

Overview:

Leadership is the need of the hour in the church of God. The task before the church today is awesome. As A.W. Tozer has said, "The church at this moment needs men, the right kind of men, bold men. . . We languish for men who feel themselves expendable in the warfare of the soul, who cannot be frightened by the threats of death because they have already died to the allurements of this world." Spiritual leadership is taking responsibility for the spiritual well-being of others. Having men and women who possess this character quality is essential in order to fulfill God's purposes for the church in this world.

Outline:**I. Portrait of a Leader**

- A. Selected by God (Psalm 75:6)
 - 1. God is searching for men (2 Chronicles 2:11)
 - 2. For specific roles in the church (1 Peter 4:10)
 - 3. God's choice (1 Samuel 3)
 - a. Confirmed by God
 - b. Confirmed by spiritual leaders
 - c. Confirmed by people
- B. Shepherd for God
 - 1. Jesus sets the pace (John 10:11-15)
 - a. We are sheep!
 - 2. Shepherd's heart (Psalm 23)
 - a. David . . . integrity of heart (Psalm 78:72)
 - b. Example: Nelsons
- C. Servant of God
 - 1. "My Servant": Moses, David, Job, Abraham, Jacob, Caleb . . .
 - 2. Disciples struggled with this
 - a. Arguments (Luke 9:46-48)
 - b. A mother's request (Matthew 20:20-28)
 - 3. Jesus modeled this (Matthew 20:20, John 13)
 - a. Example: Corn Husker servants

II. Qualities of a Leader

- A. Proper motivations
 - 1. Aspires to the "work" (1 Timothy 3:1)
 - a. "A true and safe leader is likely to be one who has no desire to lead but is forced into a position of leadership by the inward

- pressure of the Holy Spirit and the press of the external situation." -- A. W. Tozer
- 2. Humble (1 Peter 5:6)
- 3. Not self-seeking (Jeremiah 45:5)
 - a. Example: the aggressive KISS guy
- B. Character; not a degree or gift
 - 1. Qualifications of an elder
 - a. Examine family, etc.
 - b. "Unschooling, ordinary men" (Acts 4:13)
 - 2. Observe and imitate faith and life (Hebrews 13:7,17)
 - a. Gotta know 'em!
 - b. Example: Mainline churches "calling"
- C. Not outward but inward
 - 1. David's heart (1 Samuel 16:7)
 - 2. Paul says "Not many wise" (1 Corinthians 1:26)
 - a. Example: National Pastors Meeting reflections
- D. Bought in to SVCC prerequisites
 - 1. F.A.T. men and women
 - 2. Burden for others
 - 3. Committed to leadership development
 - a. Example: Football, blood and a good coach

Conclusion:

The history of God's people points out a truth clearly taught by all history, that the people are or soon will be what their leaders are. If the church is to be mighty, she must be led by mighty men; men with a passion for spiritual leadership.

Supporting Material:

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

1 Samuel 10:1 Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on Saul's head and kissed him, saying, "Has not the LORD anointed you leader over his inheritance?"

2 Chronicles 2:11 Hiram king of Tyre replied by letter to Solomon: "Because the LORD loves his people, he has made you their king."

Psalms 75:6 No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt a man.

John 10:11-15 "I am the good shepherd. the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. 13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me-- 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father -- and I lay down my life for the sheep.

John 13:12 When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. 13 "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. 15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. 16 I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent

him. 17 Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

1 Timothy 3:1-12 Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task. 2 Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4 He 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?) 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 7 He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap. 8 Deacons, likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. 9 They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. 11 In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. 12 A deacon must be the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well.

Titus 1:5-9 The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. 6 An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being

wild and disobedient. 7 Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be blameless -- not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. 8 Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. 9 He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

Acts 4:13 When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

Hebrews 13:7 Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Hebrews 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Jeremiah 45:5 Should you then seek great things for yourself? Seek them not. For I will bring disaster on all people, declares the LORD, but wherever you go I will let you escape with your life."

1 Peter 5:6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward

appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

1 Corinthians 1:26 Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth.

Quotes:

Some must follow, and some must command, though all are made of clay.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

You do not lead by hitting people over the head--that's assault, not leadership.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

Anyone can steer the ship when the sea is calm.

Publilius Syrus

He who cannot obey, cannot command.

Benjamin Franklin

A true and safe leader is likely to be one who has no desire to lead but is forced into a position of leadership by the inward pressure of the Holy Spirit and the press of the external situation.

A. W. Tozer

Leadership: The art of getting someone else to do something you want done because they want to do it.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

The world has yet to see what God can do with and for and through a man who is fully and wholly consecrated to Christ.

Henry Varley

Leadership is the capacity and will to rally men and women to a common purpose, and the character which inspires confidence.

Field-Marshal Montgomery

A Leader is a man who knows
the road, who can keep ahead,
and who pulls others after him.
John R. Mott

The church is painfully in need
of leaders.
William E. Sangster

Sanders, J. Osw *Spiritual
Leadership*
Moody Bible Institute of
Chicago

Young, Bill,
Leader, Audio cassette, Lvl d

1996

Wagner, C. Peter, *Leading*
, 1984
Regal Books, a division of GL
blications

Hyde, Douglas, *Dedication and*
, 1966 University of
Notre Dame Press

McCotter, Jim and Dennis
, *Leadership, Elders and*
Apostles
Commission International

Abbot, Paul, *The Makings of a*
, Pamphlet 1986, Great
Comm

Dale How to Win
Friends and Influence People
1936 Dale Carnegie, Pocket
Books