed, but being more submitted.

Head

Your beliefs and theories about leading and motivating people.

Trust is essential. Without trust it is impossible to function and be effective.

Think about bosses, etc. that you don't trust.

1 Corinthians 13:1-7

1If I speak in the tongues[a] of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames,[b] but have not love, I gain nothing.

4Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

6Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Need to include people. We need to honor the power of diversity and acknowledge the power of teamwork. "None of us is as smart as all of us."

There will be disagreements with your leadership. Jesus spent positive time with people who disagreed. He didn't isolate himself from them. He did not change his message to gain approval, but continued to love those who did not accept his message.

Set the course and destination

Setting clear goals and then observing performance, followed by praising and redirecting.

Once you set the goals, you need to change to become the servant. Helping people become successful. Empowering and supporting.

If people don't know where they are going they will have a hard time getting excited. A good vision tells people who they are, where they are going, and what will guide their journey.

In Alice in Wonderland, Alice came to the fork in the road. She asked the Cheshire cat which way she should go. When he asked where she was going, Alice replied she didn't know. The Cat concluded matter-of-factly, "*Then it doesn't matter which way you go.*"

To have goals, we need to be specific. I tell Skylar to go clean her room - I will probably get something very different than what I wanted.

The vision needs to be serving your people - Not yourself.

If I model it, and then remind her of specifics, it will probably be done the way that I want.

Once we decide on a vision, the rest need to be responsive.

When hard times come, or failures will you stay the course and remain true to your mission and values. Or do you give up.

Lots of kings have sent people out to die for them, but only one king went ahead and died for the people.

Hands

Actions

Need to set the course and the destination

Now is the time to ask yourself the question "What would Jesus do?"

It is time to transform yourself.

One factor that can contribute is having a significant role model. Or studying people and finding the qualities that make them effective leaders.

A. performance planning

A. providing direction and setting goals

B. day-to-day coaching

A. Is helping them win, accomplish their goals, observing their performance, praising their progress, and redirecting their efforts if they are off base.

C. and evaluation

A. Sitting down over time and looking at growth

The day to day - is where the servant leadership comes in. This is the hard work.

Coaching is the most important.

Need to evaluate people - novice, apprentice - someone in training, journeyman - someone capable of working independently, master/teacher

Each determines the type of leadership needed.

When Peter went to walk on the water, Jesus didn't let him sink, Jesus reached out.

Habits

How you renew your daily commitment as a leader, to serve rather than be served.

1. Prayer and solitude

a. You need time alone with God, away from distractions. Being refreshed and restored.

b. There were several times before big decisions and events, bad news Jesus went off by himself.

c. We need to connect our plans with his. we do this by prayer

d. Prayer - old Yiddish saying goes, "If you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans."

e. We need to engage the Holy Spirit

i. Seek Gods will through prayer

ii. waiting in faith for an answer

iii. acting in accordance with the answer

iv. and being at peace with the outcome

Make a list of singles, and I want us to pray for everyone everyday.

2. Study

a. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

16All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

b. Need to use the word of God, to use you need to study it so you know it. You need to memorize useful passages.

3. Involvement

You need to be a truth teller. You need active truth tellers in your life.
Always do it in humility and allowing the other person to make the decision.
Be active in getting feedback into your leadership.
Be vulnerable. More times than most people know your imperfections long before you reveal them.

As leaders come in with practicals tomorrow.

Hands - what are these different events going to look like? How are people going to be?

Romans 8:31

Luke 18:27

Philippians 4:13

Why –

If being a Christian was a crime, would there be enough evidence to convict you?
Being a leader is one way of living out the Word of God and the Will and advancing his Kingdom.

It is not about success it is about significance.