

Leadership Tips

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Open Bible Churches
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LEADERSHIP

Leadership Quotes on The Resurrection

“And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile... But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead...”

I Corinthians 15:17-21

“Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!”

Luke 24:5-6

“The resurrection of Jesus is the ultimate sign that our salvation comes only when we cease trying to interpret Jesus’ story in light of our history, and instead we interpret ourselves in light of his.”

Stanley Hauerwas, Theologian and author

Any rational skeptic will remind me that ancient rumors of a rabbi’s resurrection make a thin limb on which to hang the hopes of the world. Yes, I would admit, it is a thin limb. But sturdy enough, ..., to have held up a sign for all these ages that God the Creator has the competence to renew the world he made.”

Lewis Smedes, Teacher and author

“The resurrection of Jesus Christ is one of the most wicked, vicious, heartless hoaxes ever foisted upon the minds of humanity... OR... it is the most important fact of history.”

Josh McDowell, Speaker and author

“... the cross was the victory won, and the resurrection the victory endorsed, proclaimed and demonstrated.”

John R.W. Stott, Pastor and author

“In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”

Romans 6:11

Leadership Development

Spiritual Leadership

The Spiritual Leader’s Task:

- To move people from where they are to where God wants them to be
- Depends upon the Holy Spirit
- Accountable to God
- Can influence all people, not just God’s people
- Works from God’s agenda

The Leader's Vision:

Self sources -

- Because it's there
- Duplicating success
- Vanity
- Need-based
- Resource-driven
- Leader-generated

God sources –

- God's Revelation/revelation

The Leader's Power:

Illegitimate sources –

- Position
- Power
- Personality

Legitimate sources –

- God's authentication
- Encounters with God
- Character/integrity
- Successful track record
- Preparation

The Leader's Influence:

- Leaders pray
- Leaders work hard
- Leaders communicate
- Leaders serve
- Leaders maintain positive attitudes

The Leader's Prayer Life:

- An essential leadership activity
- Brings the Spirit's filling
- Brings God's wisdom
- Accesses God's power
- Relieves stress
- Reveals God's agenda

The Leader's Decision Making:

- Allow the Holy Spirit to guide
- Are teachable
- Know their history
- Are accountable
- Accept the consequences
- Admit their mistakes
- Stand by their decisions

The Leader's Safeguards:

- Make themselves accountable
- Heed their own counsel
- Contemplate the consequences of sin
- Develop healthy habits
- Pray and ask others to pray for them

Henry and Richard Blackaby, *Spiritual Leadership*, 2001, Broadman & Holman Publishers

Sexual Lust Control

1. Stop sexual thoughts (Philippians 4:8)
2. Remove sources of sexual temptations
 - ➔ movies
 - ➔ television
 - ➔ magazines
 - ➔ books
 - ➔ relationships
 - ➔ computer
3. Purpose in your heart to follow God's word
4. Do not put yourself in tempting places
5. Resist temptation with the Word
6. Do not lie to yourself
7. Keep your walk with the Lord strong

8. If you fail, confess your sin and do not live under condemnation

Linda Mintle, "Don't Let Lust Control You,"
Ministries Today, March/April 2002

Spiritual Abuse

1. Power positioning
2. Unquestioned authority
3. Atmosphere of secrecy
4. Elitist attitude
5. Performance emphasis
6. Fear motivation
7. Painful exits

Ministries Today, March/April 2002

Insecure Leaders

- ⊗ Lust for approbation
- ⊗ Cowardice
- ⊗ Jealousy
- ⊗ Overly concerned with appearances

Mike Fehlauer, "Are You an Insecure Leader?"
Ministries Today, March/April 2002

TEAM LEADERSHIP

Qualities of a Team Player

- Adaptable
- Collaborative
- Committed
- Communicative
- Competent
- Dependable
- Disciplined
- Enlarging
- Enthusiastic
- Intentional
- Mission conscious
- Prepared
- Relational
- Self-improving
- Selfless
- Solution oriented
- Tenacious

John Maxwell, *Qualities of a Team Player*,
2002, Thomas Nelson

Characteristics of Teamwork

- Law of **significance**
- Law of **the big picture**
- Law of **the niche**
- Law of **Mount Everest** (challenge)
- Law of **the chain** (weakest link)
- Law of **the catalyst**
- Law of **the compass**
- Law of **the bad apple**
- Law of **countability** (reliability)
- Law of **the price tag** (pay the price)
- Law of **the scoreboard** (knowing where you stand)
- Law of **the bench** (depth of people resources)
- Law of **identity**
- Law of **communication**
- Law of **the edge** (leadership)
- Law of **high morale**
- Law of **dividends** (investment in people)

John Maxwell, *Laws of Teamwork*,
2001, Thomas Nelson

SPIRITUAL TRENDS IN AMERICAN CULTURE

Searching for Self and Spirit

1. In the new millennium, there will be a growing gap between personal spirituality and religious institutions.
2. As denominational doctrine becomes less relevant to many, the experiential elements of religion and spirituality will become more important.

3. Spiritual seekers will continue to turn to the East for spiritual direction and inspiration, even though relatively few will formally adopt these religions.
4. A “pick and choose” approach to faith, the desire to “take from it what is wonderful and good,” will continue.
5. The tendency to mix elements of different traditions into new hybrid forms will continue.
6. Spirituality and the search for the “soul” will continue crossing the boarder from the religious to the secular side of life.
7. Gender spirituality will have an even broader impact as it is integrated into mainstream religion.
8. More corporations will try to address the spiritual and emotional needs of their employees, though concerns about productivity and religious freedom may get in the way.
9. Entertainment media will compete with religious groups as the main bearer of spiritual and religious insight.
10. The search for spiritual truth and the quest to understand the cosmos are converging, although there may be battles over bioethics.
11. Greater appreciation for the connection between spirituality and health will inspire and challenge the fields of medicine and religion.

Searching for Community

1. More and more congregations will take the market-based approach to find new members and keep the ones they have.
2. In the new millennium, churches that demand the most from their members will be the ones most likely to grow.
3. Many young and middle-aged Christians and Jews are returning to traditional congregations and time-tested rituals, proving that the “spiritual supermarket” approach to spirituality does not appeal to every seeker.
4. Even traditional institutions like Roman Catholic convents will be influenced by the spiritual consumerism of the wider culture.
5. The emergence of the small group movement will be more than a passing trend because these gatherings are at the fulcrum of forces (desire for community) affecting religion and society.
6. Decentralization of power away from clergy into the hands of laypeople will have an impact both inside and outside congregations.
7. The rise of women leaders will change both the style and substance of religion, inspiring a faith that is less rigid and hierarchical.
8. Religious denominations will lose influence to local congregations and new coalitions of believers. Two words will describe the future of religious denominations – downsized and decentralized.
9. New kinds of religious organizations and movements emphasizing personal spiritual experience will arise, offering services once provided by traditional religious congregations and denominations.
10. Ministering to the different races and ethnic groups in multicultural America will be a central concern for religious institutions.
11. Computer technology will create direct links between individuals and religious groups, thus creating bonds based on common concerns, bypassing denominational control and transcending geography.
12. Local congregations and special interest ministries will replace national church bureaucracies as the major force fostering Christian unity.
13. Growing religious pluralism will inspire fellowship, dialogue, and cooperation between Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims, and other American faiths.

Searching for a Common Culture

1. Religious groups and individuals will become more self-conscious and forceful about extending their influence in society, thus forging new links between spirituality and social action.

2. The religious right will remain an influential force in American politics, especially in local campaigns.
3. Religious liberals will also seek closer ties to local congregations and other religious traditions, but will remain a relatively small presence in public affairs.
4. Conflicts arising over moral issues will continue to spark divisive debates, although there are signs that people in the pews are growing tired of polarization over “hot-button issues” like abortion, euthanasia, feminism, and gay rights.
5. News media will attempt to provide intelligent and informed coverage of religion, if only because it makes good business sense.
6. There will be a renewed attempt to find common ground between religious groups in conflict over abortion, welfare, and other social controversies.
7. Communities of faith will draw on their vast resources and ancient traditions to become better stewards of the environment.
8. Cutbacks in federal assistance to the needy and the shift of the welfare burden to state and local governments will inevitably make religious groups more involved in community development and helping the poor.
9. Growing social diversity and the breakdown of many public school systems will prompt more parents to choose an educational environment where morality and religious faith are important.
10. Increased religious involvement in welfare, health care, community development, and education will spark new conflicts between church and state.
11. Religious cults and spiritual sects will grow because of the decentralization of religious authority and the speed and access to modern communication technologies.
12. Prophecies about the end times and the beginning of a new age will flourish at the start of the new millennium.

Richard Cimino and Don Lattin, *Shopping for Faith*,
1998, Jossey-Bass

LEADER’S READING RESOURCES

Book Reviews on Spiritual Disciplines

Lawson, James. *Deeper Experiences of Famous Christians*, 2000, Barbour Press

Lawson describes the work of the Holy Spirit in the deepening spiritual maturity and expanding influence of Biblical and historical Christian men and women. Lawson gives short biographical sketches of dozens of famous and lesser known Christians showing that “although the deeper spiritual experiences of Christians of many different ages, climes, and denominations are given in this book, it will be found that there is a wonderful harmony in the experiences related. The persons described... relate their deeper experiences in very different terms; but the deeper Christian experience described is always the same. It is the baptism, or filling, or gift, of the Holy Spirit, and the experience resulting from being ‘filled with the Spirit’.” (p. 8)

Tan, Siang-Yang and Douglas Gregg. *Disciplines of the Holy Spirit*, 1997, Zondervan Press

Tan and Gregg describe the role of the Holy Spirit in establishing of the historical spiritual disciplines in the life of the Christian disciple as, “the change agent, acting with power and purpose to grow us up into Christ.” (p. 29) Tan and Gregg divide and describe the disciplines into three general categories: disciplines of solitude (drawing near to God); disciplines of surrender (yielding to God); and disciplines of service (reaching out to others). The authors state that “it is not our control and practice of the disciplines that make a difference, but our yielding to

the power and influence of the Holy Spirit through the practice of the disciplines that gives him space to speak to us and guide us, to fill us and empower us, to turn us around and transform us.” (p. 8)

Wilkinson, Bruce. *Secrets of the Vine*, 2001, Multnomah Press

Wilkinson uses the Biblical story of the vine and the branches (John 15:1-8) to describe the secrets of “our Father’s amazing plan to keep his children flourishing – physically, emotionally, and spiritually.” (p. 15) Wilkinson emphasizes the truth that life comes from abiding (relationally) with the sources of life (Jesus). From this foundation of abiding relationship, the author then describes three secrets of the vine:

1. If your life consistently bears no fruit, God will intervene to discipline you
2. If your life bears some fruit, God will intervene to prune you
3. If your life bears a lot of fruit, God will invite you to abide more deeply in Him

SEMINAR RESOURCES

LOST IN AMERICA...

is an innovative one-day seminar, based on the book by the same name, that can change the direction of your life and your church. Author, missionary, speaker and Open Bible minister Tom Clegg will lead you and your people through an evangelism seminar like none you have ever attended.

Who Should Attend?

- Christians who want to increase their effectiveness in reaching out
- Pastors and church staff seeking ideas for evangelistic breakthroughs
- Concerned lay leaders who want an outstanding training tool for building bridges to your community.

Seminar Specifics

- \$79.95 per person includes copy of *Lost in America* by Tom Clegg and Warren Bird
- 9:00 a.m to 3:30 p.m.
- 70% presentation, 30% interaction, high tech digital video, resource table, humor, Biblical teaching, practical equipping, hard-hitting approach to evangelism that debunks conventional thinking
- For more information call 714-779-0370 or email sponsor@lostinamerica.net

Learn...

- To build "intentional" relationships
- How your church can be a relevant force in our culture
- Practical ideas to see your neighborhood as a mission field
- God's assignment for you
- How to have powerful breakthroughs in prayer
- How to love people like you've never loved them before

Forget...

- The browbeating and thick notebooks
- Forcing yourself to stay awake
- Guilt, shame and cute little formulas
- About apathy and boredom
- About trying to be someone you're not
- Everything you thought about evangelism

Experience...

- A day-long discovery adventure
- A learning party
- A rough and tumble, get down and dirty, in-your-face reality check
- Helping your friends find their heart's true home in Jesus Christ