

LEADERSHIP TRAINING



MANUAL

LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES FOR SUCCESS
TO HELP ASSIST ALL CHRISTIAN PASTORS AND LEADERS

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Covering Church: Church of Hope Inc.

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LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES FOR SUCCESS

1) EVERY GREAT CHRISTIAN LEADER HAS A CLEAR VISION FOR THEIR LIFE AND CHURCH

The LORD said to Habakkuk, "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it." (Habakkuk 2:2)

A CLEAR VISION FROM GOD HELPS TO KEEP A LEADER FOCUSED AND DISCIPLINED. A God given vision will help a leader to live a life of fruitfulness.

The book of Proverbs says, "Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law." (Proverbs 29:18) NKJV

The King James Version says:

"Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." (Proverbs 29:18)

A GOD GIVEN VISION HELPS LEADERS TO LIVE A DISCIPLINED AND GODLY LIFE. PEOPLE WITHOUT A VISION CAN EASILY MAKE WRONG CHOICES AND HAVE THEIR LIVES AND DREAMS DESTROYED. (1 Peter 5:8) (John 10:10)

ALL CHURCH LEADERS SHOULD HAVE AN ONGOING FOCUS AND VISION FOR REACHING THE LOST WITH THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

GOD'S DESIRE IS THAT NONE WOULD PERISH (Luke 15:1-7)

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

(John 3:16)

EVERY CHURCH LEADER MUST ENSURE THAT THE CHURCH THEY ARE SHEPHERDING HAS A VISION FOR BOTH REACHING THE LOST AND MAKING DISCIPLES. THE LEADER OF THE CHURCH MUST ALSO HAVE A CLEAR VISION AND FOCUS FOR THEIR OWN LIFE.

Having a clearly defined vision for our life is a key to preventing the devil from sidetracking us from God's best plan for our life. (Ephesians 2:10)

HAVING A CLEAR VISION FOR OUR LIFE ALSO HELPS US TO GET THROUGH THOSE TIMES IN OUR LIFE WHEN WE ARE EXPERIENCING EITHER DISCOURAGEMENT OR GREAT TRIALS AND TRIBULATION.

EVERY GOD GIVEN VISION WILL INVOLVE HELPING OTHERS TO FULFILL THEIR OWN GOD GIVEN DESTINY

Jesus Himself said, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45)

Jesus also said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain." (John 12:24)

GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR LIFE IS FAR GREATER THAN WE COULD EVER THINK OR IMAGINE. (Ephesians 3:20) WE MUST COMMIT OUR PLANS TO THE LORD (Proverbs 16:3) AND SEEK HIS VISION FOR OUR LIFE AND CHURCH.

A LEADER OF VISION IS COMMITTED TO FINDING AND FOLLOWING GOD'S PLAN FOR THEIR LIFE AND CHURCH (Ephesians 2:10)

WITH A VISION > LEADERS CAN PRAYERFULLY SEEK GOD FOR HIS PLANS AND STRATEGIES > AND THEN STEP OUT IN FAITH TO ACT UPON HIS GUIDANCE > RESULTING IN SOULS BEING SAVED AND MATURE DISCIPLES BEING RAISED UP WHO ARE EQUIPPED AND EMPOWERED FOR MINISTRY

2) EVERY GREAT LEADER HAS LAID DOWN HIS OR HER LIFE FOR THE CAUSE OF CHRIST

The great Apostle Paul wrote, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

(Galatians 2:20)

JESUS HIMSELF MADE IT CLEAR THAT BECOMING A DISCIPLE INVOLVED A TOTAL COMMITMENT TO FOLLOWING HIS PLAN FOR ONE'S LIFE (Obedience)
(Luke 14:25-33) (John 12:23-26) (Mark 8:34-35)

Great leaders are committed to ensuring that their passion for Jesus and the things of God are the central focus in their lives. They know that apart from God they can do nothing. (John 15:4-5)

3) THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING FAITHFUL IN EACH SEASON OF OUR LIFE AND MINISTRY

- i) There are seasons of preparation in our lives. The first disciples spent much time observing the ministry of Jesus Christ (Mark 1:38-42) before being sent out by Jesus themselves to do ministry work. (Mark 6:7)

- ii) There are seasons when character is forged in our lives. Wilderness times during which God prepares people for greatness.

- iii) There are seasons of study and times to draw aside with the Lord before pioneering a new work.

- iv) There are seasons of renewing our strength as we rest and wait upon the Lord. (Isaiah 40:28-31)

- v) There are also times which need to be set apart for family activities and recreation. Having good friendships and a happy home environment all help to make our walk with the Lord easier. The devil is always trying to attack Christian families. It is very important therefore for Church Leaders to be naturally spiritual and place great importance on maintaining a loving and happy atmosphere at home. This in turn will help them to see God's destiny for their life and family fulfilled.

- vi) We are in a marathon and not a sprint. We need to therefore also focus on and plan for what we can achieve in the next five years and not just in the current year. Having a five year focus helps us to pace ourselves better as we follow God's plan for our life and church.

The Book of Ecclesiastes states, "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven:" (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

WE MUST ALLOW THE LORD TO ORDER OUR STEPS. Line upon line, precept upon precept, we must allow the Lord to guide and direct our every step in life. (Isaiah 28:10)

"UNLESS THE LORD BUILDS THE HOUSE, THEY LABOUR IN VAIN WHO BUILD IT." (Psalm 127:1)

4) ALL LEADERS NEED TO BE ACCOUNTABLE TO OTHERS WHO ARE MATURE IN THE FAITH

- i) There is wisdom in a multitude of counsellors (Proverbs 15:22) (Proverbs 11:14)
King Solomon asked God for wisdom to help him to be a good king (2 Chronicles 1:7-12)
- ii) The importance of having a teachable spirit (1 Peter 5:5) (Proverbs 19:20) (Proverbs 19:27) (Proverbs 12:1)
- iii) A leader with a teachable spirit will invariably produce other leaders who are open to correction. (A key to seeing unity in a church is mutual submission)
- iv) The Bible tells us the importance of submitting to God (James 4:7) and others (Ephesians 5:21-22) (1 Peter 2:13-17) and having fellowship with other believers. (Hebrews 10:23-25) (Hebrews 3:12-13)

5) THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING FAITHFUL IN THE LITTLE THINGS (Matthew 25:14-30)

IF WE ARE FAITHFUL IN THE SMALL THINGS, GOD CAN THEN ENTRUST TO US GREATER RESPONSIBILITIES

Jesus said, "He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much." (Luke 16:10)

AS LEADERS WE MUST HAVE A SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE (WITHOUT BEING PERFECTIONISTS)

The Prophet Daniel had an excellent spirit.

"Then this Daniel distinguished himself above the governors and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king gave thought to setting him over the whole realm." (Daniel 6:3)

6) EVERY GREAT LEADER IS COMMITTED TO FINISHING GOD'S PLAN FOR THEIR LIFE AND TO SEEING THE ONGOING GROWTH OF THE CHURCH THAT THEY ARE PASTORING

Jesus Himself said,

"My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work." (John 4:34)

And as He lifted up His eyes to Heaven, Jesus said

"Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You," ... "I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do." (John 17:1 &4)

JESUS CHRIST WAS COMMITTED TO LAYING DOWN HIS LIFE FOR A WORLD OF LOST SINNERS

The Apostle Paul also stressed the importance of finishing the race.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing." (2 Timothy 4:7-8)

THE APOSTLE PAUL ALSO SAID TO THE CHURCH IN GALATIA

“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.” (Galatians 6:9)

AND TO THE CHURCH IN THESSALONICA

“But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.”
(2 Thessalonians 3:13)

GREAT LEADERS:

- Continue to follow God’s plan for their life no matter what trials and hardships they may encounter in life
- They get better rather than bitter when rejected
- They continue to do good at all times, even when not appreciated
- They continually believe in God’s faithfulness, and
- Never stop believing that in due time they will reap a harvest if they do not give up

A GREAT LEADER MUST HAVE STICKABILITY AND BE A
PERSON OF COMMITMENT

7) A LEADER OF DESTINY IS PREPARED TO STEP OUT WITH WHAT THEY HAVE, WHEN GOD CALLS THEM TO PIONEER A NEW WORK

- When God calls we must simply step out and follow His directions (Psalm 37:23)
- When Jesus called the four fishermen to become His disciples they immediately left their nets and began to follow Jesus (Mark 1:16-20)
- The first disciples moved in power and their lives impacted the whole world (Acts 5:12-16)
- We must never despise the day of small beginnings. (Zechariah 4:10) We must simply give ourselves wholeheartedly to what God has called us to begin and faithfully commit to following His plan for our life and church.
- God's plan will always be far greater than what we could ever imagine. (Ephesians 3:20) As we faithfully commit to stepping out into what He calls us to do, His plan for our life and church will begin to unfold as we continually rely on the Holy Spirit to guide (John 14:26) and empower us. (Zechariah 4:6) (1 Thessalonians 1:5)

- Whenever we pioneer a new work we commence again at level one. We must build a firm foundation for every new work that we commence. When planting new churches, we need to establish a strong and committed leadership team to help pioneer the new work
- A man's gift makes room for him (Proverbs 18:16) As we faithfully step out into what God calls us to do, He will open up doors that no man can close (Revelation 3:7-8)
- THE LORD WILL ALWAYS MULTIPLY WHAT WE START WITH. WHEN JESUS FED THE FIVE THOUSAND HE ASKED THE DISCIPLES WHAT THEY HAD. WITH THE FIVE LOAVES AND TWO FISH THAT THEY HAD, JESUS FED 5000 MEN (Mark 6:38-44)

8) THE IMPORTANCE OF USING OUR TIME WISELY

- i) Fully utilising our gifts (1 Timothy 4:12-15)
(1 Corinthians 12:4-7)
- ii) THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING FOCUSED (1 Timothy 4:15)
(Ephes. 5:15-17) We cannot have a divided heart (Luke 16:13)
- iii) Following God's plan for our life. God has a unique plan and destiny for each of our lives (Ephesians 2:10)
- iv) We need to maximise the time that we spend on seeing the Kingdom of God expanded.

We must be careful to use our time wisely, and not to squander or waste our time. We must be careful not to lose valuable time through worrying about and focussing on the cares, riches and pleasures of this world. (Luke 8:11-15)
- v) As we continually seek FIRST the Kingdom of God and His righteousness all the things that we need in this life will be given to us to help us to fulfil our God given destiny (Matthew 6:33)
- vi) WE HAVE ONLY ONE SHORT LIFE HERE ON EARTH TO STORE UP TREASURES FOR ETERNITY (Matthew 6:19-21)

9) A GOOD LEADER MENTORS OTHERS

(A good leader invests in the lives of other believers and leaders)

A GOOD LEADER IS A MULTIPLIER (Who will help to raise up many spiritual sons and daughters)

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy: "You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." (2 Timothy 2:1-2)

THE APOSTLE PAUL WAS A FATHER IN THE FAITH AND ENCOURAGED MANY OTHERS TO FULFIL THEIR GOD GIVEN DESTINY

A great leader will mentor and encourage many others to fulfil God's destiny for their life.
(Acts 14:21-22) (Acts 11:21-26)

All church leaders and Pastors need to invest in the lives of the next generation of leaders. (Psalm 145:4)

The Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the church in Corinth,

“For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Therefore I urge you, to imitate me.

For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church.” (1 Corinthians 4:15-17)

JESUS EMPHASISED THE NEED TO MAKE DISCIPLES

Jesus said to His disciples, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

EVERY GOOD LEADER MUST HAVE A COMMITMENT TO SEEING ALL BELIEVERS IN HIS CHURCH BEING GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME MATURE DISCIPLES (and acknowledges the importance of small groups in preparing mature disciples)

Pastor John Luliano from the Chatswood Assemblies of God in Sydney NSW, did a study on what Jesus taught His disciples as He prepared them for ministry. He found that of all the 350 things that Jesus commanded His disciples to do, he could summarise them into just seven major Core Values.

SEVEN CORE VALUES OF A MATURE DISCIPLE

A DISCIPLE

i) Loves God

“And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment.”

(Mark 12:30)

ii) Loves People

“And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:31)

iii) Loves a Godly Lifestyle

“Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.” (Matthew 5:48)

iv) Loves Telling Others

“And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.’” (Mark 16:15)

v) Loves God's Family

"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35)

vi) Loves God's Kingdom

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." (Matthew 6:33) AND

vii) Loves to Give

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." (Luke 6:38)

A GOOD LEADER HAS THE ABILITY TO TRAIN UP AND MENTOR OTHER CHRISTIAN LEADERS TO BECOME MATURE DISCIPLES WHO WILL IN TURN BE ABLE TO HELP OTHER CHRISTIANS TO BECOME MATURE DISCIPLES WITH FRUITFUL MINISTRIES (2 Timothy 2:2)

A good Leader will help and encourage many other Christians to have a passionate love for God and a genuine love for people of all backgrounds. A good leader will also help to foster in others a commitment to becoming more Christlike.

They will also help to train up and equip disciples who know the importance of sharing the gospel with the unsaved, who have a heart to encourage all other believers, who have a passion for the things of God and who give generously to the work of God.

GREAT LEADERS WILL TRAIN UP MANY OTHER LEADERS WHO WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE FRUITFUL MINISTRIES LONG AFTER THEY THEMSELVES HAVE GONE TO BE WITH THE LORD.

A GOOD LEADER HAS THE POTENTIAL TO TRAIN UP MANY OTHERS WHO WILL CONTINUE TO TRAIN UP OTHERS ALSO, THEREBY LEAVING AN ONGOING LEGACY OF THEIR MINISTRY HERE ON EARTH.

THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST IS THE GREAT EXAMPLE OF THIS. IN HIS SHORT TIME IN MINISTRY HE TRAINED UP A SMALL GROUP OF DISCIPLES WHO HELPED TO ESTABLISH THE EARLY CHURCH. THE CHURCH IS STILL GROWING TODAY.

JESUS IN HIS MINISTRY HERE ON EARTH DEMONSTRATED A FOUR STEP PROCESS FOR RAISING UP MATURE DISCIPLES

DURING HIS MINISTRY HERE ON EARTH JESUS
RAISED UP A TEAM OF DISCIPLES AS FOLLOWS:

1) Jesus first GATHERED a group of people whom
He believed would become disciples (Mark 1:16-18)
(Mark 1:19-20) (Mark 2:14)

2) After Jesus had gathered His disciples, He then
took them on preaching tours and MODELLED
the following for them:

i) The importance of finding and fulfilling God's
purpose for their life (Mark 1:38)

ii) How to preach the gospel of the Kingdom (Mark 1:39)

iii) How to serve people by casting our demons and
healing the sick (Mark 1:39-41) and

iv) How to live a genuine God-glorifying life (Mark 1:38-42)

AS HE MODELLED WHAT TRUE KINGDOM LIFE WAS LIKE, HE ALSO
CONSTANTLY ENCOURAGED THE DISCIPLES THAT GOD WAS DOING A
WORK IN THEIR LIFE, AND THAT ONE DAY THEY WOULD PREACH, HEAL AND
CAST DEMONS OUT THEMSELVES. JESUS APPOINTED THE TWELVE
DISCIPLES AND TOLD THEM WHAT THEY WOULD BE DOING IN THE FUTURE.
(Mark 3:13-15)

As disciple makers, we must give people a vision of what they can become. We must then teach them what it is like to be a real disciple by both showing and explaining to them what it is to be a true disciple

3) Jesus then began to MENTOR the twelve disciples

Although appointed in Mark 3:13, the disciples were not officially sent out by Jesus until Mark 6:7

“And He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them power over unclean spirits.” (Mark 6:7)

When they had finished their mission trips, they returned and reported back to their mentor

“Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught.” (Mark 6:30)

THE REPORT IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE MENTORING PROCESS. JESUS WAS INTERESTED BOTH IN:

- i) What they had done, and
- ii) What they had taught

No person will ever do things perfect the first time. A person must be allowed to make mistakes and create room for correction. A DISCIPLE MAKER MUST LEARN TO BECOME AN EQUIPPER. When giving an assessment for a completed task, mentors must address three issues:

- i) What was done well
- ii) What could be done better, and
- iii) What needs to be done next time which was not done this time

MENTORING IS A PROCESS DESIGNED TO “ENRICH” PEOPLE. The Apostle Paul emphasised the need for more Fathers of the faith to help encourage believers to become mature disciples. (1 Corinthians 4:15-17)

THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD PASTORS INTENSIVE HANDBOOK OUTLINES SIX KEYS TO BEING AN EFFECTIVE MENTOR WHO IS ABLE TO “ENRICH” THOSE WHO THEY ARE MENTORING.

A GOOD MENTOR WILL:

- i) **E**ncourage those whom they are mentoring

(The meaning of the word encourage, is to give courage. Encouragement helps people to overcome their failures, fears and insecurities)

- ii) **N**urture those whom they are mentoring

(Nurtured people are strong people, whereas neglected people can become weak, picking up wrong mindsets)

- iii) **R**esource people with their knowledge, gifts, talents and abilities as well as providing resource materials

- iv) **I**nvest their life in the lives of other people

(We need to have a genuine commitment to and love for others)

- v) **C**oach those whom they are mentoring, (Advising but not Manipulating, Leading but not controlling) and

- vi) **H**ang in with those who they are mentoring (We must never give up on people, no matter what is happening to them)

4) Finally, before ascending to heaven, Jesus MOBILISED the disciples to do what He had trained them to do.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
(Matthew 28:19-20)

A disciple of Christ is not complete until he has been mobilised and released to become a disciple maker.

Mobilisation produces the “DNA” of multiplication. However many churches fail at this point because they try to get mobilisation happening without first spending enough time on the MODELLING and MENTORING phase of training up new leaders (disciples).

Before Jesus had got to the mobilisation stage, He had already spent approximately three years in correctly training up His disciples for the work of the ministry

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ALL CHRISTIAN LEADERS INVEST IN THIS GENERATION OF YOUTH, WHO WILL BE THE NEXT GENERATION OF CHRISTIAN LEADERS IN THE COMMUNITY

10) A GOOD LEADER NEEDS WISDOM IN APPOINTING OTHER LEADERS

- i) Do not hastily promote people into positions of leadership. They need to have first proved themselves in serving others (1 Timothy 5:22) (Luke 16:12) (John 12:26) (Matthew 20:25-28)

THE BIBLE SHOWS HOW THE GREAT LEADERS ALWAYS FIRST SERVED ANOTHER LEADER

MOSES SERVED JETHRO (Caring for his flocks)
(Exodus 3:1)

JOSHUA SERVED MOSES AS HIS ASSISTANT
(Exodus 24:13) (Joshua 1:1)

ELISHA SUCCEEDED ELIJAH (Elisha poured water on the hands of Elijah) (2 Kings 3:11)

DAVID WAS SAUL'S ARMOUR BEARER
(1 Samuel 16:21)

ii) We need to be wary of placing people in leadership who have a controlling nature

- Those with a controlling spirit have the potential to block the move of God's spirit in church meetings
- Those with a controlling spirit have the potential to bring division into a church if they use manipulation to obtain favour for themselves
- Every church must guard against the Jezebel spirit entering leadership. This spirit particularly targets the worship and intercession ministries, and tries to gain favour and influence through siding with church leaders. Queen Jezebel gained power by marrying King Ahab and used his authority to see Naboth killed. (1 Kings 21:1-16)

USUALLY IT IS THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ABUSED OR REJECTED WHEN GROWING UP, THAT ARE MOST LIKELY TO ALLOW THE SPIRIT OF CONTROL TO OPERATE IN THEIR LIVES.

IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT ALL LEADERS HAVE BEEN HEALED OF PAST HURTS BEFORE BEING PLACED IN A LEADERSHIP ROLE, AND THAT THEIR IDENTITY COMES FROM WHO THEY ARE IN CHRIST AND NOT FROM WHAT THEY DO OR ACHIEVE.

THOSE WHO HAVE COME OUT OF A BACKGROUND OF CONTROL MUST FIRST COME TO GENUINE REPENTANCE BEFORE BEING GIVEN A POSITION OF LEADERSHIP

- iii) A good pastor is discerning and vigilant to prevent any divisive spirit from entering their church. The bible stresses the importance of removing from fellowship anyone that persists in trying to bring division into a church.
(Titus 3:10-11)

- iv) A leader must be wary of those who are continually promoting themselves and be aware of anyone who has an Absalom spirit and who is forming an unhealthy clique within the church
(2 Samuel 15:1-6)

- v) It is important that ALL those who are appointed to leadership have a teachable spirit. (Proverbs 19:20)
(1 Corinthians 3:1-3) (Proverbs 13:1) (Psalm 40:8) (Psalm 27:11)

- vi) Humility must be evident in the lives of those who are appointed to positions of leadership. Jesus Himself said that humility was the prerequisite for promotion in God's Kingdom.
(Luke 14:7-11) Jesus was the example of humility. (Philippians 2:5-9)

THE BIBLE STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE OF
WALKING IN HUMILITY (1 Peter 5:5) (Psalm 147:6)
(Isaiah 57:15) (Colossians 3:12) (Philippians 2:3)

"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He
will lift you up." (James 4:10)

LEADERS WILL RECEIVE A STRICTOR JUDGEMENT BECAUSE THEY
ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSEEING THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH
OF MANY OTHER CHRISTIANS. (James 3:1) THE APPOINTMENT
OF HUMBLE LEADERS WILL HELP TO ENSURE THAT A CHURCH
HAS THE RIGHT FOUNDATION ON WHICH TO BUILD.

THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR PREACHING FROM THE PULPIT AND
TRAINING UP THE NEXT GENERATION OF BELIEVERS MUST
THEREFORE BE HUMBLE AND OF GOOD CHARACTER

Jesus Himself said, "If I then, your Lord and Teacher,
have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one
another's feet. For I have given you an example, that
you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I
say to you, a servant is not greater than his master;
nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If
you know these things, blessed are you if you do
them." (John 13:14-17)

JESUS WAS THE EXAMPLE OF HUMILITY

WHAT IS IN THE HEART OF THE LEADERS WILL IMPACT THE REST OF THE CHURCH CONGREGATION. CHOOSING HUMBLE LEADERS OF GOOD CHARACTER IS THEREFORE A KEY TO SEEING STRONG AND HEALTHY CHURCHES BEING ESTABLISHED.

The Apostle Paul in his letter to the young pastor Timothy gave him the criteria for choosing and appointing church leaders.

“A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behaviour, hospitable, able to teach; not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.” (1 Timothy 3:2-6)

vii) HAVING LEADERS WHO HAVE A HEART FOR WORSHIP (Psalm 28:7) (Psalm 18:49) (Psalm 95:1-2)

The way a person worships the Lord is a good indicator of how close his relationship is with the Lord. Jesus Himself said,

“But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” (John 4:23-24)

LEADERS WHO ARE WORSHIPERS WILL GENERALLY HAVE A GREATER SENSITIVITY TO RECEIVING CORRECTION FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT. THEY ARE ALSO MORE LIKELY TO HAVE A TEACHABLE SPIRIT

KING DAVID WAS A WORSHIPER AND HAD A VERY TEACHABLE SPIRIT. HE WAS A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART. AS WE DELIGHT OURSELVES IN THE LORD, HE GIVES US THE DESIRES OF OUR HEART.

viii) All leaders that are appointed need to have a kindred spirit. It is important that God has drawn them to the church leader's vision.
(Psalm 127:1)

ix) All those who are in leadership should become Sons in the House.

A SON OR A WORKER

The Assemblies of God Pastors Intensive manual highlights the differences between a WORKER AND A SON in the house. The Apostle Paul had many co-workers but not many whom he was able to call "a true son in the faith."

The Apostle Paul in his letter to Timothy wrote, "To Timothy, a true son in the faith:" (1 Timothy 1:2) Timothy was a true son in the faith. Sons help to build the house because they have an ownership of the vision. (They have a real sense of belonging to the vision) They see what the worker cannot see.

THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN A SON AND A WORKER

Sons are faithful to the family. Workers are faithful to themselves.

Sons flow with the vision. Workers want to change the vision.

Sons bring peace and unity. Workers will split the family to better their cause.

Sons have a sweet spirit. They have learnt to put their hurts behind them. Workers have a spirit that is either syrupy or sour. They can never seem to overcome their past hurts and consequently judge the present through past hurts.

Sons build the family business. Workers do their jobs in it.

Sons will be loyal to the leader and church and will be prepared to serve and support the leader's vision

Sons stick it out in hard times. Workers run when it gets tough.

The following example illustrates the difference between a worker and a Son.

Three people working on a building site were asked the same question, "What are you doing?" One answered, "I am laying bricks." The second answered, "I am building a wall." The third answered, "I am building a cathedral." The first two responses were typical of a worker, but the final response typical of a Son.

This worker had a heart of a Son and though he was also laying bricks, he also had an ownership of the vision to see a House of Worship (cathedral) built.

x) All leaders must be God given appointments.
Promotion must always come from the Lord.

- xi) God's timing for appointing leaders is also vital. Leaders must not be appointed ahead of time. It is imperative that sufficient character has been developed in a person's life prior to them being appointed to a position of leadership.

- xii) However, no one will ever be perfect this side of heaven. We must therefore not first seek perfection in people before placing them into leadership, but be directed by the Lord as to when to appoint a person to leadership

The Apostle Paul wrote: "Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me." (Philippians 3:12)

When the Lord places on the heart of a leader to appoint someone in their church into a position of leadership, they must trust the Lord and release that person into the leadership role. As they grow in their leadership role, they will also continue to grow in character as well.

All leadership appointments in the church should be made as the Lord Himself directs. The Apostle Paul acknowledged that it was the Lord Himself who counted him faithful calling him into ministry (1 Timothy 1:12)

THE SIMPLE FACT IS THAT AS WE CONTINUE TO WALK WITH THE LORD, WE WILL ALL BE CONTINUALLY GROWING IN OUR CHRISTIAN CHARACTER. GOD OFTEN CHOOSES ORDINARY PEOPLE WHO ARE SIMPLY AVAILABLE, TO DO GREAT THINGS FOR HIM. IT IS GOD WHO QUALIFIES THOSE WHOM HE CALLS INTO MINISTRY

11) A GOOD LEADER DELEGATES RESPONSIBILITIES

Moses at the direction of his father-in-law selected able men who had a fear of God to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of ten. They were given the responsibility to judge the people. Moses himself only judged great matters. (Exodus 18:13-27)

In the first church the 12 Apostles appointed seven men full of the Holy Spirit to oversee the serving of the food, so that they could focus on prayer and the ministry of the word (Acts 6:1-4)

A good leader has the ability to delegate responsibilities and ministries to others who are qualified and called by God, without feeling insecure. A GOOD LEADER IS SECURE IN HIS OWN GOD GIVEN MINISTRY CALL AND APPOINTMENT AND IN HIS OWN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

A good leader will freely release ministries as the Lord leads so that He can more fully focus on what God is calling him to do. It is important when a church begins to grow, that the Senior Pastor is able to stay within his Ministry gifts and anointing, so that he can use these gifts to best encourage and strengthen the church.

A good leader will therefore focus on doing those things which only he can do in the church, whilst delegating to others those ministries and responsibilities which they are called and also qualified to do.

12) A GOOD LEADER HAS A HEART TO TRAIN UP OTHER LEADERS AND TO SEE THEM RELEASED INTO MINISTRY AS THE LORD DIRECTS

- A good leader endeavours to encourage every believer to find and follow God's plan for their life (Ephesians 2:10)
- He has a heart to see the Kingdom of God expanded and to see other leaders raised up
- He is secure in God and will release ministries as directed by the Lord
- A good leader has a heart to see every believer finding their fit in the Body of Christ, (1 Corinthians 12:18) and using their spiritual and ministry gifts (Romans 12:3-8) (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

13) A LEADER MUST EXERCISE WISDOM IN WHOM HE CONFIDES IN (Not everyone has the ability to hold one's confidences) (Proverbs 13:3) (Proverbs 21:23)

Trust must always be earned. Leaders must ensure that they only confide in those who can be trusted and who are faithful. (Proverbs 20:6)

All leaders should depend on the Holy Spirit to give them wisdom in what and when to share things with others. (James 1:19) (Proverbs 17:27) (Proverbs 23:9)

To confide in people who are prone to gossip, or who have the habit of saying things spontaneously without giving much thought to what they are saying, is unwise. (Proverbs 16:28) As leaders we need to have men and woman of mature faith in our life, who have a genuine interest in and concern for our wellbeing. These people can be trusted and will not betray our confidences. The Bible says much about the importance of maintaining a good reputation in life. (Ecclesiastes 7:1) (Acts 6:3) (Proverbs 22:1)

14) A GOOD LEADER HAS THE ABILITY TO CLEARLY COMMUNICATE THE VISION FOR THE CHURCH ON A REGULAR BASIS

- A CHURCH OF INFLUENCE HAS A CLEARLY DEFINED VISION AND PLAN FOR REACHING THE COMMUNITY WITH THE LOVE OF JESUS (Habakkuk 2:2)
- Great leaders have the ability to clearly communicate the church's vision to both the other leaders and to those who attend the church
- A leader of vision has a PIONEER SPIRIT
- Phil Pringle, the Senior Pastor at the Oxford Falls CCC church says,
"The leader is a man of faith and vision. The leader is a "can do" person. He is a Faith Man. He is bold, confident and almost reckless. The leader believes that all things are possible."

- GREAT LEADERS KNOW THAT GOD WILL CONTINUALLY STRETCH THEM TO DO NEW THINGS. THEY ARE ALWAYS PREPARED TO STEP OUT OF THE BOAT WHENEVER GOD OPENS UP A NEW AND BIGGER DOOR FOR MINISTRY

The Apostle Paul wrote: "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."

(Ephesians 3:20)

- GREAT LEADERS ARE GOD DEPENDENT KNOWING THAT HIS PLAN FOR OUR LIVES AND CHURCH IS FAR BIGGER THAN WHAT WE COULD EVER IMAGINE (Isaiah 55:8-9)

15) A GOOD LEADER WILL INSPIRE A GROUP TO WORK AS A TEAM FOR A COMMON CAUSE

- Through the inspirational leadership of Nehemiah, the broken wall of Jerusalem (Nehemiah 1:3) was rebuilt in just 52 days (Nehemiah 6:15) as he motivated everyone to work in unity as a team (Nehemiah Chapter 3) to achieve this task
- Nehemiah was able to inspire those with him to start the rebuilding of the wall (Nehemiah 2:17-18) and to persist in building the wall even when their enemies tried to discourage them at the start (Nehemiah 2:19-20)
- A GOOD PASTOR OR LEADER WILL ALWAYS SAY WHAT “WE” CAN DO AS A CHURCH TOGETHER
- Like Nehemiah a great leader encourages others and inspires others as he leads by example
- A GREAT LEADER WILL INSPIRE OTHERS TO BE A PART OF THE TEAM AND WILL EMPOWER THEM TO USE THEIR GIFTS TO HELP SEE GOD’S PLAN FOR THEIR CHURCH AS A WHOLE COME TO PASS

16) A GREAT LEADER MUST BE PASSIONATE ABOUT THE THINGS OF GOD AND BE COMMITTED TO SEEING THE GOSPEL MESSAGE TRANSFORMING THEIR COMMUNITY (A great leader will lead by example and encourage and inspire those in his church to be active in sharing their faith and praying for the lost.) (Proverbs 11:30) (Daniel 12:3)

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”

(Romans 1:16)

- Like Nehemiah, a great leader is passionate about the things of God and has a love for all believers (Nehemiah 1:2-6)
- Having a passion to see God’s Kingdom expanded here on earth, will bring us to our knees in intercession (Ezekiel 22:30)

- As leaders we must diligently intercede for our communities. As we do we can expect God to move in response to our prayers and begin to heal our communities and nation

(2 Chronicles 7:14)

- As we commit to praying for our communities, the Nation and the world, we will receive favour both from God Himself (Nehemiah 1:8-11) and from others (Nehemiah 2:3-6)
- THE GOSPEL MESSAGE IS GOOD NEWS. IT IS A MESSAGE OF HOPE IN A WORLD FULL OF STRIFE AND HEARTACHE. As a church we have the responsibility of sharing the good news of the gospel with the lost and hurting. (Romans 10:14-15) (Mark 16:15)

17) GREAT LEADERS ARE 24/7 CHRISTIANS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO WALKING IN OBEDIENCE. THEY HAVE COUNTED THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP AND ARE PREPARED TO MAKE SACRIFICES TO SEE GOD'S KINGDOM COME HERE ON EARTH.

The Apostle Paul got to the point where he could say "...it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; ..." (Galatians 2:20) The Apostle Paul made many sacrifices to see the world touched by the gospel message. (2 Corinthians 6:4-5) (2 Corinthians 11:26-27)

As Christians we are called to lay down our lives for others. (1 Thessalonians 2:8-9)

Jesus Himself said,

"Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave - just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:26-28)

As leaders we must be the example of what it is to live a crucified life. As we demonstrate in our own lives what true servant hood is, we will be able to encourage those in our church to engage in selfless acts of ministry to others.

As we step out in weakness, His strength is made perfect in our lives. God's divine appointments are often at times which are inconvenient to us. However as we put aside our own agendas and respond in faith to His promptings, we will see consistently God's power operating through our lives as we minister to others.

AS LEADERS WE NEED TO BE THE EXAMPLE
OF WHAT IT IS TO LIVE FOR OTHERS

18) A GOOD CHURCH LEADER KNOWS THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING SMALL GROUPS

SMALL GROUPS IN A CHURCH ARE THE KEY TO SEEING MATURE DISCIPLES BEING RAISED UP WHO CAN IN TURN MENTOR AND DISCIPLE OTHER BELIEVERS

(2 Timothy 2:2) (Acts 5:42) (Psalm 92:13-15)

Within the context of a small group, believers can encourage one another in their Christian walk and help to motivate each other to fully utilise their spiritual gifts. Within a loving home group, believers can be helped and encouraged to fulfil God's plan and purpose for their life.

When believers are encouraged in small groups to use their spiritual gifts, new believers will be added continually to the Church. (Acts 2:46-47)

A Church leader knows the importance of giving those in the church an opportunity of participating in a weekly home fellowship meeting or other small group. With work environments often being ungodly and without any other believers, attending a mid-week home fellowship group or bible study is crucial for every believer. (Hebrews 10:23-25)

THERE ARE ALSO MANY OTHER REASONS WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO HAVE SMALL GROUPS IN A LOCAL CHURCH:

- They help to see a church grow from a church of converts to a church of disciples
- They help to see new believers planted in the church. To have a fruitful life, it is imperative that a believer is committed to a local church. In a local church ministry gifts are recognised and developed in a believer. It is within the context of a local church that strong ministries are developed.

“Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing,” (Psalm 92:13-14)

- Small groups help to connect church members to the life of the church. This enables them to become participants in the life of the church, with opportunities to use their ministry gifts, rather than just being attendees

- In small groups Christians can grow in their knowledge of God's love for them and how to love Him and others better (Mark 12:30-31)
- In small groups Christians can receive prayer support and encouragement when going through trials and struggles
- Small (Pastoral Care) groups enable the Senior Pastors to be more focused on the bigger picture areas of church growth.

As they focus on areas such as leadership training, church direction, preaching and teaching, the pastoral care ministry can be done by the lay leaders who run the home fellowship meetings.

- Small groups ensure that the Pastoral Care side of the church is not neglected.

In smaller groups people can be encouraged to address and overcome areas in their life such as fears of being rejected that would hold them back from experiencing the abundant life that Jesus offers every believer. In the context of a loving and caring Home Group, believers can address and overcome these areas so that they can begin to walk in victory in all areas of their life, as they grow in their Christian walk.

- Small groups enable all believers to have accountability to others.

This is a key to preventing Christians from making wrong choices in life and avoiding many of the pitfalls in life. (Proverbs 11:14) There is wisdom in a multitude of counsellors. (Proverbs 15:22) (Proverbs 19:20)

- Within the context of a small group, a person's ministry gifts can be more easily identified.

Within the small group dynamics, a person can be encouraged to grow in their ministry gifts as they are given the opportunity to minister to others

- Small groups help in preparing and equipping Christians to share their faith with others and to help prepare them for greater ministry responsibilities. Small group leaders have the role of a lay pastor and in this role they can be raised up and equipped by the Senior Pastor to be future church planters

- Small group leadership classes enable the Senior Pastor to personally invest in the lives of the key leaders in the church. The Apostle Paul emphasised the need in the Body of Christ for more Fathers in the faith. (1 Corinthians 4:15-16)

A church can have many different types of small groups with different focuses.

HAVING A VISION AND PURPOSE FOR EACH SMALL GROUP IS VERY IMPORTANT (Habakkuk 2:2)

This will help to ensure that no small group ever just becomes a social group but continues to have a focus for developing and empowering believers for the work of the ministry. As Christians we all have a mission field. For some it is our workplace, for others our school friends and neighbours. Wherever we go we should be open to God given opportunities to share our faith in Jesus Christ.

(1 Peter 2:9) (1 Peter 3:15) (2 Timothy 4:2)

Each type of small group should serve a specific purpose within the church. All small groups should have the overall goal of helping to see Christians coming to maturity in their faith. Some types of small groups can have a specific training focus and last for only a set number of weeks, whilst others will have an ongoing Pastoral Care function and operate from week to week.

The overall purpose for running any small group should always be to equip and empower the church members to reach the community with the love of Christ and the gospel message, and to ensure that all believers become strong in their faith and follow God's plan for their life.

There are many different types of small groups that a church can run. These include:

i) Fellowship / Bible Study Home groups
(Hebrews 10:23-25) (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

These should be the foundation on which a church establishes a strong Pastoral Care focus. These home groups of around 8-12 people enable Christians to receive pastoral care in a loving and caring atmosphere.

These small groups also enable new believers and new members to become an active part of church life as they connect with other believers from the church in the small group. These groups can also incorporate a regular outreach focus where non believers can be invited to special meetings, which have a focus of sharing the gospel in a relaxed and friendly informal way.

ii) Leadership Training Classes (2 Timothy 2:2)
(Hebrews 5:12-14)

iii) New Believers Classes (John 21:15-17)

Jesus gave Simon Peter a threefold commission for him to be a shepherd to the sheep. As Pastors and leaders we have the responsibility for seeing those who have been entrusted to us growing in their Christian walk (2 Timothy 4:1-2)

New believer's classes enable all new Christians to have a solid start to their Christian walk. These (normally) weekly classes can go for a set period of time during which time new believers are taught the six foundations of our Christian faith, promises for all believers, keys to walking in victory and how to maintain a vibrant spiritual walk with the Lord.

These classes are also a key to preventing a new Christian from going back to their old ways, when they experience trials and pressures in life. (Colossians 2:1-10)

iv) Evangelism Training Classes

Every Pastor and leader should BOTH preach the gospel (2 Timothy 4:5) and equip and empower their church members to preach the gospel. (Ephesians 4:11-12)

v) Spiritual Gifts Workshops

God has a unique plan for every believer's life (Ephesians 2:10) (1 Corinthians 1:18) and He has given each believer different gifts (Romans 12:3-8) (1 Corinthians 12:4) (1 Corinthians 12:7-11) and ministries (1 Corinthians 12:5-6)

Spiritual Gifts workshops help Christians to identify their spiritual gifts and to receive clearer direction BOTH in terms of what ministry God has for them now and in the future. This enables each believer to focus on their ministry strengths and to help prepare for God's call upon their life.

These workshops include a questionnaire which contains many different types of questions, which help to clarify what spiritual gifts are strongest for each believer.

IT IS GOOD FOR THE SENIOR PASTOR TO RUN THESE WORKSHOPS IF POSSIBLE, as they have the overall responsibility for ensuring that those entrusted to them are given every opportunity to fulfil their God given destinies.

vi) Prayer Groups (These groups give those with a gift of intercession the opportunity of meeting together to pray for their community and church)

vii) Walking in Freedom Courses

(I.e. Jack Hayford's 10 week Cleansing streams course. This course helps Christians to walk in victory and to be delivered from any demonic oppression or strongholds)

viii) Youth Groups

ix) Children's Clubs (Groups)

x) Ministry Outreach Teams

xi) Understanding Christianity Meetings (Explaining Christianity to unbelievers)

I.e. THE ALPHA COURSE (These are run over 10 weeks)

xii) Special interest / focus small groups

- Worship Teams (Weekly Practice Nights)
- Knowing your bible classes (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- Creative Arts Groups (For those with a heart to do creative outreaches and Sunday Service dramas / skits)
- Community Care Groups (For those who have a heart to plan and organise regular community outreaches)

xiii) Life Skills / Recovery Training Courses

(Run once a week for several weeks, or over a weekend)

- Anger Management Classes
- Divorce Recovery Groups
- Trauma Recovery Groups
- Overcoming Life Controlling Habits
- Overcoming Depression Support Groups
- Marriage Preparation Classes

19) A GOOD LEADER IS A ROLE MODEL TO OTHERS (Refer also to Appendix A: The Attributes of a Good Leader) (2 Corinthians 6:3-7)

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity." (1 Timothy 4:12)

A good leader:

- i) Is an example to others (1 Peter 5:2-4)
(John 13:13-17) (1 Timothy 4:12-16)
- ii) Continually encourages others (Hebrews 3:12-13)
- iii) Sees the best in others and has a commitment to and love for those people that the Lord has entrusted to them to oversee (Acts 20:28)
- iv) Is committed to training up and helping OTHERS to realise their God given destinies (Ephesians 4:11-12)

v) Is not critical and judgemental but continually wants the best for others. All discipline and correction is done by them in love (2 Timothy 23-25), and

vi) Has a humble dependence on God

(Matthew 23:12) (Psalm 147:6)

- Humility Cures Worldliness (James 4:7-10)
- Moses was a great but very humble leader. He was the most humble man on earth. (Numbers 12:3)
- Jesus was our example of Humility (Philippians 2:5-11)
- Jesus only did what His Father showed Him to do (John 5:19) (John 5:30) (John 17:4)
- Humility is the prerequisite for promotion in the Kingdom of God (1 Peter 5:6) and the mark of true greatness (Matthew 18:1-4)

GREAT LEADERS ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR DEPENDENCE ON GOD. THEY KNOW THAT APART FROM HIM THEY CAN DO NOTHING (John 15:4-5) (Jeremiah 17:5-8)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."
(Proverbs 3:5-6)

THE LORD SAID TO THE PROPHET JEREMIAH WHILE HE WAS IN PRISON,

"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

(Jeremiah 33:3)

GOD'S WAYS ARE ALWAYS HIGHER THAN OUR WAYS.
(Isaiah 55:9)

20) A GOOD CHURCH LEADER IS COMMITTED TO BUILDING A FRIENDLY CHURCH IN WHICH THERE IS AN ATMOSPHERE OF LOVE AND ACCEPTANCE (Psalm 84:10)

Jesus Himself said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)

DEALING QUICKLY WITH ANY SPIRIT OF DIVISION IS THE KEY TO MAINTAINING AN ATMOSPHERE OF LOVE AND ACCEPTANCE WITHIN A CHURCH. A CHURCH LEADER MUST ALWAYS ADDRESS ANY ISSUES WHICH MAY BRING ABOUT DISUNITY IN THE CHURCH, OR THREATEN TO BRING STRIFE INTO THE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP.

The Apostle Paul wrote:

"But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless. Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned." (Titus 3:9-11)

Jesus Himself warned of the consequences of allowing division in a House (Church Fellowship)

“Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls.” (Luke 11:17)

A GOOD LEADER WILL DEAL QUICKLY WITH ANY SPIRIT OF DIVISION AND CORRECT PEOPLE WHO ARE CREATING DIVISION IN THE CHURCH IN A FIRM BUT LOVING MANNER. (2 Timothy 2:23-25)

21) Great leaders have a desire to GLORIFY God with their lives. They have a desire to become more like CHRIST. (2 Timothy 2:15-22)

They have:

- i) A commitment to growing in Character
(Titus 2:11-14) (Philippians 4:8)

- ii) A Hunger for God's Word (John 8:31-32) (Joshua 1:8)
(Matthew 7:24-27) (Romans 10:17) (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
(Psalm 1:1-3) (Psalm 119)

- iii) A dependence on the Holy Spirit both for His guidance and direction (John 14:26) and to be empowered for ministry (Zechariah 4:6) (Luke 24:49)
(Acts 1:4-8) (Acts 2:1-4) (1 Corinthians 2:3-5)

Jesus Himself was anointed by the Holy Spirit for His ministry here on earth. (Acts 10:38) (Luke 3:21-22)
(Luke 4:1) (Luke 4:14-19) (John 6:63)

- iv) A passion to see unity within the Body of Christ
(Psalm 133:1-3) (Ephesians 4:1-6)

- v) A love for praise and worship (John 4:23-24)
(Colossians 3:16) (John 9:31) (Psalm 150) (Acts 16:25-26)

vi) A desire to attain Godly Wisdom.

Having a healthy fear of God is the beginning of all wisdom (Proverbs 1:7) (Proverbs 3:7-8) (Luke 12:4-5)

Solomon requested from God wisdom as he knew that being King of Israel would entail the need to have much wisdom (1 Kings 3:3-13)

GREAT LEADERS HAVE A TEACHABLE SPIRIT

vii) A commitment to prayer and walking in obedience. (2 Chronicles 7:14) (James 1:21-25)

King David was a man after God's own heart and he continually inquired of the Lord (Psalm 143:10) for direction in all that he did. (2 Samuel 5:19) (2 Samuel 5:22-25)

Jesus Himself only did His Father's will. (John 4:34)

GREAT LEADERS PRAY AND OBEY

God has always promised to bless those who walk in obedience (Luke 11:28) (Isaiah 1:19) (Matthew 6:33) (Deuteronomy 28:1-14) and who put their trust in the LORD. (Jeremiah 17:7-8)

GOD DELIGHTS MORE IN OUR OBEDIENCE THAN IN OUR SACRIFICES (1 Samuel 15:22) A TRUE HEARTFELT LOVE FOR JESUS CHRIST IS ALWAYS REFLECTED IN A CHRISTIAN'S LIFE, BY THEIR OBEDIENCE TO HIM (John 14:21) (John 14:23-24)

EVERY GREAT CHRISTIAN LEADER HAS LAID DOWN THEIR LIFE TO LOVE AND SERVE JESUS CHRIST AND TO LIVE FOR OTHERS.

MARTIN LUTHER KING HAD A DREAM TO SEE ALL RACIAL PREJUDICE ABOLISHED AND FOR THE BLACKS IN AMERICA TO HAVE EQUALITY. HE GAVE HIS LIFE FOR THIS CAUSE.

JESUS HIMSELF SAID:

"The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain."

"If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honour. (John 12:23-24, 26)

Like Moses, we need to be prepared to give up the temporary pleasures and comforts in this life to follow God's plan for our life. (Hebrews 11:24-29) God has the best plan for our life. A plan which will touch many lives for all eternity. All He needs is our wholehearted availability. Like Isaiah, we need to simply respond, "Here am I! Send Me." (Isaiah 6:8)

EVERY CHRISTIAN LEADER SHOULD SEEK TO MAINTAIN AN ONGOING
CHILDLIKE TRUST AND DEPENDENCY IN GOD AND A COMMITMENT
TO FOLLOWING HIS PLAN AND PURPOSE FOR THEIR LIFE AND
CHURCH. (Proverbs 16:3)

This will ensure that God's destiny for our life and church is fulfilled. When we place our entire trust and faith in God, we can be assured that with Him, all things are possible. (Ephesians 3:20) (Philippians 4:13) (Matthew 17:20)

IN SUMMARY A GOOD PASTOR OR LEADER HAS A GENUINE LOVE FOR GOD AND ALL PEOPLE AND HAS A COMMITMENT TO SEEING THE LOST COME TO FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.

THEY HAVE A COMMITMENT TO PRAYER AND STANDING IN THE GAP FOR THEIR COMMUNITY (Exekiel 22:30) (1 Timothy 2:1-4) AND PRAYING FOR THOSE WHOM THEY ARE SHEPHERDING AND MENTORING. THE APOSTLE PAUL OFTEN PRAYED FOR OTHER BELIEVERS. (Ephesians 3:14-21) (Ephesians 1:15-23) (Colossians 1:9-11)

A GOOD LEADER IS COMMITTED TO SEEING ALL BELIEVERS GROWING STRONG IN THEIR FAITH AND THEN BEING RELEASED IN THEIR OWN MINISTRY GIFTS AND CALLINGS. (Ephesians 4:11-12) A GOOD LEADER ALSO UNDERSTANDS THAT THEIR MINISTRY RESPONSIBILITIES BEGIN AT HOME. THEY KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING A ROLE MODEL FOR THEIR FAMILY AND FOR THE NEED TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT AT HOME IN WHICH ALL THE FAMILY MEMBERS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO GROW IN THEIR FAITH.

(Colossians 3:16-21) (Ephesians 5:20-33)

APPENDIX A:

THE ATTRIBUTES OF A GOOD LEADER

- As Christians, we are all called to be leaders in our sphere of influence. We have all been called to reign with Christ here on earth. (Revelation 5:9-10)

- God calls some Christians into Ministry Leadership. (1 Timothy 1:1 and 1 Timothy 1:12)

- Jesus Himself "...gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers for the equipping of the saints..." (Ephesians 4:11-12)

- God raises up leaders in the church to shepherd and oversee other believers. The pastor of a church must be an example to those that God has entrusted to him. (1 Peter 5:1-4)

- A PASTOR MUST BE A GOOD AND CARING LEADER

- TO BE A GOOD LEADER, A PASTOR OR CHURCH LEADER MUST LIVE:
 - i) To Serve God, and
 - ii) To Serve Others

- A GODLY LEADER HAS DIED TO HIS OWN AGENDA (John 12:24-26) (Galatians 2:20) AND FOLLOWS GOD'S PLAN FOR THEIR LIFE, WHICH BEARS MUCH FRUIT

ATTRIBUTES OF A GOOD LEADER

- 1) They are HUMBLE (Philippians 2:5-8) (Numbers 12:3)
- 2) They are SERVANTS (Matthew 20:25-28) AND LEAD BY EXAMPLE
- 3) They have a HUNGER for GOD'S WORD (Joshua 1:8) (Matthew 7:24-27) (Colossians 3:16) (2 Timothy 3:10-17) (Hebrews 4:12) (Psalm 119:105) and (Colossians 2:6-8) (Psalm 1:1-3)
- 4) They have a VISION for their life and church and are able to effectively COMMUNICATE that vision to others. (Habakkuk 2:2-3)
- 5) They are STRONG and COURAGEOUS (They never give up on God's plan for their life) (Deuteronomy 31:1-8)
- 6) They are APPROACHABLE (1 Peter 5:2-3)
- 7) They have a LOVE for, and COMMITMENT to those they are leading or shepherding
- 8) They are TOTALLY GOD DEPENDENT (Exodus 33:11) (Lamentations 3:24-25) AND LEAD A LIFE OF OBEDIENCE

9) They have been baptized in the Holy Spirit. (The gifts of the Spirit include: the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge and the gift of faith).

(1 Corinthians 12:7-9)

10) They have a close and INTIMATE relationship with the Lord and are:

i) Worshippers, (John 4:23-24)

ii) Prayer Warriors, (Ezekiel 22:30)
(2 Chronicles 7:14)

iii) Full of God's Word, (Joshua 1:8) and

iv) They have a heart for lost souls

11) They have a TEACHABLE spirit

12) They take RESPONSIBILITY for their actions

13) They have a willingness to DELEGATE authority to others
(Deuteronomy 1:9-14) (Exodus 18:21-23)

14) They complete tasks (They are COMMITTED to finishing what God tells them to do) (Galatians 6:9) Moses was faithful to the end. (Deuteronomy 34)

- 15) They are honest and have integrity
- 16) They manage their time well. They are WELL ORGANISED
- 17) They MENTOR the next generation (2 Timothy 2:1-3)
(Deuteronomy 34:9)
- 18) They see the POTENTIAL IN OTHERS. They never give up on people. They continually speak destiny and vision over people's lives. KING DAVID'S 400 mighty men of valour were originally all in distress, discontented and in debt. However under the leadership of King David they all achieved great and mighty exploits. (1 Samuel 22:1-2) (2 Samuel 23:8-39)
- 19) They have a healthy FEAR OF THE LORD, which is the beginning of all wisdom. (Proverbs 1:7), and
- 20) THEY ARE TEAM PLAYERS

APPENDIX B:

BEING A LEADER OF INFLUENCE

(A GOOD LEADER WILL LIVE FOR OTHERS)

1) The Character of a leader:

- Godly (Seeks to be holy in what he does and is a person after God's own heart)
- HUMBLE
- Team Player
- Encourager
- Honest
- Disciplined
- Punctual
- Committed
- Relational (Loves people and is interested in what others are doing)
- Has Integrity
- Fair
- Reconciler
- Determined and single focused
- Teachable Spirit
- Others Focused (Looks to make others feel good rather than to get others to like him)
- Genuine / Transparent
- FORGIVING
- Has a fear of God
- Prepared to stand alone (If necessary)
- Non Critical

2) The Role of a Leader:

- To be the catalyst for seeing positive changes to a society
- To share his or her vision (To see a vision come to pass)
- To help lead a group of people to achieve that given vision or task
- To help the individual team members to realise their own potential
- To develop new leaders and to raise up and equip others to replicate themselves
- To maintain team unity and to keep the team focused on achieving the vision.
- To ensure that all potential problems are quickly dealt with, lovingly
- To be sensitive to God's leading in either expanding or changing the team's direction
- A good leader also has enough love for his team to discipline and correct team members

3) Attributes of an influential leader

- Has a pioneer spirit
- IS GOD DEPENDENT (A Person of Faith)
- Is good at delegating (The leader focuses on doing those things that others can't)
- DISCIPLES OTHERS
- Discerns what is happening within the team context
- The leader is not critical or condemning when correcting people
- Is flexible and open to change and incorporating new and better methods
- Will accept wise counsel from all age groups
- Is not a man-pleaser and is most interested in seeking God's approval
- Openly looks to see others fulfil their dreams and visions
- Always prioritises (Focuses on what matters most at any given time)
- Is a man who has a vision which others can follow
- Willingly submits to other men and women who are more mature in the faith

“The leader is a man of faith and vision. The leader is a “can do” person. He is a Faith Man. He is bold, confident and almost reckless. The leader believes that all things are possible. (Phil Pringle)

4) Three essential elements of Leadership

- Wisdom to know what to do at any given time
- Courage to do what is right no matter what the consequences
- Strength to actually have the capacity to do it, and to STICK with it until it is done

5) A leader will rise to his LOWEST ceiling.

- PHYSICAL (Diet, Rest, Sleep, Exercise, Health)
- EMOTIONAL (Healthy relationships, ability to deal with negative emotions, stability)
- MENTAL (Ability to deal with stress, ability to TRUST God, ability to prioritise, delegate)
- SPIRITUAL (Prayer life, Worship life, Knowledge of the Word, Faith / Resting in God)

6) Practices and Disciplines adopted by a good leader

- A good leader makes everyone his teacher.
- Good leaders esteem others better than themselves.
- They listen and let others do the talking
- Good leaders are hungry to learn from others
- A good leader encourages and builds up others
- A Kingdom leader is a Shepherd of God's people. The ministry is all about people.
- The Shepherd is a "there" person and quickly attends to people's problems. (e.g. deaths)
- A good Shepherd gives people guidance that is simple and clear in all areas of their life
- Good leaders are flexible and are never satisfied with the status quo.
- Great Leaders never live isolated from their team (They spend time with their team)
- Good leaders are quick to forgive and deal quickly with offences
- Good leaders quickly seek to have differences reconciled between team members
- Good leaders have faith in people and look to develop and encourage them to grow
- GOOD LEADERS LEAD BY EXAMPLE (Prayer, love for the Lord & others & Service)
- Good leaders keep their eyes on Jesus and stay focused on what God has called them to do
- Good leaders do not dwell on problems, negative or critical people, or other distractions
- Good leaders must carefully choose key team members. (They need a kindred spirit)
- A good leader always gives all the glory to God
- A good leader is always a team player
- Good leaders are men and women of prayer and God dependent when problems arise
- A good leader will always seek to improve his communication and listening skills

"Everyone has the deepest craving to know that they've made a difference in the world, to know that they are somehow significant, that their lives mean something." WE MUST ALWAYS RESPECT AND APPRECIATE OUR TEAM MEMBERS AND OTHERS AND ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR INPUT. GOOD LEADERS DO.

"If a person is not interested in people, he or she is badly prepared for ministry"

(Phil Pringle Quote)

A good leader always appreciates the efforts of others, encourages others, sees the best in others and acknowledges the efforts of others. A good leader is a visionary and only sees failure as an opportunity to do things better next time. A good leader delights in seeing others fulfilling their hopes, dreams and God given destinies. A good leader always looks ahead for potential opportunities, possible future problems to avoid and looks to find the potential in every single team member and to see that potential realised."

7) Leaders must be "Soldiers of the Cross" (Francis Frangipane)

- Jesus said that a disciple must take up his cross daily (Leaders must die to themselves)
- We were not saved to become comfortable.
- The first disciples left a comfortable lifestyle to become persecuted followers of Jesus
- Offences will come to every Christian serving God.
- Many people back down and give up their God given destinies because of offences
- The cross is the power of God and we need to ask God to crucify our fleshly nature daily
- A good leader will be obedient to Christ at any cost
- A good leader will want to die to self, and lay down his or her life. The old man must die
- Steven forgave those who stoned him
- The cross is designed to offend you. Jesus said to take up our cross daily.
- Marriage helps people to die to themselves.
- When two people die to themselves, Christ can then live in that relationship
- NO ONE IN THE WORLD IS COMPATIBLE
- The cross was hell on earth (Bodies left to die and to be eaten by the birds)
- We must surrender our lives to Jesus
- Jesus had to forgive all mankind
- God sets us up with opposite people
- God wants us to overcome our differences
- Satan wants to exploit our differences and get us to focus on our differences resulting in strife
- The life of Jesus comes out of our life as we die to self (2 Cor 4:8-11)
- Man has power also (However it is a manipulative power)
- As we die to self the healing, saving loving & delivering power of Jesus will come out of us
- Some of our cross bearing burdens may be at work.
- We need to die to self so that we can be a light in that work place
- We need to choose to love people with their differences
- Teams help us to grow and die to self
- Leaders cannot be manipulated by other people's negative opinions and criticisms
- THESE SITUATIONS WILL NEVER GO AWAY
- God and the devil both want us to die
- God wants us to die to self
- The devil wants to kill us and to get us to withdraw from ministry (Destroy our calling)
- To many Christians are full of self pity and must die to self
- Jesus did not call us to psychologically counsel people, but to MAKE DISCIPLES
- We have far too many comfortable Christians (We need to encourage Christians to serve)
- When people look to serve others and pray and witness to the lost, their own problems go
- A Witch manifested in Church and tried to stab Francis Frangipane
- This lady had been molested by her Christian father, a pastor & then the police abused her
- This woman saw God as a male figure and for this reason hated God
- Francis Frangipane told her that He forgave her and then talked about the Cross & Jesus
- This lady surrendered her life to Jesus, and was healed saved and delivered
- WE MUST CHOOSE TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS AS WE DIE TO OURSELVES

APPENDIX C:

BEING A LEADER OF VISION (Part A)

It is so important as Pastors and leaders (and even for all believers), that we are people of vision and purpose. We only have one lifetime in which to make our lives count for all eternity. We are also the generation, which is responsible for passing the gospel on to the next generation. What are some attributes, which a Pastor or leader should have, or develop, if they are to be leaders of vision and destiny.

- 1) A person who spends time with God
 - i) A person of prayer
 - ii) A person of faith (God dependence)
 - iii) A person with Godly passion (Which comes from intimacy with God)
 - iv) A leader whose first love is Jesus
 - v) A leader who is led by the Holy Spirit (Whose steps are ordered by the Lord)

- 2) A leader who follows God's plan for their church or ministry, and for their own life
- 3) A leader who is committed to seeing their community / nation won to Jesus
- 4) A leader who is committed to helping others to be passionate about their faith
- 5) A person who stays within his own gifting and ministry call (FOCUSED)
- 6) A servant leader (Who lays down his life for others)
- 7) A leader who has a heart to empower others for ministry
- 8) A person who has a passion to see mature disciples raised up
- 9) A leader who is able to delegate responsibilities to others as God leads
- 10) A leader who has a passion to see the gospel proclaimed
- 11) A person who can communicate a vision to those that he shepherds
- 12) A leader who is able to encourage others to operate in their gifts and callings
 - i) A good leader encourages others to find out what God has planned for their life
 - ii) God gives all of us a God-given desire or passion to make a difference somewhere
 - iii) God has created each heart differently. Our heart draws us to the focus of our ministry
 - iv) Leaders of vision help people to identify the areas of ministry God has placed on their heart to do

- 13) A person who has initiative. (A DOER)
- 14) A person who has a pioneer spirit and is not afraid to take on new challenges
- 15) A person who has the courage to stand up for the gospel and Godly values

- 16) A leader who raises up and mentors other leaders
- 17) A leader who is able to maintain unity
 - i) Has wisdom and discernment
 - ii) Has a shepherd's heart (Father of the faith), and who is a Pastor to the leadership team
- 18) A big picture person (Who mobilises others into their ministry callings)
- 19) A leader who acknowledges and appreciates the efforts of others (A key to team unity)
- 20) An Encourager
- 21) A person who is Kingdom minded (Networks with other leaders / churches), and
- 22) A leader who leads by example

APPENDIX D:

BEING A LEADER OF VISION (PART B)

It is so important as Pastors and leaders (and even for all believers), that we are people of vision and purpose. We only have one lifetime in which to make our lives count for all eternity. This teaching covers some of the more practical areas of being a Leader of vision. The following focuses are all critical for leaders of vision.

- 1) **Helping to Equip the next generation (Youth) and all those attending the church to lead fruitful lives by encouraging them to fully use their spiritual gifts.** (Ephesians 4:11-12, 2 Timothy 2:2 and 1 Peter 5:1-4)
- 2) **Having an emphasis on New Believers Training, by ensuring that all new believers are given the opportunity to receive training to help them establish their Christian faith on a firm foundation.**
- 3) **Helping all believers in the church to identify their spiritual gifts. God gives the gifts “just as He determines” (1 Corinthians 12:11). A leader of vision helps to mobilise ministries by encouraging all believers to become involved in ministry. Holding regular Spiritual Gifts Surveys will help believers to identify their gifts and callings.**
- 4) **LEADING BY EXAMPLE. A leader of vision will always lead by example in the following areas:**
 - i) Character / Walking in Love / Faith in God (**1 Timothy 4:12**)
 - ii) Having a heart for evangelism (**Daniel 12:3 and Proverbs 11:30**)
 - iii) Having a servant heart (**Matthew 20:26-28**)
 - iv) Being an encourager (**Hebrews 10:24-25**), AND
 - v) Esteeming others better than himself (Humility) (**Philippians 2:3**)
- 5) **Being committed to SEEING OTHERS fulfil their God given destinies by:**
 - i) Looking for the potential in every believer
 - ii) Understanding the personality types of each believer
 - iii) Speaking destiny over the lives of believers
 - iv) Being committed to seeing every member in the church leading a fruitful life for God’s Kingdom, AND
 - v) Releasing ministries to others as the Lord leads. (DELEGATION)

- 6) **Being a part of the TEAM. A Leader of vision acknowledges that God has placed each member in the Body of Christ as He has pleased. (1 Corinthians 12:18) As a good leader he is focused on maintaining team unity as each member of the team is allowed to use their spiritual gifts for the benefit of all. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)**

- 7) **A LEADER WHO FOLLOWS THE DIRECTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. A Leader who simply trusts and obeys God and who is committed to following God's plan for his life (Ephesians 2:10) and the church. (Psalm 127:1)**

APPENDIX E:

THE GREATEST IS LOVE

“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.” (1 Corinthians 13:1-3)

“Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophecy.” (1 Corinthians 14:1)

Jesus said, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)

GENUINE LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER IS THE KEY TO UNITY AND KINGDOM POWER

- God loves every person in the world (John 3:16)
- Jesus has compassion for the lost, the afflicted and sick

“Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.” (Matthew 9:35-36)

WE ALSO NEED TO HAVE A GENUINE LOVE FOR OTHERS

UNITY BRINGS GOD'S BLESSINGS

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! ... It is like the dew of Hermon, Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the blessing – Life forevermore." (Psalm 133:1 &3)

THE FIRST CHURCH WAS UNIFIED AND MOVED IN GREAT POWER

"And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch." (Acts 5:12)

JESUS HIMSELF SAID THAT A DIVIDED HOUSE WOULD FALL

Maintaining unity in a church is a key to seeing it grow into a healthy and loving church which has an impact in the community.

Jesus said, "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls."
(Luke 11:17)

TRUE AGAPE LOVE HAS THE FOLLOWING ATTRIBUTES:

1) IT IS ALSO PRACTICAL

“Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common.

And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. Nor was there anyone among them who lacked, for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.” (Acts 4:32-35)

2) IT IS GENUINE

“Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails...”
(1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

3) IT DEMONSTRATES FORGIVENESS,

“Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.” (Ephesians 4:31-32)

4) IT IS OTHERS FOCUSED, AND

“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”

(Philippians 2:3-4)

5) IT IS SACRIFICIAL (Like Jesus we must choose to lay down our life for others)

Jesus said, “Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave – just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” (Matthew 20:26-28)

IT IS ONLY IN LAYING DOWN OUR LIFE FOR OTHERS (BEING A GENUINE DISCIPLE) THAT OUR LIVES WILL BEAR MUCH ETERNAL FRUIT.

If we do not make a committed choice each day of our life to follow God’s plan for our life, we will be more easily sidetracked by the cares, riches, temptations and pleasures of this life, and bring no or little fruit to maturity in our life here on earth. (Luke 8:14)

Jesus said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.”

(John 12:24)

ANY CHRISTIAN WHO IS DEVOTED TO SERVING GOD AND COMMITTED TO LOVING OTHERS WILL DO GREAT AND MIGHTY THINGS FOR GOD'S KINGDOM

WE ALL HAVE THE ABILITY AS BELIEVERS TO LOVE OTHERS UNCONDITIONALLY

"Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (Romans 5:5)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self control..." (Galatians 5:22-23)

WHAT CAN STOP THIS LOVE FROM FLOWING OUT OF THE LIVES OF BELIEVERS

1) A LACK OF INTIMACY WITH JESUS

- i) We must continually abide in His love. (John 15:4-5)
- ii) We need to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:17-18)
- iii) We need to lead a lifestyle of worship (John 4:23-24) and prayer (involving God in all areas of our life)

2) OUR ATTITUDES (Walking in the flesh)

- i) Being critical or judgemental of others (Matthew 7:1-5)
- ii) Being envious or jealous of others (James 3:14-16)
- iii) Having selfish ambition (Philippians 2:3)
- iv) Having pride in our life (Colossians 3:12 & 4:6)

3) HAVING A FEAR OF MAN (A fear of being rejected)

“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.”

(1 John 4:18)

CONCLUSION

- Where there is love and unity God's power can be seen (Acts 4:32-33)
- We all need to choose to love others (1 John 4:7 & 11)
- Jesus even commanded us to love one another (John 13:34)
- If we do not abide in Christ, our lives will bear no fruit (John 15:4-5)
- When we have intimacy with Jesus, we begin to have His compassion for the lost and hurting in this world (Psalm 37:4)
- If we have His compassion and love for others, our lives will make a great difference in this world and help many to receive the gift of eternal life (John 14:12)

APPENDIX F

AN OVERVIEW OF WHAT IS IMPORTANT FOR ALL CHURCH LEADERS

1) **Having a vision to reach the lost**

Jesus said, “Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for the harvest.

“And he who **reaps** receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that **both** he who **sows** and he who **reaps** may **rejoice together**. For in this the saying is true: ‘One sows and another reaps’” (**John 4:35-37**)

WE ALL HAVE A PART TO PLAY IN THE HARVESTING OF LOST SOULS

Every soul is precious to God. Every church should have a clear vision and plan for reaching the lost

*The LORD said to the prophet Habakkuk, “Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it.” (**Habakkuk 2:2**)*

2) **Having a vision for equipping leaders** (Building the Kingdom of God focus)

Every leader must invest time in helping to develop the next group of leaders. Mentoring and discipling future leaders will ensure the ongoing expansion of God’s Kingdom

*The apostle Paul said to the young pastor Timothy, “You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” (**2 Timothy 2:1-2**)*

3) Mobilising all Christians in their ministry gifts

Every Believer has a ministry and mission field. (Ephesians 2:10)

“For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.” (Romans 12:4-8)

“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit, There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:” (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

THE BOOK OF PROVERBS SAYS

“And he who wins souls is wise.” (Proverbs 11:30)

It is important that all Christians are equipped and encouraged to use their ministry gifts and shown how to effectively share their faith with unbelievers.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God.” (Ephesians 4:11-13)

- 4) **We need to start with what we have. We must not despise the day of small beginnings. If we are faithful with the little He will entrust to us greater responsibilities and resources**

“He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.” (Luke 16:10)

SEE ALSO MATTHEW 25:14-29

- 5) **We need to have a firm belief in the **POWER** of the Gospel to **SAVE** and **CHANGE** lives**

The apostle Paul wrote, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is **the power of God** to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.” (Romans 1:16)

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits; Who **forgives** all your iniquities, Who heals all your **diseases**, Who **redeems your life from destruction**, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who **satisfies your mouth with good things**, So that your youth is **renewed** like the eagle’s. (Psalm 103:2-5)

SEE ALSO ACTS 8:4-8

- 6) **The importance of **PERSEVERENCE****

The LORD said to the prophet Habakkuk, “For the vision is yet for an **appointed** time; But at the end it **will** speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, **wait for it**; Because it will **surely come**, It will not tarry.” (Habakkuk 2:3)

Any God given vision will come to pass if we do not grow weary while doing good and if we do not lose heart. (Galatians 6:9)
(Philippians 1:6)

7) **The importance of making disciples** (Feeding the sheep)

All Pastors have a responsibility for looking after those whom the Holy Spirit has entrusted to them. (**Acts 20:28**)

As part of this responsibility, pastors should be teaching and shepherding their flock to ensure that all the members in the church are given the opportunity to grow strong in their faith.

Every pastor should also be aware of the importance of their own lives being a role model to those who have been entrusted to their care.

The apostle Peter wrote, “Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.” (**1 Peter 5:2-5**)

Jesus Himself said, “Go there and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (**Matthew 28:19-20**)

Jesus gave the apostle Peter a threefold commission for him to be a shepherd to His sheep when He restored Peter.

“Feed My lambs”,

“Tend My sheep”, and

“Feed My sheep” (**John 21:15-17**)

8) WE NEED TO HAVE GOD’S HEART FOR LOST SOULS (The compassion of Jesus)

As Christians it is so important that we seek to have the same compassion for the lost that Jesus had. It is our compassion for the lost which will give us the passion to preach the gospel to the lost and to witness to others. As we read the gospels we can see the great love of Jesus for the lost and broken.

“Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

Then he said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the labourers are few.”

“Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send our labourers into His harvest” (Matthew 9:35-38)

JESUS REBUKED THE LOVELESS CHURCH AT EPHESUS

Despite all their good works Jesus said, “Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.” (Revelation 2:4)

WE MUST CONTINUALLY ABIDE IN HIS PRESENCE IF WE ARE TO HAVE THE SAME COMPASSION THAT JESUS HAD FOR THE LOST. JESUS SAID,

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit, for without Me you can do nothing.” (John 15:4-5)

9) Having a knowledge that God’s plan for our life is far bigger than we could imagine

The LORD said to the Prophet Jeremiah whilst he was in jail,

“Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.” **(Jeremiah 33:3)**

GOD’S WAYS ARE ALWAYS HIGHER THAN OUR WAYS.

THE LORD SPOKE THROUGH THE PROPHET ISAIAH TO ISRAEL,

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.” **(Isaiah 55:8-9)**

The apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the church at Ephesus,

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,” **(Ephesians 3:20)**

- **We must not allow our past traditions or current comfort zones to prevent us from moving into the new things of God**
- **We must not allow our fears to stop us from getting out of the boat and becoming a water walking disciple**
- **We need to learn to walk in obedience to God’s blue print for our life as we allow the Holy Spirit to direct our lives, and**
- **We must have a simple childlike trust in God’s faithfulness**

KNOWING THAT WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

10) We must continue to live in the FAITH REALM and be continually LED by the Holy Spirit

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (**Hebrews 11:1**)

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” (**Hebrews 11:6**)

THE OLD TESTAMENT IS FULL OF ACCOUNTS OF GOD’S FAITHFULNESS IN THE PAST

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after Joshua and his men of war and seven priests encircled them. On the seventh day the ark of the LORD also encircled the city prior to the walls of Jericho falling down flat. (**Joshua 6:1-20**)

By faith Moses forsook Egypt and by faith he led Israel through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians attempting to do so were drowned. (**Exodus 2:15, Exodus 14:19-30**)

JESUS HIMSELF SHARED MUCH ABOUT THE FAITH FILLED LIFE

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.” (**John 14:12-14**)

“...for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.” (**Matthew 17:20**)

OTHER FAITH STATEMENTS (Matthew 6:33) (Mark 11:22-24)

11) The importance of leaders having a servant's heart (Leading by example and prepared to go the extra mile)

- **Living for others**

Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies it produces much grain." (**John 12:24**)

- **Helping others to fulfil God's destiny for their lives**

MARK 10:35-45

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

(Mark 10:45)

12) The absolute importance of maintaining unity in the church (Building the Kingdom of God together)

- A key to experiencing God's blessings (**Psalm 133:1-3**)
- Helps in building a strong church (**Acts 2:46-47**)
- A key to experiencing God's power (**Acts 4:24 & 31**)
- Helps to bring God's presence in our meetings (**Acts 1:14**), and
- Helps in creating an atmosphere of love in the church in which people can be saved, healed and encouraged to grow in their Christian walk

13) The importance of Prayer (Having a lifestyle of Prayer)

THERE ARE MANY PROMISES OF ANSWERED PRAYER IN GOD'S WORD.

(1 John 5:14-15) (Mark 11:24) (James 5:14-18) (John 16:23-24)

As leaders pastors need to have a lifestyle of prayer in which they continually seek the Lord for His direction for their lives and church. Unless the Lord builds the house they labour in vain who build it. **(Psalm 127:1)**

“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask **anything according to His will**, He **hears us**. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.” **(1 John 5:14-15)**

Jesus said, “You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the **Father in My name** He may give you. **(John 15:16)**

14) Continually maintaining a heart of worship and intimacy with Jesus Christ. Jesus must continually be our first love

Jesus said, “But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” **(John 4:23-24)**

The apostle Paul wrote, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. **(Colossians 3:16)**

15) All great leaders live a crucified life

- A life of obedience to God's plan for their life
(**Luke 14:26-27, 33**)
- **IT IS THE KEY TO AVOIDING THE MANY DISTRACTIONS IN THIS LIFE THAT CAN STEER CHRISTIANS OFF TRACK AND ROB THEM OF GOD'S BEST**
- Abundant life can only be experienced by Believers when they deny themselves and follow Jesus' plan for their life. (**Matthew 16:24-27**)

Jesus Himself said,

“Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

“For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.” (**Mark 8:34-38**)

The apostle Paul wrote

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” (**Galatians 2:20**)

16) We must depend on the Holy Spirit to empower us for ministry

- The importance of praying in the Spirit

“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit.” (Jude 20)

- Preaching and witnessing in the power of the Holy Spirit

The apostle Paul wrote, “For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.

And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” (1 Corinthians 2:2-5) *and*

“For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.”

(1 Thessalonians 1:5)

Jesus said to His disciples before ascending back to Heaven,

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

- The Holy Spirit makes our prayers effective

The apostle Paul wrote, “Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” (Romans 8:26)

- **We need to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit**

The apostle Paul wrote, “Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit.” (Ephesians 5:17-18)

- **Jesus Himself ministered through the power of the Holy Spirit**

“how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” (Acts 10:38)

- **Jesus went about teaching and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. People brought to Him all the sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed (Matthew 4:23-24)**

Jesus said to His disciples, “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name I will do it.” (John 14:12-14)

“This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel:

‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the Lord of hosts.” (Zechariah 4:6)

17) The importance of connecting with and being accountable to other mature Christians and Leaders

“Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.”

(Proverbs 11:14)

(See also Hebrews 10:23-25)