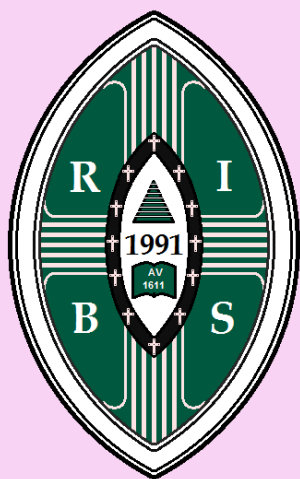


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Class Title

EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS –
LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

Prepared by

N. Sebastian Desent, Ph.D., Th.D., D.D.

Date

May 20, 2021, Revised 9/13/21

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6 Units

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Masters Level

This Syllabus is Approved for
Baptist International School of the Scriptures

N. S. Desent, Ph.D., Th.D., D.D.

CLASS 505A EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS – LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

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CLASS 505A EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS – LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

Scriptural Leadership Qualities **An Example of the Master's Thesis**

N. Sebastian Desent, Ph.D., Th.D., D.D.

In Fulfillment of the Thesis Requirement for
Class 505: Thesis on Approved Subject Matter
for Baptist International School of the Scriptures

May 20, 2021

**CLASS 505 EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS ON
APPROVED SUBJECT MATTER –
SCRIPTURAL LEADERSHIP QUALITIES**

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A Syllabus Approved for Baptist International School of the Scriptures – 6 Units.

May 20, 2021

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Scripture References

1 Timothy 3:1-15

1 This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;

4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;

9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.

11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

14 These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly:

15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

Titus 1:5-9

5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;

9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

1 Peter 5:1-9

1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the

sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

Acts 6:1-4

1 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians

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against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

Ephesians 4:11-16

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Colossians 3:12-15

12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. 14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

1 Corinthians 8:1

1 Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth.

Proverbs 15:1

1 A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

Proverbs 16:24

24 Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

Ephesians 4:29

29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

Proverbs 25:11

11 A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

Ephesians 4:24

24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Colossians 3:10

10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

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Introduction

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5/20/21

Class 505 Master Thesis on Approved Subject Matter – 6 units

For the fulfillment of the 505 objective, the student is to prepare a Master Thesis on an approved subject Matter with an evaluation of his work and his Work Journal. Both the Thesis and the Work Journal are to be certified through *Baptist International*.

The Master's Thesis should be at least 80 pages. It may be (upon approval by B. I.) a submission of written work previously done. For this reason, we encourage all students to write their papers at a University level quality in the expectation that it will be submitted to peer review.

Furthermore, all papers should be "*freestanding*" – that is, to say, not dependent upon other literary works besides the Holy Bible. Any references to human authors should be attributed rightly, but used only in moderation, and the study should be sufficient without the reliance on human works.

Introduction

Leadership qualities are required in the pastoral and evangelistic ministries. Meeting people, preaching to people, and being an overall servant to people require that the man of God be of a certain caliber. He must develop these qualities in his life to be the effective leader and be more conformed to the image of Jesus Christ.

Our Savior is the greatest pattern to follow when developing oneself for anything. Furthermore, the man of God must put forth effort to be "approved unto God" (2 Timothy 2:15; Hebrews 6:12). Proper leadership does not come naturally. It is achieved through yielding to the Spirit of God and faithfully applying the word of God into one's life.

We can learn from men who have certain leadership qualities. We can be followers of men who follow Christ (1 Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 3:17).

The New Testament gives the qualifications of a bishop, but practically, how does one behave in the real world *applying* these qualifications?

This syllabus is useful to supply concepts for the man of God so he can improve in his personal development. We are all learning, and we can learn from all men – whether good things to do or wrong things to avoid.

The Five Levels of Leadership (John C. Maxwell)

John C. Maxwell is a well-known secular and Christian author. Although we probably do not agree on certain theological and doctrinal points (he is *not* a Baptist), we can learn some leadership ideas from Mr.

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Maxwell as they align with the word of God. If they do not align, we simply throw them out. In the appendix there is an article found at www.Peregrine.yasn.com summarizing the five levels of leadership.

We learn from John C. Maxwell's book *The Five Levels of Leadership*¹ what these five levels are:

- 1 – Position
- 2 – Permission
- 3 – Production or Results
- 4 – People Development
- 5 – Pinnacle or Legacy

Here are the five levels illustrated:



Obviously, pastors, teachers, and evangelists – and anyone else in Christian leadership – ought to strive to the higher levels of leadership. The student will see in the illustration above levels 4 and 5 are *People Development* and *Pinnacle*, respectively. To reach these levels is our hope and effort.

¹ Maxwell, John C. *The 5 Levels of Leadership*.

Manhattan, New York: Center Street, a Division of Hachette Book Group, 2011, Hardcover.

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There are a few important things to note about these levels:

1. Every person one meets will see the man of God differently and at a particularly different level, or at no level at all. If one is a pastor, teacher, preacher, etc.; he will usually be seen as having *positional leadership*. By his interaction with others, they will either see him at a higher level or at no level at all.

This means not all people see the truth, and others see more than is there. Some people have such a negative view of Christianity that they will subconsciously reject any leadership of the man of God. They think of him as a con-man or akin to a used-car salesman. Others are blind and put men on pedestals not seeing that “all have sinned” and that anything we have was given to us by God (Romans 3:23; 1 Corinthians 4:7).

We are instructed in the New Testament to think of ourselves and others ***according to truth***: esteeming others but not thinking higher of ourselves than we ought to think.

The apostle Paul wrote in Romans 12:3:

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

And, again in 1 Corinthians 4:6:

And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.

And, again in 2 Corinthians 12:6:

For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear, lest any man should think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me.

Furthermore, in the New Testament we are warned against people who appear to be one thing, but they are other things. Matthew 7:15:

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Galatians 6:12-14:

12 As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ.

13 For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh.

14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

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2 Corinthians 11:13:

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

What we must see that ultimately, is that it is not what man thinks of us that counts, but what Jesus sees. All the while trying to be a good testimony for the Lord. High places of leadership have high expectations for the people in those positions. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 4:1-5:

1 Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.

2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

3 But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self.

4 For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord.

5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

So, although a man has some control how others see him, ultimately it is God who sees rightly. We should strive to build favor with God and man (Luke 2:52). We want people to see us as ministers of Christ, but ultimately God is the judge.

2. Since the New Testament church has a *congregational* form of government – that is to say, every member has the Holy Ghost and has a part in the body, our pastors, teachers, deacons, bishops, evangelists – and whoever else – lead in our churches at levels 2 and 3. The leaders are elected or allowed to lead as the church is happy to follow them, and these leaders have been proved in some way to show they are *qualified* to minister to the flock (1 Timothy 3:10; Acts 6:3).
3. Every good pastor leads at level 4. He is mindful of the people and serves as their minister. He understands *servant-leadership*. He follows Christ and desires to be like the Savior. He knows the members of the church will be like him, so he is careful to always have the proper spirit and balance in the work.
4. It is obvious that our Savior Jesus Christ is at the very top of leadership. No one has excelled higher than the Savior. He is the head and by him all things consist (Colossians 1:17; 2:10). He is the Author and Finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2).

But at the same time that Jesus Christ was highly regarded by his followers, he was rejected and set at naught by others (Luke 20:17; Acts 4:11; 1 Peter 2:7; etc.). But by those who see truth, he is precious.

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We see, then, that *people development* is at the higher levels of leadership, and that is exactly what our Savior does in our lives, and what he expects his leaders to do for the people they lead.

The New Testament Qualifications for Bishops

According to Ephesians 4:11-16, whether a man is an apostle, or a prophet, or an evangelist, or a pastor or teachers; he still has the very same objectives: “For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12).

Any man in Christian leadership should take these objectives seriously.

1 Timothy 3:1-7 gives the qualifications for bishops. The word *bishop* means *overseer*. Pastors, elders, overseers, and other church leaders fall in this category in a *generic sense*, although we would agree this passage refers primarily to pastors (see v. 5), while verses 8-13 refer to deacons.

One will notice the very first qualification in the list is that the man *must be blameless*. Any good leader will be known to be of very good character. He will have no visible vice or weakness of the flesh (sinful activity). This does not mean he is sinless. This does not mean he does a good job of hiding his faults – it means he lives a pure life before all who know him. He is transparent and – as verse 7 says – he must be of good report of them which are without (without God, without the church, without salvation).

We learn that the bishop *can* and *should* attain to this standard of blamelessness. The good leader has no bad habits that others will follow. He is seen as only good from man’s standard (we know there is no sinlessness until the resurrection). There is no “fly in the ointment” (Ecclesiastes 10:1).

Although the passage is referring to *bishops* in particular, the qualification of blamelessness should be required for all leaders (you will notice the use of “*likewise*” in verse 8 in respect to deacons.) Blamelessness shows the man has self-control, that he is considerate of those who know him, and that he follows the Holy Ghost in liberty. Blamelessness shows he wants to reproduce others who are likewise holy. But this quality alone will not put a leader at the higher levels of leadership. This is a minimum expected standard. Although there are no qualifications for an evangelist, we see Philip was a deacon first, and Bishop Timothy was told to do the work of an evangelist. Considering these two instances, we can assume those qualifications (bishop and deacon) are a minimum standard for an evangelist. Furthermore, Ephesians 4:11 lists evangelists between apostles, prophets, and pastors, so this could mean there is a higher standard for evangelists than bishops.

As one man said, “When I got saved, I gave up smoking, drinking, and cursing – and looking back, this was the easiest thing to do in my Christian life.” You see, holiness is just the beginning, but a very necessary step. 2 Peter 1:5 says, “And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge....” Virtue must be added *before* knowledge. What we *do* is more important than what we *know*.

Good and Proper Human Interaction

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The business of a church leader is primarily the people business. Churches are not secular business run by administrative programs or innovative processes – we deal with all kinds of people with all kinds of backgrounds with all kinds of needs.

God's word along with the wisdom of the Holy Ghost is sufficient to deal with anything that comes along. This is not to say there is a solution to everyone's problems – for some things are so far gone only prayer can be offered. A pastor or counselor should never think he can fix everything just by pounding chapter and verse. Sometimes, the best we can do is to make the best of a bad situation.

Good leaders will deal with people with compassion, love, kindness, and longsuffering.

When ministering to people, we can learn from the apostle Paul. In 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 Paul wrote the following:

- 19 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.
- 20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;
- 21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.
- 22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.
- 23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.

Paul understood every person is different, and whatever a person had was given to them of God. Whatever glory there is in who we are, that glory should go to God. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 4:7, "For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?" Proverbs 22:2 makes it simple: "The rich and poor meet together: the LORD is the maker of them all."

Paul was able to identify his audience and adjust his speech and behavior so as to gain influence and credibility and gain the opportunity to preach the gospel in a meaningful way. We can see this wisdom when reading about his experience on Mars' Hill in Acts 17:16-34. Paul saw that Athens was "wholly given to idolatry." The city had Jews, Epicurean philosophers, and Stoics. These Athenians spent their time "in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing."

Paul uses an inscription he read on an altar as a starting point to preach to the people. The inscription that read *TO THE UNKNOWN GOD* gave Paul the opportunity to declare unto them the true God.

Paul does not alienate the hearers by blasting their pagan beliefs and practices of idolatry. Rather, he preaches to them how they can know the true God – even quoting one of their own poets (v. 28). Paul planted the gospel seed, and some believed.

When Paul addressed Agrippa in Acts 26, he knew him "to be expert in all customs and questions which are among the Jews (v. 3).

Paul rehearses his life as a Jew, and then says, "And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers" (v. 6). He continues preaching through Jesus and the resurrection. Agrippa's answer echoes through 2,000 years of history: "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." The chapter

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ends with Agrippa saying to Festus: “This man might have been set at liberty, if he had not appealed unto Caesar” (v. 32). We see Paul’s influence and how even a king was swayed in his favor.

A minister of the gospel must receive every opportunity of interaction with people as an opportunity to witness the gospel. He must always be mindful of his words, countenance, and behavior so he can be positioned to *credibly* preach the gospel. This is the important work – soul-winning and being a witness for Jesus Christ. He becomes more effective by dealing with every person on their level. Understanding what people are like requires compassion and a certain amount of listening.

What is Desirable in a Person

What make a person desirable to others? What qualities make a person effective in communicating the gospel? How does a man have favor among people?

Proverbs 18:24 says, “A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.”

We see a man must put forth effort to be friendly and reliable

Of course, we can learn from the Master in the practical execution of effectiveness. Luke 2:52 reads, “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.”

A study of the gospels in respect to Jesus’ interaction with people will reveal much of the perfect way to deal with people.

It is said of the Lord, “A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory” (Matthew 12:20, quoting Isaiah 42:3). The context of Jesus fulfilling this prophecy was when the Lord withdrew himself from the place where the Pharisees held a council against him, how they might destroy him.

Instead of further stirring up trouble, he withdrew himself. Our Lord was not contentious. Proverbs 13:10 says, “Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.” We know our Savior was “meek and lowly in heart” (Matthew 11:29), and not one to purposely offend others (see Matthew 17:27).

We can see from reading the gospels that our Savior was kind, friendly, approachable, merciful, accepting of all types, honorable, humble, loving, etc., etc. I suppose there is no end to the praise we can give to our Savior.

Paul’s manner of effectiveness is seen in 1 Thessalonians 2:1-13:

- 1 For yourselves, brethren, know our entrance in unto you, that it was not in vain:
- 2 But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention.
- 3 For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile:
- 4 But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts.

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5 For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness; God is witness:

6 Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ.

7 But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children:

8 So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us.

9 For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God.

10 Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe:

11 As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children,

12 That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

Notice some points in respect to the Thessalonian model:

- Paul's entrance was not in vain
- They were bold to preach the gospel even in contention
- Their exhortation was such to please God, not man
- They did not use flattering words or a "cloke of covetousness"
- They did not seek glory
- They were not burdensome
- They were gentle
- They were affectionate
- They considered the people dear unto them
- They were not chargeable, but paid their own way
- They behaved themselves holily, justly, and unblameably among them
- They exhorted and comforted every one of them
- They charged every one of them to walk worthy of God

The effectiveness of the Lord Jesus Christ and his apostles to see people saved and live for God is based in the truthfulness and integrity of the preacher, so that the hearers accept and desire *to do* what is instructed. They did not force feed their audience. When they corrected people, it was done with grace, mercy, and longsuffering. The people received the message because the deliverer was trustworthy.

Scriptural *Humanity*

There are things that make a man different from all the beasts of the field. Men are different from angels. And every person is different from one another. The things that make men different from all other creatures is that "... God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Genesis 1:27).

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Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 5:23 that man has a spirit, soul, and a body. He is a triune being. What does the Bible tell us about these facets of humanity?

Job 32:8 says, “But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.”

And a man can and should rule his spirit: Proverbs 25:28 says, “He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.”

Then we are to love the Lord with all our soul: Deuteronomy 6:5 – And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Psalms 16:10 tell us that it is the soul of the lost man that goes to hell: “For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.”

We bury the body of a person who dies (Luke 16:22), his spirit returns to the Lord who gave it, and the soul either spends eternity with God or separated from him (New Jerusalem or the Lake of Fire.)

Ecclesiastes 3:21 tells us the spirit of man goes up: “Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?”

God also made our flesh different from all other – see 1 Corinthians 15:39: “All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.”

So, our humanity is really our soul and spirit, housed in a special mortal, carnal, body. We are so different than beasts that any teaching that says we evolved or that we are not better than beasts is so obviously wrong.

We should be mindful of all three elements when interacting with people. Our body language – posture, actions, looks – along with our countenance, speech, expressions, etc.; all contribute and work together when influencing people with the gospel. There are so many areas that we can only *touch the hem of the garment* when we put into writing some key thoughts. Our hope is that students will have a continuing improvement in developing their leadership quality and influence.

The *humanity* we speak of is being the person God would have us to be. Operating from apposition of love for the person really helps to synchronize all things toward that person. People know when you have a genuine love for them.

Negative People have Negative Relationships

All have interacted with negative people. The first thought is to get away from them. We tend to avoid them in the future. We have no fellowship with them.

Sometimes the negativity is bad or divisive doctrine – Paul said in Romans 16:17, “Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.”

Sometime the negative behavior is anger. Proverbs gives us two passages:

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Proverbs 22:24 – Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go:

Proverbs 29:22 – An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.

James is very clear – he says in James 1:19-20, “Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.”

Sometimes it is foul language, cursing, swearing, etc.; that causes the negativity. This corrupt communications cause all who hear to want to escape the words of the speaker. Personally, even at the risk of being rude, I should like to simply walk away from such speech. Proverbs 15:26 says, “The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD: but the words of the pure are pleasant words.”

Of the lost Paul writes in Romans 3:13-18:

- 13 Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips:
- 14 Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness:
- 15 Their feet are swift to shed blood:
- 16 Destruction and misery are in their ways:
- 17 And the way of peace have they not known:
- 18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.

Even preachers can tend to grow older and be more cantankerous – especially when things disrupt their comfort zone. This ought not to be. We all should strive to be sweeter and sweeter as grow older. Few people enjoy angry or caustic preaching. One needs to memorize James 1:20 and live it.

Sometimes it is body odor or a bad smell (cigarettes, dope, urine, etc.) that offends us. The man of God needs to look beyond these things. Nursing homes are notorious for bad odors.

Even when preaching on difficult subjects such as sin, hell, and death; we can deliver such messages with compassion and love. People will sense the right attitude behind the words.

Having a Merry Heart

When we speak of being of *good humor*, we are not saying men should be comedians, foolish jesters, or constant joke-tellers. Although there may be times when a little joke-telling or comedy is appropriate, when we speak of having a merry heart, we are encouraging men to be happy, joyful, laugh a little, be friendly and non-threatening. Have some charisma. People should desire to meet the man of God and learn more about him. In contrast, Proverbs 21:29 says, “A wicked man hardeneth his face: but as for the upright, he directeth his way.”

A man who is of a merry heart will always see the good and be blessed in every situation. A Christian can always be joyful even in the most difficult of times. Proverbs 15:15 says, “All the days of the afflicted are evil: but he that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast.” A man with a merry heart will have a much

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more enjoyable life – Proverbs 17:22: “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.”

Connection to Love Commandment Doctrine

The greatest commandment is to love God and love our neighbor. This love is to be put into action. God’s love working through us – called charity – makes ministers effective to those they minister to.

Paul showed this effectiveness in 1 Corinthians 13:1-7:

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

2 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, and have not charity, I am nothing.

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

To have a clear message, show one’s faith, and be effective in the work of the Lord; charity must be practiced in all areas of the minister’s life.

Conclusion

The Holy Ghost gives believers a positive outlook positive energy. This positivity manifests itself in these positive things:

- Souls being saved (Romans 1:15; 15:20; 2 Corinthians 10:16)
- Saints being edified (built up – 2 Corinthians 10:8)
- Optimism to do the Lord’s work (Philippians 3:14)
- Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)
- Rejoice when men reject the message (Luke 6:23)
- Rejoice when souls are saved (Luke 15:5)
- Helps to see the solutions to problems, not just the problem (i.e., creativity)
- Helps to see blessings in every situation (Romans 8:28)
- People tend to follow the positive leader (1 Peter 1:8)
- Helps to overcome fear (John 16:33; 1 John 5:4)
- Helps to succeed because of greater faith (Matthew 21:22)
- Allows one to see criticism as helpful (Luke 22:32)
- Tends to less grief and confusion (Philippians 3:20)

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- Tends to good health (Proverbs 17:22)
- Tends to resilience (Acts 14:21-23)

The man of God must be conscious of how his speech, looks, countenance, and actions affect everyone he encounters. He wants to be a good testimony of God's grace. He wants to be ready to give an answer for the hope of salvation.

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Lesson 1: The New Testament Qualifications – the *Written Qualifications* for Bishops and Deacons

[Editor's Note: Although the New Testament qualifications are applied mainly to Bishops and Deacons, we believe these also apply to Evangelists and other leaders. The evangelist context in the New Testament was performed by either deacons or bishops.]

I. 1 Timothy 3:1-15

- A. 1 This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.
- B. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;
- C. 3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;
- D. 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;
- E. 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)
- F. 6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.
- G. 7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.
- H. 8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;
- I. 9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.
- J. 10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.
- K. 11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.
- L. 12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.
- M. 13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.
- N. 14 These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly:
- O. 15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

II. Titus 1:5-9

- A. 5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:
- B. 6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.
- C. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
- D. 8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;
- E. 9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

III. 1 Peter 5:1-9

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- A. 1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
- B. 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
- C. 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.
- D. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.
- E. 5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
- F. 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:
- G. 7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.
- H. 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:
- I. 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

IV. Acts 6:1-4

- A. 1 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.
- B. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.
- C. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.
- D. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

V. Ephesians 4:11-16

- A. 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- B. 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
- C. 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
- D. 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- E. 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
- F. 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

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Lesson 2: Be an Ensample

I. Difference between an *Example* and an *Ensample*

- A. An *example* is a small portion showing how the whole should be
- B. An *Example* of a fabric swatch or an *example* of a paint chip
- C. An *example* of how to do a particular thing that would apply in a greater application
- D. An *ensample* is a pattern of the whole that should be followed
- E. An *ensample* defines every application.
- F. A model or pattern to be followed for the construction of the actual is an *ensample*
- G. Blueprints and architectural drawings are *ensamples* to be followed.
- H. Dress making patterns and prototypes are *ensamples*
- I. We can give an example of how the ensample is (things on earth are an example of the things in heaven – Hebrews 8:5).
- J. Heavenly things are the ensample that we pattern after – Hebrews 9:23.

II. Application of Examples

- A. The word example only found in the New Testament
- B. Matthew 1:19 – Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.
- C. John 13:15 – For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.
- D. 1 Corinthians 10:6 – Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.
- E. 1 Timothy 4:12 – Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.
- F. Hebrews 4:11 – Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.
- G. Hebrews 8:5 – Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.
- H. James 5:10 – Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.
- I. 1 Peter 2:21 – For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:
- J. Jude 1:7 – Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Note: In John 13:15, foot-washing is *an example* of how to be a servant. As there are many ways to be a servant, and we should not think of foot-washing as the only way. If Jesus had said foot-washing was an *ensample*, we should observe this in our churches until today.

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III. Application of an Ensample

- A. The word ensample only found in the New Testament
- B. 1 Corinthians 10:11 – Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.
- C. Philippians 3:17 – Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.
- D. 1 Thessalonians 1:7 – So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.
- E. 2 Thessalonians 3:9 – Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us.
- F. 1 Peter 5:3 – Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.
- G. 2 Peter 2:6 – And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

IV. An Ensample is Similar to a Pattern

- A. A pattern was to be followed expressly
- B. Usually given by God or an authority
- C. Exodus 25:8 – And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.
- D. 9 According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.
- E. 10 And they shall make an ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.
- F. 1 Chronicles 28:11 – Then David gave to Solomon his son the pattern of the porch, and of the houses thereof, and of the treasuries thereof, and of the upper chambers thereof, and of the inner parlours thereof, and of the place of the mercy seat,
- G. 12 And the pattern of all that he had by the spirit, of the courts of the house of the LORD, and of all the chambers round about, of the treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries of the dedicated things:
- H. 1 Timothy 1:16 – Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.
- I. Titus 2:7 – In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,

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Lesson 3: Have a Servant's Heart

I. Jesus is the Great Servant

- A. Philippians 2:5 – Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
- B. 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
- C. 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
- D. 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.
- E. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:
- F. 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;
- G. 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

II. Servants are Obedient, Humble, and of No Reputation

- A. Matthew 8:9 – For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

III. Servants Suffer Reproach for their Master

- A. Matthew 10:24 – The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord.
- B. 25 It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?
- C. John 15:20 – Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

IV. Servants are Great

- A. Matthew 20:27 – And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:
- B. Matthew 23:11 – But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.
- C. Mark 9:35 – And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all.

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V. Servants are Soul-Winners

- A. Matthew 22:10 – So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.
- B. Luke 14:22 – And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.
- C. 23 And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.
- D. 1 Corinthians 9:19 – For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

VI. Servants are Ready

- A. Matthew 24:44 – Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.
- B. 45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?
- C. 46 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.
- D. 47 Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.
- E. 48 But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming;
- F. 49 And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken;
- G. 50 The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of,
- H. 51 And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- I. Luke 12:40 – Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.
- J. 41 Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all?
- K. 42 And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season?
- L. 43 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.
- M. 44 Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.
- N. 45 But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken;
- O. 46 The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.
- P. 47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.
- Q. 48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

VII. Servants Forgive

- A. Matthew 18:23 – Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

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- B. 24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.
- C. 25 But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.
- D. 26 The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.
- E. 27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.
- F. 28 But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.
- G. 29 And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.
- H. 30 And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.
- I. 31 So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.
- J. 32 Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:
- K. 33 Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?
- L. 34 And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.
- M. 35 So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

VIII. Servants are Faithful

- A. Matthew 25:19 – After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.
- B. 20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.
- C. 21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.
- D. 22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.
- E. 23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.
- F. 24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:
- G. 25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.
- H. 26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

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- I. 27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.
- J. 28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.
- K. 29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.
- L. 30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- M. Luke 16:13 – No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.
- N. Luke 19:17 – And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.
- O. John 12:26 – If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.
- P. Galatians 1:10 – For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.
- Q. 1 Peter 2:16 – As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.
- R. 1 Corinthians 4:2 – Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

IX. Servants Have Authority

- A. Mark 13:34 – For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.
- B. Luke 7:8 – For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

X. Servants are Forbearing

- A. Romans 14:4 – Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.
- B. 2 Timothy 2:24 – And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,

XI. A Servant versus a Hireling

- A. Servants are faithful, hirelings are in it for the money.
- B. John 10:12-13 – hireling flee when the wolf comes.
- C. Hirelings care not for the sheep

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Lesson 4: Be Loving

I. Love People – Jesus’ Teaching

- A. Matthew 22:37 – Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
- B. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
- C. Luke 6:27 – But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,
- D. 28 Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.
- E. 29 And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also.
- F. 30 Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again.
- G. 31 And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.
- H. 32 For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them.
- I. 33 And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same.
- J. 34 And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again.
- K. 35 But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil.
- L. 36 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.

II. Love People – Paul’s Teaching

- A. Romans 12:10 – Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;
- B. Ephesians 5:2 – And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.
- C. 1 Thessalonians 3:12 – And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:
- D. 1 Thessalonians 4:9 – But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.

III. Love People – John’s Teaching

- A. John 15:12 – This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.
- B. 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
- C. 17 These things I command you, that ye love one another.
- D. 1 John 2:10 – He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.
- E. 1 John 3:10 – In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

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- F. 11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.
- G. 14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.
- H. 16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
- I. 17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?
- J. 18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.
- K. 23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.
- L. 1John.5:1 – Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

IV. Above All These Things Put on Charity

- A. Charity is love in action
- B. Charity is God's love working through his children
- C. Charity is the bond of perfectness – Colossians 3:14
- D. 1 Corinthians 13:1 – Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.
- E. 2 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, and have not charity, I am nothing.
- F. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.
- G. 4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,
- H. 5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;
- I. 6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;
- J. 7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.
- K. 8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.
- L. 9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.
- M. 10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.
- N. 11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.
- O. 12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.
- P. 13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

V. Advantages of Manifesting Love in the Ministry – Practical Observations

- A. Charity covers the multitude of sins – 1 Peter 4:8
- B. Love promotes soul-winning – 2 Corinthians 5:14
- C. Charity is necessary in all things – 1 Corinthians 13:8

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- D. Love helps in all things – 1 Corinthians 13:7
- E. Love is necessary in edification – 1 Corinthians 14:26; Ephesians 4:16
- F. Having love puts all things in the proper perspective – 1 John 2:10
- G. Love fulfills the law and makes all relationships right before God – Romans 13:10; Galatians 5:14; Ephesians 4:2
- H. Love motivates generosity in giving – 2 Corinthians 8:8
- I. If you ever have a problem, ***pour love on it.***

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Lesson 5: Be Longsuffering and Merciful

I. Longsuffering is a Fruit of the Spirit

- A. Galatians 5:22 – But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
- B. 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

II. Mercy and Longsuffering are Attributes of God

- A. Exodus 34:6 – And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,
- B. Numbers 14:18 – The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation.
- C. Psalm 86:15 – But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

III. Longsuffering Tends to Maintain Unity

- A. Ephesians 4:1 – I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,
- B. 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;
- C. 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- D. Colossians 3:9 – Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;
- E. 10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:
- F. 11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.
- G. 12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
- H. 13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

IV. Paul's Testimony in Respect to Longsuffering

- A. 2 Timothy 3:10 – But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,
- B. 11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.

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V. Longsuffering is Necessary in Preaching

- A. 2 Timothy 4:1 – I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;
- B. 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.
- C. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;
- D. 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

VI. Jesus' Teaching on Longsuffering

- A. Matthew 5:7 – Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
- B. Luke 6:36 – Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.
- C. Matthew 23:23 – Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

VII. We are Judged According to our Mercy

- A. James 2:12 – So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.
- B. 13 For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.
- C. Matthew 5:7 – Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

VIII. Old Testament Wisdom

- A. Proverbs 3:3 – Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:
- B. Proverbs 11:17 – The merciful man doeth good to his own soul: but he that is cruel troubleth his own flesh.
- C. Proverbs 14:21 – He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.
- D. 31 He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker: but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.
- E. Proverbs 16:6 – By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.
- F. Proverbs 20:28 – Mercy and truth preserve the king: and his throne is upholden by mercy.
- G. Proverbs 21:21 – He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth life, righteousness, and honour.

CLASS 505A EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS – LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

IX. Some Practical Observations

- A. Having longsuffering allows time for the pastor to pray, think, and decide how to react or not react, when issues arise.
- B. Many times, issues tend to take care of themselves if left alone.
- C. Reacting rightly to correct issues must but be done in love, longsuffering, and in mercy.
- D. A church tends to imitate the pastor, so a harsh or judgmental pastor will have members who are harsh and judgmental.
- E. A pastor who is merciful and longsuffering will have a church with the same attributes.

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Lesson 6: Be Encouraging and Edifying

I. Leaders Must Learn to Encourage Themselves in the Lord

- A. 1 Samuel 30:6 – And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.
- B. Colossians 2:7 – Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.
- C. Jude 1:20 – But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,
- D. Acts 20:32 – And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

II. Leaders Must Learn to Encourage Others in the Lord

- A. 2 Chronicles 31:4 – Moreover he commanded the people that dwelt in Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites, that they might be encouraged in the law of the LORD.
- B. 2 Chronicles 35:2 – And he set the priests in their charges, and encouraged them to the service of the house of the LORD,
- C. 2 Corinthians 10:8 – For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:
- D. 2 Corinthians 13:10 – Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the power which the Lord hath given me to edification, and not to destruction.
- E. Ephesians 4:12 – For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
- F. 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.
- G. 2 Corinthians 12:19 – Again, think ye that we excuse ourselves unto you? we speak before God in Christ: but we do all things, dearly beloved, for your edifying.

III. Brethren Must Encourage Other Brethren

- A. Romans 14:19 – Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.
- B. Romans 15:2 – Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.
- C. 29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.
- D. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 – Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

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IV. **Things to Do that Tend to Edification**

- A. 1 Corinthians 8:1 – Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth.
- B. 1 Corinthians 14:3 – But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.
- C. 1 Corinthians 10:23 – All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.
- D. 1 Timothy 1:4 – Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do.

CLASS 505A EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS – LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

Lesson 7: Esteem Others Greater

I. Esteeming Other Begins with Humility

- A. Philippians 2:3 – Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.
- B. Romans 12:3 – For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.
- C. Romans 12:16 – Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.
- D. A good leader takes responsibility for failure, and gives of success to his team.

II. Jesus' Teaching on Humility

- A. Matthew 18:4 – Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
- B. Matthew 23:12 – And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.
- C. Luke 14:11 – For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.
- D. Luke 14:10 – But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee.

III. Jesus' Pattern of Humility

- A. Matthew 11:29 – Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
- B. Philippians 2:8 – And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

IV. Paul's Pattern of Humility

- A. Acts 20:19 – Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:

V. Esteem the Laborers in the Church

- A. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 – Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.
- B. 12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

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- C. 13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

VI. **Paul's Teaching on Humility**

- A. Colossians 3:12 – Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

VII. **James' Teaching on Humility**

- A. James 4:6 – But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.
- B. 10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

VIII. **Peter's Teaching on Humility**

- A. 1 Peter 5:5 – Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
- B. 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

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Lesson 8: Have Positivity in Vision

I. Vision is About Forward-Thinking in Respect to God's Will

- A. James 4:13 – Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:
- B. 14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.
- C. 15 For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.
- D. 16 But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.
- E. 17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.
- F. Knowing Good's leading.
- G. Following the Holy Ghost in liberty
- H. Galatians 5:25 – If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

II. Aligning with God's Vision

- A. Joel 2:28 – And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:
- B. Acts 2:17 – And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

III. Vision Connected to Faith

- A. Matthew 17:20 – And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.
- B. Matthew 21:21 – Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.
- C. 2 Corinthians 5:7 – (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)
- D. Hebrews 12:2 – Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- E. James 2:20 – But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

IV. Working Toward a Vision

- A. Ecclesiastes 5:3 – For a dream cometh through the multitude of business; and a fool's voice is known by multitude of words.
- B. Keep the vision in the forefront (focused vision) until the objective is completed.

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- C. Ezra 6:1 – Now it came to pass, when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and that there was no breach left therein; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;)
- D. 2 That Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in some one of the villages in the plain of Ono. But they thought to do me mischief.
- E. 3 And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?
- F. 4 Yet they sent unto me four times after this sort; and I answered them after the same manner.

V. Jesus' Vision

- A. Matthew 16:18 – And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
- B. John 14:12 – Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
- C. The Book of Revelation reveals Jesus' future work.

VI. Paul's Vision

- A. 1 Corinthians 3:9 – For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.
- B. 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.
- C. 2 Corinthians 4:17 – For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;
- D. 18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.
- E. Acts 16:9 – And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.
- F. 10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.
- G. Acts 18:9 – Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace:
- H. 10 For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city.
- I. 11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

VII. Personal Development

- A. Jude 1:20 – But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,
- B. Philippians 3:7 – But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

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- C. 8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,
- D. 9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:
- E. 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;
- F. 11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.
- G. 12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.
- H. 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
- I. 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
- J. 15 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

VIII. Take Heed of Covetousness

- A. Luke 12:15 – And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.
- B. 16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:
- C. 17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?
- D. 18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.
- E. 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.
- F. 20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?
- G. 21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

IX. Practical Methods to Help Have a Vision

- A. Pray for God's Will and His Vision in the work of Leadership
- B. Amos 3:7 – Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.
- C. 8 The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy?
- D. Read the Bible prayerfully for revelation of ideas.
- E. Be observant of how other churches operate and learn from them.
- F. Read about ideas and successes of others. Make sure the vision is first directed by God and not just a fleshly desire.
- G. Associate with visionaries. Discuss ideas.
- H. "If you have too many irons in the fire and none get hot." Make sure not to overwhelm people or always starting things that do not continue. Please need to see the vision to help in the vision.

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- I. God and the Holy Ghost will help in the vision if it is scriptural and edifying – 1 John 4:1.
- J. Work out details and pray before starting out.

CLASS 505A EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS – LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

Lesson 9: Honor Others

I. Honor the Lord

- A. John 5:23 – That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.
- B. 1 Timothy 1:17 – Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.
- C. Revelation 5:12 – Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

II. Honor Father and Mother

- A. Matthew 15:4 – For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.
- B. Luke 18:20 – Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother.
- C. Ephesians 6:2 – Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)

III. Honor Your Wife

- A. 1 Peter 3:7 – Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

IV. Honor Others for Their Position

- A. Romans 13:7 – Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.
- B. 1 Timothy 6:1 – Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed.
- C. 1 Peter 2:17 – Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

V. Honor Others for their Labor

- A. 1 Timothy 5:17 – Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

VI. Honor Those who Serve

- A. Matthew 13:57 – And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.

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- B. John 8:54 – Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God:
- C. John 12:26 – If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

VII. Honor Widows Indeed

- A. 1 Timothy 5:3 – Honour widows that are widows indeed.

VIII. Honor the Brethren

- A. Romans 12:10 – Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;
- B. 1 Corinthians 12:26 – And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

IX. Practical Ways to Honor a Person

- A. With the mouth.
- B. Speak in an honoring way.
- C. Give positive testimonies.
- D. Speak of things accomplished that were a blessing to people and the Lord's work.
- E. Do not demean or joke about the person.
- F. With hospitality.
- G. Nice accommodations.
- H. Good food.
- I. Pay tribute.
- J. Give a symbolic gift.
- K. Give a good love offering.

X. Various Thoughts on Leadership

- A. A leader takes all the blame and none of the credit.
- B. Everything rises and falls on leadership.
- C. Be an example of a person who honors other.

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Lesson 10: Be Courteous and Kind

I. **Be Kind in Thought**

- A. Philippians 4:8 – Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

II. **Be Kind to Your Wife**

- B. Ephesians 5:25 – Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;
- C. Ephesians 5:29 – For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:
- D. Colossians 3:19 – Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.
- E. 1 Peter 3:7 – Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

III. **Be Kind to Your Children**

- A. Ephesians 6:4 – And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
- B. 1 Thessalonians 2:7 – But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children:
- C. Matthew 18:6 – But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.
- D. Mark 9:42 – And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea.

IV. **Be Kind to Your Church**

- A. 2 Corinthians 10:8 – For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:
- B. 2 Corinthians 13:10 – Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the power which the Lord hath given me to edification, and not to destruction.
- C. Ephesians 4:15 – But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
- D. Psalm 52:2 – Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.
- E. Psalm 57:4 – My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

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- F. Psalm 140:3 – They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent; adders' poison is under their lips. Selah.

V. **Be Kind to Your Brethren**

- A. Ephesians 4:32 – And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.
- B. Colossians 3:12 – Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
- C. 2 Peter 1:7 – And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

VI. **Be Kind to the Lost**

- A. 1 Timothy 3:7 – Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.
- B. Hebrews 11:39 – And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

VII. **Be Kind to Strangers**

- A. 3 John 1:12 – Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself: yea, and we also bear record; and ye know that our record is true.
- B. 3 John 1:5 – Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers;
- C. Exodus 22:21 – Thou shalt neither vex a stranger, nor oppress him: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.
- D. Exodus 23:9 – Also thou shalt not oppress a stranger: for ye know the heart of a stranger, seeing ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.
- E. Hebrews 13:2 – Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

VIII. **Be Kind to Your Enemies**

- A. Matthew 5:44 – But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;
- B. Luke 6:27 – But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,

IX. **Be Kind to God's Creatures**

- A. Proverbs 12:10 – A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.
- B. Psalm 50:10 – For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.
- C. 11 I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine.

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- D. Psalm 147:7 – Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God:
- E. 8 Who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains.
- F. 9 He giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry.
- G. Psalm 148:7 – Praise the LORD from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps:
- H. 8 Fire, and hail; snow, and vapour; stormy wind fulfilling his word:
- I. 9 Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars:
- J. 10 Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and flying fowl:
- K. 11 Kings of the earth, and all people; princes, and all judges of the earth:
- L. 12 Both young men, and maidens; old men, and children:
- M. 13 Let them praise the name of the LORD: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven.
- N. James 3:7 – For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:
- O. Not to be worshipped – Romans 1:23 – And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

X. Other Words Associated with Kindness – Friendly

- A. Matthew 11:19 – The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children.
- B. Mark 5:19 – Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.
- C. Luke 12:4 – And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.
- D. Luke 15:6 – And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.
- E. 9 And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.
- F. John 11:11 – These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.
- G. Acts 27:3 – And the next day we touched at Sidon. And Julius courteously entreated Paul, and gave him liberty to go unto his friends to refresh himself.

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Lesson 11: Be Meek

I. Being Meek

- A. Matthew 5:5 – Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
- B. Matthew 11:29 – Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
- C. Matthew 21:1 – Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.

II. Paul's Meekness

- A. 1 Corinthians 4:21 – What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and in the spirit of meekness?
- B. 2 Corinthians 10:1 – Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you:
- C. Galatians 5:23 – Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.
- D. Galatians 6:1 – Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.
- E. Ephesians 4:2 – With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;
- F. Colossians 3:12 – Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
- G. 1 Timothy 6:11 – But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.
- H. 2 Timothy 2:25 – In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
- I. Titus 3:2 – To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.

III. James' Meekness

- A. James 1:21 – Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.
- B. James 3:13 – Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.

IV. Peter's Meekness

- A. 1 Peter 3:4 (to wives) – But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.
- B. 2:15 – But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

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V. **Practical Ways to be Meek**

- A. Meekness requires self-control
- B. Jesus' meekness shown in Matthew 26:53
- C. Be longsuffering
- D. Be forbearing
- E. Be teachable
- F. Learn from all people

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Lesson 12: Be Gentle

I. Being Gentle

- A. 2 Corinthian 10:1 – Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you:
- B. Galatians 5:22 – But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
- C. 1 Thessalonians 2:7 – But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children:
- D. 2 Timothy 2:24 – And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,
- E. Titus 3:2 – To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.

II. James' Instruction

- A. James 3:17 – But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

III. Peter's Instruction

- A. 1 Peter 2:18 – Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.

IV. Practical Ways to be Gentle

- A. Speak softly unless speaking otherwise is needed
- B. Have a good countenance
- C. Be approachable – smile
- D. “Be a lover, not a fighter.”

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Lesson 13: Be Faithful

I. God is Faithful

- A. 1 Corinthians 1:9 – God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
- B. 1 Corinthians 10:13 – There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.
- C. 1 Thessalonians 5:24 – Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.
- D. 2 Thessalonians 3:3 – But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.
- E. 2 Timothy 2:13 – If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.
- F. Revelation 3:14 – And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

II. The Requirement of Faithfulness

- A. 1 Corinthians 4:2 – Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.
- B. Ephesians 6:21 – But that ye also may know my affairs, and how I do, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, shall make known to you all things:
- C. Colossians 1:7 – As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ;
- D. Colossians 4:7 – All my state shall Tychicus declare unto you, who is a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellowservant in the Lord:
- E. 9 With Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They shall make known unto you all things which are done here.
- F. 1 Timothy 1:12 – And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;
- G. 2 Timothy 2:2 – And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.
- H. 3 John 1:5 – Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers;

III. The Law of Faithfulness

- A. Luke 16:10 – He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.
- B. 11 If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?
- C. 12 And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?

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IV. **The Reward of Faithfulness**

- A. Matthew 24:44 – Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.
- B. 45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?
- C. 46 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.
- D. 47 Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.
- E. Matthew 25:21 – His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.
- F. 23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.
- G. Luke 19:17 – And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.
- H. Revelation 17:14 – These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

V. **Practical Ways Faithfulness is Shown**

- A. Show a pattern of good works – Titus 2:7
- B. Be faithful to all church services
- C. Show up before starting time
- D. Look for opportunities to serve
- E. Do what you say you will do
- F. Be reliable and consistent in the good things,

VI. **David's Mighty Man -- Shammah**

- A. 2 Samuel 23:11 – And after him was Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite. And the Philistines were gathered together into a troop, where was a piece of ground full of lentiles: and the people fled from the Philistines.
- B. 12 But he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the Philistines: and the LORD wrought a great victory.

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Lesson 14: Be a Soul-Winner

I. Be a Witness

- A. Witnessing is different than preaching or soul-winning.
- B. Gospel is preached as a witness
- C. Matthew 24:14 – And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.
- D. Speak of personal experience and how Jesus saves.
- E. Acts 1:8 – But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.
- F. 22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.
- G. Acts 2:32 – This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.
- H. Acts 3:15 – And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.
- I. Acts 4:33 – And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.
- J. Acts 5:32 – And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

II. Be a Soul-Winner

- A. Proverbs 11:30 – The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.
- B. Luke 19:10 – For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.
- C. Matthew 4:18 – And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.
- D. 19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.
- E. Matthew 18:11 – For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.
- F. Mark 1:16 – Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.
- G. 17 And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.
- H. 1 Corinthians 9:22 – To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

III. Do the Work of an Evangelist

- A. Acts 21:8 – And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.
- B. Ephesians 4:11 – And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

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- C. 2 Timothy 4:5 – But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

IV. The Work of the Holy Ghost in Soul-winning

- A. Acts 4:31 – And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.
- B. Acts 8:29 – Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.
- C. Acts 13:46 – Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.
- D. 47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.
- E. 48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.
- F. 49 And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.
- G. Acts 16:25 – And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.
- H. 26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.
- I. 27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.
- J. 28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.
- K. 29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,
- L. 30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
- M. 31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
- N. Ephesians 6:18 – Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
- O. 19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

V. The Work of the Holy Ghost in World Evangelism (Missions)

- A. Acts 13:1 – Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.
- B. 2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.
- C. 3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

VI. No Blood on Our Hands – Watch

- A. Acts 20:25 – And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the

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- kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.
- B. 26 Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men.
 - C. 27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.
 - D. Ezekiel 3:16 – And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
 - E. 17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.
 - F. 18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.
 - G. 19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.
 - H. 20 Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand.
 - I. 21 Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.
 - J. Ezekiel 33:1 – Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
 - K. 2 Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman:
 - L. 3 If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people;
 - M. 4 Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.
 - N. 5 He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul.
 - O. 6 But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.
 - P. 7 So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.
 - Q. 8 When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.
 - R. 9 Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.
 - S. 10 Therefore, O thou son of man, speak unto the house of Israel; Thus ye speak, saying, If our transgressions and our sins be upon us, and we pine away in them, how should we then live?
 - T. 11 Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?
 - U. 12 Therefore, thou son of man, say unto the children of thy people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression: as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall thereby in the day that he turneth from his wickedness; neither shall the righteous be able to live for his righteousness in the day that he sinneth.
 - V. 13 When I shall say to the righteous, that he shall surely live; if he trust to his own righteousness, and commit iniquity, all his righteousnesses shall not be remembered; but

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- for his iniquity that he hath committed, he shall die for it.
- W. 14 Again, when I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; if he turn from his sin, and do that which is lawful and right;
 - X. 15 If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die.
 - Y. 16 None of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him: he hath done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely live.

VII. Watching in Connection with Soul-winning

- A. Matthew 24:42 – Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.
- B. 43 But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.
- C. Matthew 25:13 – Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.
- D. Matthew 26:41 – Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.
- E. Mark 13:33 – Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.
- F. 34 For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.
- G. 35 Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:
- H. 37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.
- I. Luke 12:37 – Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.
- J. 38 And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants.
- K. 39 And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through.
- L. Ephesians 6:17 – And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
- M. 18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
- N. 2 Timothy 4:5 – But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.
- O. 1 Peter 4:7 – But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.
- P. Hebrews 13:17 – Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

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Lesson 15: Be Generous

I. The Commandments of Jesus

- A. Mark 9:41 – For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.
- B. Luke 6:30 – Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again.
- C. 38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.
- D. Luke 12:33 – Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.
- E. Luke 16:12 – And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?
- F. 2 Corinthians 9:7 – Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

II. Promises from Psalms

- A. Psalm 112:1 – Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.
- B. 2 His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.
- C. 3 Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.
- D. 4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.
- E. 5 A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.
- F. 6 Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.
- G. 7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.
- H. 8 His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies.
- I. 9 He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.
- J. 10 The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish.

III. Wisdom from Proverbs

- A. Proverbs 3:27 – Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.
- B. 28 Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee.
- C. Proverbs 14:21 – He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.
- D. 31 He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker: but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.

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- E. Proverbs 17:5 – Whoso mocketh the poor reproacheth his Maker: and he that is glad at calamities shall not be unpunished.
- F. Proverbs 19:17 – He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.
- G. Proverbs 21:13 – Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard.
- H. Proverbs 22:9 – He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.
- I. Proverbs 28:27 – He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.
- J. Proverbs 29:7 – The righteous considereth the cause of the poor: but the wicked regardeth not to know it.
- K. Proverbs 31:20 – She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.

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Lesson 16: Be Diligent

I. Be Diligent to Hear and Obey the Word of the Word

- A. Exodus 15:26 – And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.
- B. Deuteronomy 28:1 – And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:
- C. Joshua 22:5 – But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.
- D. Ezra 7:23 – Whatsoever is commanded by the God of heaven, let it be diligently done for the house of the God of heaven: for why should there be wrath against the realm of the king and his sons?
- E. Psalm 119:4 – Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.

II. Keeping the Heart with All Diligence

- A. Proverbs 4:23 – Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.
- B. Hebrews 11:6 – But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
- C. 2 Peter 1:5 – And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;
- D. 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
- E. 7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.
- F. 8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- G. 9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.
- H. 10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:
- I. 11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
- J. 2 Peter 3:14 – Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

III. Have a Good Work Ethic

- A. Proverbs 10:4 – He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.
- B. Proverbs 11:27 – He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him.

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- C. Proverbs 12:24 – The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.
- D. 27 The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.
- E. Proverbs 13:4 – The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.
- F. Proverbs 21:5 – The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.
- G. Proverbs 22:29 – Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.
- H. Romans 12:8 – Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

IV. **Paul Labored to Not be Burdensome**

- A. Acts 20:35 – I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.
- B. Acts 28:3 – And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand.
- C. 2 Corinthians 8:22 – And we have sent with them our brother, whom we have oftentimes proved diligent in many things, but now much more diligent, upon the great confidence which I have in you.
- D. 1 Corinthians 4:12 – And labour, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it:
- E. 2 Corinthians 5:9 – Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.
- F. Colossians 1:29 – Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.
- G. 1 Thessalonians 2:9 – For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God.
- H. 2 Thessalonians 3:8 – Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you:

V. **Other Wisdom in Respect to Labor**

- A. Matthew 9:37 – Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;
- B. 38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.
- C. 1 Corinthians 3:8 – Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.
- D. 9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.
- E. 1 Corinthians 15:10 – But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

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- F. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.
- G. Ephesians 4:28 – Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.
- H. 1 Timothy 5:17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.
- I. 18 For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.
- J. 2 Timothy 2:6 – The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.

VI. Pastors to Be Diligent to Protect the Flock

- A. Not hirelings
- B. John 10:11 – I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
- C. 12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.
- D. 13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.
- E. Acts 20 Warning:
- F. 28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
- G. 29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.
- H. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.
- I. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.
- J. 32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.
- K. 33 I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel.
- L. 34 Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me.
- M. 35 I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.
- N. Short Essay for Historic Baptist Church:

Historic Baptist Church expects its members and leaders to be wise and careful in maintaining the spirit and integrity of our church. All are called upon to be protective of our manner of worship, our church, and the little ones.

Consequently, we shall work together to keep out or put out wolves that would not spare the flock. We must be careful to protect our children and doctrine against error and harm.

Paul warned the church of Ephesus in this respect.

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HBC is a “closed membership.” We are not “open to the public” and not “all are welcome.” People are invited by invitation only.

Of course, if we have an uninvited visitor who is of good behavior, they can attend.

But people who intend to disrupt, corrupt, look for something selfish or lead the church contrary to its charter, these people are not welcome. They should go elsewhere. We have no lack of churches of all types that these people can go to.

The undesirable types are known as:

- Unrepentant troublemakers.
- Unteachable bringers of false doctrine.
- Shameless sinners.
- People who disrupt the service.
- Untrustworthy perverts.

People attending with an agenda not in line with HBC. This includes people wanting handouts who do not work, people who defile the house of God by bringing in their sin, and people with an evil spirit.

Hence, we learn from Paul’s warning the following:

- People are to be humble servants.
- Beware of corrupters from outside and inside.
- They who speaking perverse things.
- They draw away disciples.
- Pastors need to watch.
- Pastors need to warn.
- Pastors need to stay in the word.
- Church should not be covetousness – but be people who work to give.

CLASS 505A EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS – LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

Lesson 17: Have Proper Communication

I. Answering Rightly – with Positivity and Encouragement

- A. Answers from Jesus:
- B. Matthew 3:15 – And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.
- C. Matthew 4:4 – But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.
- D. Matthew 15:28 – Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.
- E. Matthew 25:40 – And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

II. Giving a Right Answer

- A. Proverbs 24:26 – Every man shall kiss his lips that giveth a right answer.
- B. Shows gratefulness of the hearer.
- C. Shows acceptance of the answer.
- D. Shows love and respect.
- E. Shows friendship and love.
- F. “Right” means straightforward, plain, honest, upright, straight.
- G. The answer is according to the word of God.

III. No Corrupt Communication

- A. Ephesians 4:29 – Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.
- B. Colossians 4:5 – Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.
- C. 6 Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

IV. Yea or Nay

- A. Matthew 5:37 – But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.
- B. James 5:12 – But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

CLASS 505A EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS – LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

V. Matching Personalities

- A. 1 Corinthians 9:19 – For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.
- B. 20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;
- C. 21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.
- D. 22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

VI. James 3 – Teaching on the Tongue

- A. James 3:1 – My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.
- B. 2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.
- C. 3 Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.
- D. 4 Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.
- E. 5 Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!
- F. 6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.
- G. 7 For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:
- H. 8 But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.
- I. 9 Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.
- J. 10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.
- K. 11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?
- L. 12 Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.
- M. 13 Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.
- N. 14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.
- O. 15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.
- P. 16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.
- Q. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.
- R. 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

CLASS 505A EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS – LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

VII. Speak the Word of God

- A. 1 Peter 4:11 – If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.
- B. Oracles of God are: truth, wisdom, straightforward, without guile, edifying, spoken in love, helpful, gracious, etc.
- C. Acts 8:35 – Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.
- D. Every preacher should be able start anywhere in the Bible and preach Jesus.
- E. Mark 2:2 – And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them.

VIII. Other Wisdom in Respect to Speech

- A. Psalm 15:3 – He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.
- B. Psalm 37:30 – The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment.
- C. Proverbs 21:23 – Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.
- D. James 1:26 – If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.
- E. 1 Peter 3:10 – For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:
- F. Proverbs 17:28 – Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.
- G. 1 Corinthians 10:10 – Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.
- H. Philippians 2:14 – Do all things without murmurings and disputings:
- I. Jude 1:16 – These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.

CLASS 505A EXAMPLE OF MASTER THESIS – LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

Lesson 18: Have Humanity, a Merry Heart, Cheerfulness, Humor, Positivity, Joy

I. Wear a Smile

- A. Unhappiness is visible.
- B. Proverbs 21:29 – A wicked man hardeneth his face: but as for the upright, he directeth his way.
- C. Genesis 4:6 – And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?
- D. Genesis 31:2 – And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before.
- E. Artaxerxes knew Nehemiah was burdened
- F. Nehemiah 2:2 – Wherefore the king said unto me, Why is thy countenance sad, seeing thou art not sick? this is nothing else but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid,
- G. Proverbs 15:13 – A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.
- H. The Lord taught us to control our facial expressions.
- I. Matthew 6:16 – Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

II. Laugh for the Right Reasons

- A. God laughs
- B. Psalm 2:4 – He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.
- C. Psalm 126:1
- D. 1 When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.
- E. 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.
- F. 3 The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.
- G. 4 Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south.
- H. 5 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.
- I. 6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.
- J. Ecclesiastes 3:4 – A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

III. Express Joy

- A. David brought joy.
- B. Make a person's *day a little brighter, and their burden a little lighter.*
- C. David brought music into worship.
- D. Learn to rejoice and learn to express joy – Romans 12:15.
- E. Rejoice over spiritual things.

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- F. 1 Samuel 18:6 – And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of musick.
- G. 1 Chronicles 15:25 – So David, and the elders of Israel, and the captains over thousands, went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the house of Obed-edom with joy.
- H. Revival in the days of Hezekiah made brought joy to Israel
- I. 1 Chronicles 30:25 – And all the congregation of Judah, with the priests and the Levites, and all the congregation that came out of Israel, and the strangers that came out of the land of Israel, and that dwelt in Judah, rejoiced.
- J. 26 So there was great joy in Jerusalem: for since the time of Solomon the son of David king of Israel there was not the like in Jerusalem.
- K. There was joy when the foundation of God's house wase finished in the days of Ezra
- L. Ezra 3:12 – But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, who were ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy:
- M. 13 So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people: for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.
- N. Nehemiah 8:10 – Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.
- O. Psalm 5:11 – But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.
- P. Psalm 16:11 – Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.
- Q. Psalm 21:1 – The king shall joy in thy strength, O LORD; and in thy salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!
- R. Psalm 27:6 – And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.
- S. Psalm 42:4 – When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.
- T. Psalm 43:4 – Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God.

IV. Jesus' Teaching on Joy

- A. Matthew 13:44 – Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.
- B. Luke 6:23 – Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.
- C. Luke 15:7 – I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.
- D. 10 Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

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- E. John 15:11 – These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.
- F. John 16:22 – And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

V. Disciples Had Joy

- A. Acts 13:52 – And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.
- B. Acts 20:24 – But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.
- C. Galatians 5:22 – But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
- D. Colossians 1:11 – Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;
- E. 1 Thessalonians 1:6 – And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:
- F. 1 Thessalonians 2:19 – For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?
- G. 20 For ye are our glory and joy.
- H. James 1:2 – My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;
- I. 1 John 1:4 – And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.
- J. 3 John 1:4 – I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

VI. Sing unto the Lord

- A. Romans 15:9 – And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name.
- B. 1 Corinthians 14:15 – What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.
- C. Ephesians 5:19 – Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;
- D. Colossians 3:16 – 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.
- E. Hebrews 2:12 – Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.
- F. James 5:13 – Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

VII. Praise God

- A. Luke 24:53 – And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.
- B. Acts 2:47 – Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

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- C. Acts 16:25 – And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.
- D. Philippians 4:8 – Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.
- E. Hebrews 13:15 – By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

VIII. Be Positive and Edifying

- A. Romans 14:19 – Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.
- B. Romans 15:2 – Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.
- C. 1 Corinthians 8:1 – Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth.
- D. 1 Corinthians 10:23 – All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.
- E. 1 Corinthians 14:26 – How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, everyone of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.
- F. 2 Corinthians 10:8 – For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:
- G. 2 Corinthians 12:19 – Again, think ye that we excuse ourselves unto you? we speak before God in Christ: but we do all things, dearly beloved, for your edifying.
- H. 2 Corinthians 13:10 – Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the power which the Lord hath given me to edification, and not to destruction.
- I. Ephesians 4:12 – For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
- J. 29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.
- K. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 – Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

IX. Have a Good Countenance

- A. David had a good countenance
- B. 1 Samuel 16:12 – And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.
- C. Abigail had a beautiful countenance.
- D. 1 Samuel 25:3 – Now the name of the man was Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and she was a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man was churlish and evil in his doings; and he was of the house of Caleb.

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X. Be a Good Sport – Coming Apart

- A. Jesus took times to rest
- B. Mark 6:31 – And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat.
- C. When attending a church or other planned event, be of a good spirit. Do not go with a critical or negative attitude. It would be better to not attend.
- D. Attend with a good attitude. Be a team player. Be a good sport.
- E. The people organizing the event likely put in a lot of cost and work to make the time a blessing. Try to find that blessing and be an encouragement, not a “wet blanket.”
- F. We never agree with everything we see. We may not like everything on the shelves at the market, but this does not prevent us from shopping there.

XI. Commentary on Sorrow – Ecclesiastes 7:3

- A. Ecclesiastes 7:3 – Sorrow is better than laughter: for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better.
- B. Commentary on above:

Ecclesiastes 7:3 is “sandwiched” between two verses with a similar thought. Verse 2 says, “It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart.” Similarly, verse 4 reads: “The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.”

We learn that men consider their own death when in the house of mourning. And because of this consideration, they are wise in heart. In the house of mourning men consider the fact that their life is short, that they, too, will die, and that they will stand before God in judgment. It is a perfect opportunity to preach the gospel to them and lead them to Christ.

In contrast, in the house of feasting and mirth men do not think of sobering things. They tend to enjoy the merriment and simply enjoy the pleasures at hand.

But life is not intended to be always fun and enjoyable. God allows different things to enter our lives, so we learn. Sorrow is a very good teacher. It is a sobering teacher.

Also, any joy should be tempered with some seriousness. We understand that lost souls, hell and damnation, sin and suffering; are no laughing matter. Even in celebrations we should be mindful of who is lost and look for opportunities to show the way of salvation.

We improve morally when we reap sorrowful things. We learn the hard way sometimes. Sorrow has a positive impact on most people. Many times people see the need for salvation after the loss of a loved one.

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Sorrow causes people to consider the seriousness of life, whereas laughter and fun is usually short-lived and is only a weak salve for the sorrow of being lost or being in sin. It was when the prodigal found himself with the swine that he repented and realized the blessing of his father's house.

Sorrow is better than laughter as the perspective it gives in struggles and when it causes us to rely more on God's strength. Personal growth comes out of sorrow. Giving up certain sins and vices comes out of sorrow. Seeking a closer relationship with the Lord comes out of sorrow.

However, there are times to rejoice and celebrate. Even when in the most difficult of times, believers should have joy and be considerate to encourage others. The joy of the Lord is our strength. This joy should persevere through all life experiences. In fact, coupled with the hope that Christ gives us, the good-humored spirit of positivity from the comfort that we receive of the Lord is a great testimony to the grace of God in our lives. As believers, even in sorrow we can project joy, comfort, and hope.

- C. 1Thessalonians 4:13 – But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.
- D. We have sorrow with hope because we are saved, and we know we have eternal life with Jesus.

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Lesson 19: Be Collaborative and Cooperative

I. Encourage Fellowship in the Right Manner

- A. Acts.2:42 – And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- B. 1 Corinthians 1:9 – God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C. 1 Corinthians 10:20 – But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.
- D. 2 Corinthians 6:14 – Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?
- E. 2 Corinthians 8:4 – Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.
- F. Ephesians 5:11 – And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.
- G. Philippians 1:5 – For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;
- H. Philippians 2:1 – If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

II. Partnership – Two by Two is Scriptural

- A. Matthew 11:2 – Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples,
- B. Paul and Barnabas
- C. Paul and Silas
- D. Paul and Timothy
- E. Apostles went forth two by two
- F. Luke 10:1 – After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

III. Serving One Another in Love and Working Together for the Cause of Christ

- A. Galatians 5:13 – For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.
- B. 14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
- C. 15 But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.
- D. Galatians 2:9 – And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.

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IV. Fellowship and Revival Meetings Encourage Others

- A. Pastor fellowships
- B. Church fellowships
- C. Support of Missions is a good example of church collaboration for world evangelism
- D. Revival meetings
- E. Tent meetings
- F. Church celebrations

V. Characteristics of Charity

- A. Charity is God's love working through you.
- B. 1 Corinthians 13:1 – Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.
- C. 2 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, and have not charity, I am nothing.
- D. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.
- E. 4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,
- F. 5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;
- G. 6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;
- H. 7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.
- I. 8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.
- J. 9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.
- K. 10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.
- L. 11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.
- M. 12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.
- N. 13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

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Lesson 20: Have Positive Correction and Influence

I. Correct in Love

- A. 2 Timothy 3:16 – All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
- B. 2 Timothy 4:2 – Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.
- C. Hebrews 12:6 – For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.
- D. 9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?
- E. Ephesians 4:15 – But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
- F. Mark 10:21 – Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.
- G. 1 Corinthians 13:4 – Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,
- H. 5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;
- I. 6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;
- J. 7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

II. Do Not be Overly Critical

- A. It is easy to be critical.
- B. Being critical is not attractive.
- C. 2 Corinthians 10:8 – For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:
- D. 2 Corinthians 13:10 – Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the power which the Lord hath given me to edification, and not to destruction.
- E. Romans 14:20 – For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed are pure; but it is evil for that man who eateth with offence.
- F. Philippians 2:13 – For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

III. Do All Things for Edification

- A. 1 Corinthians 6:12 – All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.
- B. 1 Corinthians 9:22 – To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

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- C. 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.
- D. 1 Corinthians 10:23 – All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.
- E. 33 Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.
- F. 1 Corinthians 14:26 – How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, everyone of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.

IV. **Being Made All Things to All Men – Be a Servant to All**

- A. Hebrews 13:18 – Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.
- B. 1 Peter 4:11 – If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.
- C. 1 Corinthians 9:18 – What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel.
- D. 19 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.
- E. 20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;
- F. 21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.
- G. 22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.
- H. 23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.

V. **Be Positive**

- A. 2 Corinthians 9:8 – And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:
- B. Ephesians 5:20 – Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;
- C. Philippians 2:14 – Do all things without murmurings and disputings:
- D. Philippians 4:13 – I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.
- E. 1 Thessalonians 5:21 – Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.
- F. 3 John 1:2 – Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

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Lesson 21: Be Creative – Think of Ideas for Improvement

I. God is a Creator

- A. Romans 1:20 – For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:
- B. 25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.
- C. 2 Corinthians 5:17 – Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- D. Ephesians 2:10 – For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.
- E. Ephesians 3:9 – And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:
- F. Ephesians 4:24 – And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.
- G. Revelation 4:11 – Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

II. We, in God's Image, Create Things

- A. Matthew 7:24 – Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:
- B. Matthew 16:18 – And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
- C. Mark 12:1 – And he began to speak unto them by parables. A certain man planted a vineyard, and set an hedge about it, and digged a place for the winefat, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country.
- D. Luke 12:18 – And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.
- E. Romans 15:20 – Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation:
- F. Acts 7:47 – But Solomon built him an house.
- G. 1 Corinthians 3:9 – For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.
- H. 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

III. Press Toward the Mark

- A. Philippians 3:8 – Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

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- B. 9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:
- C. 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;
- D. 11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.
- E. 12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.
- F. 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
- G. 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
- H. 15 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.
- I. Move forward, not backwards
- J. Not resting on laurels

IV. **Do Not Let Past Hinder the Future**

- A. Bible gives wisdom
- B. Learn from the Bible
- C. Experience gives wisdom
- D. Learn from failures
- E. Learn from successes

V. **Be an Innovator**

- A. Think on improvement ideas in practical areas: self, situation, efficiencies, financials, time management, sanctification, abilities, languages, study, etc.
- B. Never change the New Testament method for doctrine.
- C. Have a high vision
- D. Have a long vision
- E. Have a world vision
- F. Make learning interesting and attractive

VI. **A Positive Exercise**

- A. Dialog coming up with ideas use a positive environment.
- B. Use “yes, and” response.

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Appendix 1: The Personalities of the Apostles

This appendix gives some information we know about each of the apostles for the purpose of understanding that Jesus uses all kinds of personalities. We know these men were faithful servants and what we read of them as they started were not how they ended up. They grew in grace and became better for the Lord's work. Although this is not an exhaustive study, it is sufficient to understand that although all men are different, all men can serve the Lord.

I. Apostle Peter

- A. Most famous of all the apostles
- B. Called Simon Barjona (Matthew 16:17)
- C. Named Peter (Mark 3:16) – Cephas – Stone
- D. Rock-like – firm when needed, especially after his denial of Christ.
- E. One of the inner three apostles (Peter, James, John) – these three experienced the transfiguration, they see Jesus raise Jairus' daughter, and they pray with Jesus in Gethsemane (Matthew 17:1; Mark 5:37; 14:33).
- F. Often listed first
- G. Stands out
- H. Leader
- I. Spokesman
- J. Passionate
- K. Very involved in the life of Christ
- L. Name means stone
- M. Named by Jesus
- N. Bold
- O. Courageous
- P. Outspoken
- Q. Impulsive
- R. Emotional
- S. Fearful when denying the Lord
- T. Walked on water – indicating faith
- U. Also sank – indicating he had some fear
- V. Preaches at Pentecost – Acts 2
- W. Used by God to see Gentiles saved – Acts 10
- X. Uncle to John Mark
- Y. Wrote 1 and 2 Peter
- Z. According to history, when martyred in Rome, Peter requested to be crucified upside down as he thought himself unworthy to die as his Lord. This goes along with what Jesus said in John 21:17-19.

II. Apostle James

- A. Brother to John
- B. Son of Zebedee
- C. Ambitious

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- D. Passionate
- E. Devoted
- F. Leaves all to follow Jesus
- G. Leaves his father's business
- H. Probably the elder brother
- I. First to die of the apostles after Judas
- J. Herod slays him with the sword (Acts 12:1-2)
- K. Jesus called James and John the sons of thunder (Mark 3:17)
- L. "Boanerges"
- M. They wanted to call down fire to destroy the cities who rejected Christ (Luke 9:51-56)
- N. Jesus corrects his spirit

III. Apostle John

- A. Called the Evangelist
- B. Called the Revelator
- C. Brother to James
- D. The other son of thunder
- E. Last of the twelve to die
- F. Died of natural causes – he could not be martyred
- G. Was boiled in oil but survived and then exiled on Patmos
- H. A pillar of the church in Jerusalem (Galatians 2:9)
- I. Probably the youngest apostle
- J. Laid head on Jesus' breast
- K. The disciple whom Jesus loved.
- L. Given the vision of Revelation
- M. Said, "Who is it?; not "Is it I?" – indicates he knew he would not deny the Lord.
- N. John raced Peter to the empty tomb (John 20:1-9)
- O. Wrote five books in the New Testament
- P. Gospel, 1, 2 ,3 John, and Revelation
- Q. Speaks of love – the Gospel of John – 39 places; 1 John – 26 places; 2 John – 6 places; 3 John – 2 places.

IV. Apostle Andrew

- A. The apostle who was "first-called."
- B. Originally followed John the Baptist
- C. Calls his brother Simon (John 1:38-41)
- D. Fisherman
- E. From Bethsaida, a town north of the Sea of Galilee.
- F. Andrew and Peter worked with James and John
- G. Brings people to the Lord
- H. Brings a lad with loaves and fishes to Jesus (John 6:8-9)
- I. Had faith in Jesus' power – John 6:9
- J. Brings Greeks to Jesus (John 12:20-22)
- K. Crucified on an "X"-shaped cross
- L. Tradition says Andrew died a martyr on a Crux Decussata, or X-shaped cross.

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V. Apostle Philip

- A. Level-headed
- B. Well-educated
- C. Tells Nathaniel he has found the Messiah (John 1:38-41)
- D. Greek name
- E. Different from Philip the Evangelist (Acts 6)
- F. Pragmatic
- G. Did not understand how to feed 5,000 (John 6:5-7)
- H. Good at mathematics – John 6:7
- I. Asks Jesus to show him the Father (John 14:1-6)
- J. Invites people to see Jesus – Nathaniel (John 1:46)
- K. Philip brings Greeks to Andrew, and they bring them to Jesus (John 12:20-22)
- L. Martyred in Hierapolis

VI. Apostle Nathaniel or Bartholomew

- A. Not much known
- B. Probably called Nathaniel in John's Gospel
- C. Skeptical
- D. Asks Philip can anything good come out of Nazareth.
- E. An Israelite indeed
- F. In whom is no guile (John 1:47)
- G. Jesus saw Bartholomew (Nathaniel) under a tree
- H. Bartholomew declares "Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel" (John 1:45-51)
- I. Called Nathaniel of Cana in Galilee (John 21:2)

VII. Apostle Thomas

- A. Called "Didymus"
- B. Means twin – we do not know who his twin is.
- C. Called the doubter
- D. Skeptic
- E. Wants to see and touch nail-pierced body – John 20:25
- F. Willing to die with Jesus (John 11:16)
- G. Thomas does not know how to follow Jesus after death (John 14:5)
- H. Tradition says he was martyred in India by being thrust through with spears

VIII. Apostle Matthew

- A. May also be called Levi (Mark 2:14-15; Luke 5:27-29). New Testament is not clear on this.
- B. Tax collector

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- C. Hated of society (Matthew 9:11)
- D. Follows Christ immediately – shows his desire to leave all for the Lord
- E. Gave up a comfortable life for the ministry of Jesus Christ
- F. Tax collectors for Rome had a tough skin but also made a good living.

IX. **Apostle James the Less**

- A. Called James Alphaeus
- B. May be brother to Matthew (Mark 2:14)
- C. Called James the Less (Mark 15:40) – James the Son of Zebedee, who is called James the Great.
- D. Author of James (some say no)

X. **Apostle Simon the Zealot**

- A. Called a zealot
- B. Zealous
- C. Possibly he was a revolutionary (Acts 5:37)
- D. Called a Canaanite (Mark 3:18)
- E. Tradition says he was sawn asunder

XI. **Saint Thaddeus or Judas**

- A. Called Thaddaeus (Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18)
- B. Called Labbaeus
- C. Called Judas (or Jude) in Luke and John (Luke 6:16; John 14:22)
- D. The son of James
- E. Quoted one time in the Bible – “Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?” – John 14:22
- F. Likely the author of Jude (some say no).
- G. Beheaded as a martyr

XII. **Judas Iscariot**

- A. Most known apostle after Peter
- B. Infamous
- C. Called the betrayer
- D. The son of perdition
- E. Jesus said it was better that he be not born
- F. A thief (John 12:6)
- G. Keeper of the bag
- H. Appears to care for the poor (John 12:5-6)
- I. Betrays Jesus for 30 pieces of silver (Matthew 26:14-15)
- J. Satan enters into Judas (Luke 22:3; John 13:2)
- K. Betrays with a kiss (Luke 22:48)

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- L. Father Simon a leper? (Matthew 26:6; John 12:4)
- M. In remorse, Judas Iscariot throws down the 30 pieces of silver he received in payment for betraying Christ.
- N. Money used to buy a field of blood (Matthew 27:3-5)
- O. Hangs himself
- P. Bowels gush out

XIII. Matthias

- A. Chosen to take Judas Iscariot's place (Acts 1:26)
- B. Accompanied the apostles during Jesus' ministry (Acts 1:21)
- C. From the baptism of John to the ascension
- D. Witness of the resurrection
- E. Numbered with the eleven

XIV. Barnabas

- A. An apostle (Acts 14:14)
- B. Son of consolation
- C. Named Joses
- D. Generous – Acts 4:37 – maybe the first to sell land
- E. Apostles surnamed Barnabas – the son of consolation
- F. A Levite from Cyprus (Acts 4:26)
- G. Brought Paul to the apostles (Acts 9:27)
- H. Carried relief to Judea from Antioch
- I. Sought out Paul to help him.
- J. Companion of Paul on first missionary journey

XV. Paul

- A. Apostle to the Gentiles
- B. From Tarsus (Acts 22:3)
- C. Also called Saul
- D. Persecuted the church before his conversion
- E. Wrote 14 books of the New Testament
- F. Last half of the book of Acts records his works
- G. Saw the Lord personally, being taught of him
- H. Formerly a Pharisee (Philippians 3:5)
- I. A Benjamite
- J. Taught by Gamaliel (Acts 5:34; 22:3)
- K. Taught by Christ – Galatians 1
- L. Had visions and revelations
- M. Was caught up to heaven and saw many things
- N. Considered himself a chief of sinners
- O. Long-winded (Acts 20:19)
- P. Suffered a thorn in the flesh

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- Q. Suffered many persecutions
- R. Had a desire to evangelize the world

XVI. Silvanus

- A. Considered an apostle (cf. 1 Thessalonians 1:1 with 2:6), maybe Timothy also.
- B. Companion of Paul on second and third missionary journey
- C. Also called Silas

XVII. Timothy

- A. May also be an apostle (see Sylvanus)
- B. Also called Timotheus
- C. Paul's son in the faith
- D. Faithful companion of Paul
- E. First bishop of the Ephesian church
- F. Father was a Greek, mother a Jewess
- G. Circumcised by Paul

There may be other apostles, such as Andronicus and Junia (Romans 16:17), but this is unclear. Some say James the Lord's brother was an apostle (Galatians 1:19), but this is speculative. Paul likely was speaking of the apostle James. Some say also the Jude is another apostle and a brother of the Lord (Jude 1), but this is even more speculative. Jude is likely the apostle Judas (Thaddeus).

Appendix 2: John C. Maxwell – The 5 Levels of Leadership

[Editor's note: The summary of the book by John Maxwell below was taken from a Peregrine course readily offered on the web. We have included it here for those who wish to learn more about the five levels of leadership.]

www.Peregrine.ysn.com
Course 3: Leadership Essentials

Leadership consultant John C. Maxwell has studied leadership for more than 40 years and has written more than 60 books on leadership. In his seminal book, *The 5 Levels of Leadership: Proven Steps to Maximize Your Potential*, Maxwell identifies five levels of leadership and aligns them with specific practices, principles, and values. This section is based on his extensive research paired with Peregrine's experience of working with leaders around the world. If you find this work interesting, we highly recommend you read the book in its entirety.

The five levels of leadership can be viewed as a staircase that starts at Level 1 and climbs to Level 5, but these five levels are not mutually exclusive. Leadership, like influence, is very personal. You may be a Level 4 leader with one team member and a Level 2 with another, simply because of the relationship you have built with each person.

Take a look at the five levels and what they entail:



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All leadership is based on relationships. Since relationships take time, it should be understood that it's rare to reach Levels 3, 4, or 5 without some long-term work. How much time this takes depends upon the shared experiences of the people involved: in a crisis situation (such as in a military or law enforcement setting), leaders can build a high level of trust and respect in a matter of hours or days. In a normal working office, this same level of trust and respect might take years to develop. So be patient with yourself and allow for the process!

Let's explore these levels in more depth, including what they mean, what to be careful of in each level, and how to move up to the next level.

Programming Note: each level of leadership is presented with four sub-headings: first, a definition of what it is; second, behaviors of that level; third, cautions about that level; and fourth, moving beyond that level.

Leadership Level 1: Position Leadership

“This is the lowest level of leadership—the entry level. People who make it only to Level 1 may be bosses, but they are never leaders. They have subordinates, not team members. They rely on rules, regulations, policies, and organization charts to control their people. Their people will only follow them within the stated boundaries of their authority.”

—John Maxwell

In Level 1 or Position Leadership, our employees follow us because of the position we hold, not because of who we are as a person or leader. In other words, it's the position that has influence, not us. Level 1 leadership officially begins the first time we are hired for a position with the title of *supervisor* or *manager*. When our employees only know us as “the new boss,” they follow us because they have respect for the job title we hold, not because of who we are.

Every leader starts out here; it's a necessary step. If you are at this level, realize that if you were hired for a leadership position, it is because someone has recognized your potential and believes in you. With the confidence of someone believing in you, use this time to learn from other great leaders and start to establish who you are as a leader. Ideally, Level 1 leadership is a stepping-stone, an opportunity to shape the type of leader you will become. It's your invitation and opportunity to prove what you can do to grow your team and yourself.

Many people get stuck at this level, believing that simply having the position is all they need to guarantee that others follow them. This is far from the truth. True influence is earned, not given through a promotion or title. Your responsibility as a leader is to use your position wisely and continue to grow and learn.

Behaviors of Position Leadership

“Frequently I'll ask a group, ‘What's the one thing you would change to improve the effectiveness of your organization?’ Usually people name things that can be found on this list of Ps: products, promotions, policies, processes, procedures, pricing, and people. Seldom does anyone say the most important and impacting of all answers: ‘ME! I would change me to improve our organization.’”

—John Maxwell

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This is the time to recognize that great leaders are great because of their own commitment to truth and ethics. As you grow as a leader, you will repeatedly ask yourself, “*Who am I?*” Your answer will be defined by your values, which influence your thoughts, which in turn influence your actions and words—which are how the rest of the world understands who you are. Make sure you have a strong grasp on your values and how they influence your actions.

Cautions About Position Leadership

Someone stuck at Level 1, who believes their only influence comes from their title, can be overly worried about losing that title and the power that goes with it. Their focus is then not on their employees or the good of the company, but on making sure they keep their job. This will cause them to lose the trust of their employees.

Position Leaders might use their power and position for personal gain to make themselves look good, or as a way to attack, lashing out to prove they have power over others. They often see faults over possibilities, problems over solutions, and limits over potential. Maxwell defines this as “placing rights over responsibilities.” When someone quotes rules or regulations about why you cannot do something, rather than actually explaining or listening to options, they are using rights over responsibility.

Leadership at this level can be lonely. If the Position Leader uses force or coercion to get things done, as many Level 1 leaders do, they can isolate themselves from their team. When team members feel isolated, they will do only the very minimum required to keep their jobs, and nothing more.

Someone stuck at the level of Position Leadership rarely hires anyone who has great skill, as they fear such a person might make them look bad. Instead, they will hire only those who have less knowledge and experience than they do. Between these poor hiring choices and the lack of understanding of their team, the Position Leadership level has the highest rate of turnover.

Moving Out of Position Leadership

To move out of Position Leadership, change the way you think about leadership.

Recognize that titles are not enough. Get to know your team and show you care about them and want them to be successful. Understand that your success is dependent upon your team’s success. Get past the idea that you are measured by your individual contribution and instead know that you are measured by what you can inspire your team to do.

Once you begin to believe in your team members and utilize their knowledge and strengths, you will begin to understand that people are your greatest asset. Surround yourself with the smartest people possible and leverage their abilities. Recognize that their wins shine a light on you, too. Set your team up for success, and when they are successful, don’t take it as your own. Rather, share their glory as a parent shares a child’s success.

Begin studying great leaders and find a coach or mentor, someone who will candidly help you find your way to Level 2 leadership.

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Leadership Level 2: Permission Leadership

“Making the shift from Position to Permission brings a person’s first real step into leadership. Leadership is influence, and when a leader learns to function on the Permission level, everything changes. People do more than merely comply with orders. They actually start to follow. And they do so because they really want to. Why? Because the leader begins to influence people with relationship, not just position.”

—John Maxwell

Level 2, Permission Leadership, is about creating relationships with your team members, developing them as individuals as well as a team. Getting to know your team as individuals helps you understand what they want from you and how you can help them succeed. And when you show you care about your employees as people, they begin to trust and follow you because they like you, not because they have to.

Permission Leadership requires developing the “soft skills” that are essential in relationships, such as active listening, questioning, and giving and receiving feedback. Some of us learned these skills as teenagers; others of us had to work to learn them as adults. Building relationships requires us to use these skills daily and really care about the people with whom we work.

Sometimes, people are worried that becoming friendly and caring with employees means people will take advantage. In reality, a healthy Level 2 leader does not give in to every request or agree with everything a team member says. Rather, a healthy Level 2 leader shows a genuine interest in others, makes informed decisions that take into account everyone’s points of view, and then clearly communicates the “why” behind the decision. Your willingness to explain your thought process is directly related to your team trusting you and being committed to your vision.

At this level, most leaders feel more energy from their team and themselves, and work becomes fun.

“Level 2 leadership is about people. You can’t lead people until you like people.”

—John Maxwell

Behaviors of Permission Leadership

In Level 2, Permission Leadership, it is important to connect with yourself first. This self-awareness is what will help you connect with others. Take the time to continue asking yourself, “*Who am I? What do I stand for?*”

To connect with others, develop a genuine interest in learning what is important to your team members, personally as well as professionally. Learn about their families, their dreams, and how they came to work in this business. Once you begin to know them, you can then help them see their own potential. Don’t use manipulation or strive for personal gain; instead, be generous and caring. Become the Chief Encourager of your team.

Cautions About Permission Leadership

The level of openness required to be successful in Level 2 can be uncomfortable for leaders who feel they should never have to explain their decisions. However, because this level is all about building personal

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relationships, it is very important to communicate to your team why you make the decisions you make—especially when you are choosing in opposition to their requests.

Leaders who are very results-driven or are high achievers can also have difficulty at this level. Very ambitious leaders can lose sight of the importance of relationships in the long term, focusing instead on short-term production. This is a big mistake, because short-term results don't get you the long-term gain you desire, whereas relationships can.

The last caution about Permission Leadership has to do with your natural leadership ability. Each of us has our own natural style of leadership. As we grow as a leader, we need to learn to assess situations and then adjust our style in order to lead more effectively. Some people are not naturally likable, or don't naturally like other people very much. If either is true for you, it simply means you must work harder to intentionally build lasting and genuine relationships. Understanding that it is possible to learn these skills is an essential mindset to have. Your hard work will pay off if you believe in people. Once you have connected with your team, you will have a good idea how to make work exciting for them, which will help bring the company closer to its goals. You must truly value each team member for what they are capable of doing and becoming.

“You can like people without leading them, but you cannot lead people well without liking them.”
—John Maxwell

Moving Beyond Permission Leadership

“Families value community over contribution. Businesses value contribution over community. Find a balance between the two. Caring values the person while candor values the potential. Caring establishes the relationship while candor expands the relationship. Caring should not suppress candor, while candor should never displace caring.”
—John Maxwell

Growing beyond Permission Leadership happens when you find the balance Maxwell refers to above. When you focus solely on relationships without looking toward the organizational goals, it's easy to get so comfortable with your team members that you stop challenging them to grow beyond where they are. Remember, you are still the leader. It is your role to keep encouraging your employees to move out of their comfort zones. Don't allow the relationship to keep you from creating the necessary environment for continued growth. Accept that each of us has flaws, but leverage and build upon the strengths of every individual. Practice both care and candor on a regular basis.

Get very clear on who you are and what you are striving toward. This will allow you some freedom to risk your relationships for the greater good—knowing that if you do this well, both the relationship and the business can improve.

Leadership Level 3: Production Leadership

“Production qualifies and separates true leaders from people who merely occupy leadership positions. Good leaders always make things happen. They get results. They can make a significant impact on an organization. Not only are they productive individually, but they also are able to help the team produce. No

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one can fake Level 3. Either you're producing for the organization and adding to its bottom line (whatever that may be), or you're not."

—John Maxwell

Good leaders know their team. Great leaders leverage the talents of their team to accomplish goals. Level 3, Production Leadership, is about creating a winning team. As Peter Drucker—one of the creators of today's philosophical and practical foundations of modern business—said, "There are two types of people in the business community; those who produce results, and those who give you reasons why they didn't."

Success at this level relies on your self-discipline, work ethic, organizational skills, and skills in your field. As the leader, you set the example for the team in both attitude and behavior. When your team is producing results, it gives more credibility to you as a leader. The accomplishments of your team bring the vision to life.

Once a team is performing well, it doesn't take a lot to keep that momentum going; when a team attains their goals, there is an intrinsic satisfaction that is a greater reward than any outside compliment. Success breeds enthusiasm and more success. High productivity creates momentum, and this momentum propels results to an even greater level than originally believed possible. There is often stability in these high-functioning teams, and it's rare that members want to leave. Everyone likes to be on a winning team.

Behaviors of Production Leadership

As a Level 3 leader, you have already discovered many of your gifts and talents and are using them to further the vision of the organization. You already have a sense of purpose about your leadership and are not afraid of change. Level 3 leaders don't change just for the sake of change; rather, these leaders recognize when change is necessary and learn how to lead others through it successfully. Level 3 leaders become change agents, and because they have built trust and respect at Level 2, others will follow them.

This is the level where the leadership shifts into a new gear. Most people are *momentum-takers*, meaning they catch an existing wave and ride it, going where it goes. When the wave stops, so do they. A smaller number of people are *momentum-breakers*, people who don't like to move forward and instead hold on to whatever they already have, preventing others around them from fully producing or moving ahead. Then there are a very few, like Elon Musk of Tesla or Steve Jobs of Apple, who are the *momentum-makers*. These are Level 3 leaders causing things to happen. Momentum makers live in the world of *what if*, and success at this level attracts other success.

In Production Leadership, the leader recognizes that success is hard work and takes great effort and dedication from everyone on the team. This means that, at times, the leader must be willing to make hard choices and have difficult conversations. No leader likes this, but each of us can learn to effectively handle difficult decisions, difficult people, and difficult circumstances. By continually building on the relationships we developed in Level 2, we can manage Level 3 difficulties with less negative impact. Remember, each level builds on the ones that came before. When you move up, you bring the behaviors you learned in previous levels along with you.

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Cautions About Production Leadership

Level 3 is the second most common level where leaders get stuck (Level 1, Position Leadership, is the most common). Production Leadership feels great, because you have good relationships and you are producing, so it can sometimes feel unnecessary to move past this level of leadership. Also, producing results can make you think you are a true leader when you're actually not. Some leaders can focus so much on results that this becomes their primary gauge of leadership. Remember, leadership is not measured just by bottom-line numbers or how much your team members like you. Be sure to keep nurturing your relationships and practicing behaviors of Levels 4 and 5.

This level can also bring increased stress, as it is possible to be an effective individual contributor yet be unable or unwilling to effectively lead a team to increasing production. Business does not allow leaders to be unproductive for too long before replacing them—as in sports, where if a team isn't winning, it's the coach that is replaced, not necessarily the team members. This can cause a heavy responsibility on the leader.

Moving Beyond Production Leadership

While Level 3 leaders do recognize that building their team is important, the focus at Level 3 lies on production. Moving past Level 3 requires stepping away from yourself and the confines of ego, and setting your sights on a bigger picture. To move to Level 4, you must put a more urgent focus on developing your individual team members, both personally and professionally. A Level 4 leader recognizes that each person on the team has unique gifts and talents, and also understands that discovering them can be messy and take some effort.

Moving to Level 4 requires an even greater understanding of yourself, your contributions, and how to leverage your talents and those of your team. Your visioning needs to become more strategic and long-term. You must believe you can be an even greater conduit for change, and be willing to endure the successes and failures that come with that—without letting those successes and failures impact your attitude. To achieve this mindset, begin to shift focus away from yourself and what you can help your team produce, and toward building the capacity of both individuals and the organization for the long term. Continue to build as a change agent by focusing on the strategic development of your team, leveraging their talents and helping them become more self-sufficient and self-directing. Teach your team how to make decisions collaboratively and how to prioritize items with a high yield. To be effective at Level 4 and beyond, you must be able to get things done, but you must also get the *right* things done.

Leadership Level 4: People Development Leadership

“On Level 3, the emphasis is on personal and corporate productivity. The ability to create a high-productivity team, department, or organization indicates a higher level of leadership ability than most others display. But to reach the upper levels of leadership that create elite organizations, leaders must transition from producers to developers. Why? Because people are any organization's most appreciable asset.”
—John Maxwell

Level 4 leadership is about helping individual leaders grow. This is the level that sets you apart from other leaders. You can teach someone to reach Levels 1, 2, and 3, but Levels 4 and 5 are more instinctual. As you

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progress into People Development Leadership, your focus shifts back to people. You still keep the production focus, but you also rethink how to build capacity within each team member.

Developing others into their fullest potential and pushing them beyond their self-imposed limits requires hard work on your part. Seeing someone grow beyond their limits is one of the most satisfying rewards a leader can experience.

Behaviors of People Development Leadership

“The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches, but to reveal to him his own.”
—Benjamin Disraeli

Great teachers share their knowledge; great mentors share their experiences; great coaches share their ability to find the answers within yourself. Level 4 leaders do all three. What gives your organization its competitive advantage? The people. The way to grow the organizational capacity is by growing each individual’s capacity.

Level 4 leaders lead their people to become self-regulating and self-evaluating. Use the relationships you have already developed to challenge your team members to grow beyond their ideas of themselves so they begin to think and act as leaders. Level 4 leaders also teach others not to be afraid of people with stronger skills. Not only are these leaders unafraid that others will be better than they are, but they actively encourage people to surpass them and actively help those people to get there. Doing this brings great reward and satisfaction and can also free up the leader to take on new territory as they continue to grow.

“If you will help others get what they want, they will help you get what you want.”
—Zig Ziglar

Cautions About People Development Leadership

It’s a common human tendency to lean toward jealousy. Some leaders become like a lid on a jar to their team, meaning that team growth can only go as far as the lid lets them. In Level 4, there exists a constant tug-of-war between building others to their greatest capacity and holding them back because you don’t want them to outshine you. Although this is very human, a true Level 4 leader pushes through and doesn’t let allow their own insecurities to hold others back. Encourage others to grow beyond you and take on their own leadership responsibilities.

Another caution in Level 4 leadership is that there is often a tendency to want to grow more ourselves, so much so that we get wrapped up in our own needs and discount or neglect others. This leads to us becoming more self-centered rather than other-centered. Level 4 should be focused on the growth of others *without* neglecting our own growth. It takes a lot of time, dedication, and loyalty to others to become a great people developer. This level of leadership requires a high level of emotional maturity.

“The best executive is the one who has sense enough to pick good men to do what he wants done, and the self-restraint enough to keep from meddling with them while they do it.”
—Teddy Roosevelt

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Moving Beyond People Development Leadership

People Development Leadership begins to look at the hard questions, such as “*Do I have the right person with the right skills in the right job at the right time?*” To grow beyond Level 4, start asking these questions about the people already on your team. What skills and characteristics do your team members need to develop to be successful in the future, and how can you help them develop those skills and characteristics? Level 4 leadership exemplifies the mindset of lifelong learning. To move to Level 5, begin to model this continuous learning attitude in action. Become the best person you can be personally, and inspire those you are developing to do the same. This isn’t about skill development for production, but about personal and professional growth as a human being.

In his book *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap...And Others Don't*, leadership and business consultant Jim Collins phrases it this way: *who is on your bus, and are they in the right seat?* When a seat opens up on the bus that is your team, look to the future for how to fill it rather than to the past. Think ahead: what will you need to thrive in the next three to five years? How does that differ from the skills you needed in the last three to five years?

Leadership Level 5: Pinnacle Leadership

“Rare is the leader who reaches Level 5—the Pinnacle. Not only is leadership at this level a culmination of leading well on the other four levels, but it also requires both a high degree of skill and some amount of natural leadership ability. It takes a lot to be able to develop other leaders so that they reach Level 4; that’s what Level 5 leaders do. The individuals who reach Level 5 lead so well for so long that they create a legacy of leadership in the organization they serve.”

—John Maxwell

We all have great leaders we admire, whom we follow without questioning their motives or judgment. We would move mountains for them if they asked. So it can be disappointing to read Maxwell’s quote that this level is rare to achieve. Since we all know these people, how can this be so difficult to attain?

Looking back on one of the fundamental principles with which we began—that leaders are on different levels of leadership with different people—may help explain this. It takes time and shared experiences to build a relationship to the level of trust that Pinnacle Leadership requires. It rarely happens quickly. For one person to attain this Pinnacle level of trust with every single person in the organization and every single shareholder would be a rare achievement. This is not to say leaders don’t attain this level with some of the people they work with; they certainly do.

When you have attained this level of leadership, you generally have greater visibility, greater reach of your message, and greater influence with a large number of people. This is where you begin to leave your leadership legacy. At Level 5, you know in your gut when to act, what to do, and on whom you should focus. These leaders seem to have a sixth sense they can’t explain.

Cautions About Pinnacle Leadership

The biggest caution about this level is that you might begin to believe your own press. Your confidence level can soar to the point that you believe you have done this on your own. You stop listening to your inner circle of advisors because you believe you know best. This arrogance can lead to a fall, as we have all seen

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happen time and time again with politicians, sports heroes, and celebrities. Their focus becomes self-centered and they lose what they have spent years building.

Best Behaviors for Pinnacle Leadership

To avoid the long fall from the top, keep yourself grounded with people you trust who will be brutally honest with you when needed. Continually mentoring others will also help keep you grounded.

Create your own succession plan by developing many different people who can take your spot when the time comes. Encourage them to find their own place to leave a legacy, even if it means in another company. Leverage your time wisely by thinking through how you can have the greatest impact on the organization. Level 5 leaders should be spending a large part of their time in the community with external shareholders, potential clients, or partners, as their influence outside the organization can produce results that other people cannot.

Maxwell's Five Levels of Leadership can be a lot to think about, particularly when you are just starting out. But knowing and understanding these levels can help you become the kind of leader you wish to be. Practice recognizing which level of leadership you have reached with each person you encounter. This may be challenging, but it will lead you to move into behaviors that exemplify the higher levels. Take stock regularly and continue to strive toward the pinnacle—Level 5.