

Fundamentals of Leadership

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I. Introduction.

- A. Subject: what a leader does when the task is beyond his capacity.
- B. Leadership is the influence of the actions and attitudes of a person.
- C. Leaders bring vision, faith and courage to a coordinated effort.
 - 1. Spiritual leaders have a special kind of faith grounded on promises.
 - 2. The success of the ministry has been grounded upon people believing in God's promises.
 - 3. Success is never final. Failure is never fatal. It is courage that counts.
 - 4. Courage is a mental willingness to stick it out—it is a matter of the will.
 - 5. We all need encouragement and are to bring it.
- D. Things that followers want to know from their leaders.
 - 1. What am I supposed to do?
 - 2. Will you let me do it?
 - 3. Will you help me when I need it?
 - 4. Will you let me know how I am doing?

II. You can lead beyond your capacity when in need. (Exodus 18)

- A. Moses was an outstanding man in all ways, but even his capacity was limited.
- B. Jethro's solution: prayer, teaching, delegation.
 - 1. The Apostles also practiced this. (Acts 6)
 - 2. Pray. (Luke 18)
 - a. If you do not pray, you are going to faint.
 - b. We are called to abide in Christ lest we burnout. Prayer is the answer to this. (John 15:16)
 - c. Getting God's help greatly increases your capacity. God opposes the proud and gives grace to the humble.

- d. Our job is to represent God not to be Him.
- e. If you are not wrestling with God for the people you will end up wrestling with them.
- g. Bring conflicts to God - first personal difficulties, then the people's difficulties. (Psalm 55:22)

3. Teach or tire.

- a. Jesus declined the role of an arbiter and assumed the role of a teacher. So too shall we. (Luke 12)
- b. We are to teach the people the Bible and the statutes of the law.
- c. Teach them and show them the way they must walk and the work they must do.

4. Delegate or die.

- a. First you select people that are available to you that can make things happen having character and confidence.
- b. You must then put some structure in place that is formidable.
- c. Make your expectations clear and let the people do it.
- d. Take on the difficult tasks and do not swamp yourself with the little ones. You will not get soft, your people will respect you, and you are more likely to be doing the things that only you can do.

5. If these things are done, the leader will be able to endure and the people will go to their place in peace.

Application questions

1. What things are bothering you now? Make a list and spend some time giving each individual one to the Lord in faith.

2. What are some things that you need to teach or show in your ministry? List them here.

3. Are there some little tasks that you need to shed? What is one major task you have been avoiding? What can you do to remove the little tasks and take hold of the big one? Set a date for when you plan to tackle the large task ahead.
