

Essentials for Navigator Ministry

Lorne Sanny

I. Introduction.

A. Management principles. The main way to get things done is to do it. One can think about it and then do it. If the action is repeated, one can review it.

B. Management is the process of getting the right results and the active support of others. This has some overlap with leadership.

C. Leadership is influencing the attitudes and actions of others.

1. A leader has to learn to be a manager otherwise he is limited to accomplishing what he can accomplish by himself.

2. Everyone needs leadership and some management their whole lives.

3. Without a leader there is no ministry.

D. Leadership style.

1. Consensus leadership is a lot of work, but the ministry uses participatory leadership not consensus leadership.

2. You can learn different styles.

3. Different styles are appropriate for different circumstances.

E. Indispensable handles to management.

1. Delegation.

2. Planning.

3. Feedback.

II. The essentials of a laborer-producing ministry.

A. Evangelizing.

B. Establishing and equipping.

III. Key result areas of a laborer-producing ministry.

A. The producer of laborers and the "Timothys."(2 Timothy 2:2)

B. Evangelism, equipping and exportation are keys.

IV. Spiritual leadership.

A. Observations: spiritual leadership is exercised through function and not position.

B. Keys.

1. Prayer.

a. Hudson Taylor's hope was to influence people primarily through prayer.

b. Laborers come primarily through prayer.

c. It does not take as long as one thinks to give all one's burdens to the Lord.

d. Paying a price.

1) There is a cross at the heart of spiritual leadership. (Matthew 20)

2) The reward outweighs the cost, but there is still a cost.

2. Teaching.

a. Jesus declined to be an arbitrator in favor of being a teacher. (Matthew 12)

b. A leader needs to bring people together and teach.

3. Authority.

a. Authority has to do with convicting the conscience through the Word of God. (2 Corinthians 4:2)

b. God's method has always been the same: His Spirit, His Word, our mouth. (Isaiah 59)

c. Spiritual coercion is isolation. (Romans 16:17, Matthew 18:17, 1 Corinthians 5)

1) This happens naturally.

2) Faithfulness is unveiled step by step through a man's response to increasing invitations to studies, accountability and man to man.

C. Authority is the right to decide to take action or restrict some action.

D. Authority relationships in the Bible.

1. There are seven in the Bible. God and man. Man and nature. Husband and wife. Parents and children. Governors and governed. Employers and employees. Spiritual leaders and followers.
2. We all have more than one authority in which we are to relate. Intelligence is the ability to perceive relationships—one must decide which authority to obey in some circumstances.
3. All authority is limited and all commitments are limited. God’s authority is limited because He chooses so.
4. Satan and Adam and Eve all transgressed their authority. We spend our lives thinking about what we do not have instead of what we do have.
5. Self-centered-ness is the central problem. Surrender is the central solution.
6. One of the most difficult thing is to keep surrendered. Success has to do with being available. After one surrenders to the will of God, all he has to do is wait.
7. Every Word of God proves true.

E. Authority must be exercised. (2 Timothy 2:2)

V. Conclusion.

Application questions

1. What is spiritual leadership and how might it be different than “non-spiritual” leadership?

2. Why is prayer essential to spiritual leadership? How is teaching different than arbitrating?

3. How would you explain authority? What is our proper response to it? What areas of authority are you having difficulty surrendering to?
