# Loving Christ by Leading His Sheep

FAITHFUL STEWARDS - 2023

## Three Key Principles for Leadership in the Church

- 1) Follow Christ's Plan for Church Leadership.
- 2) Be the Right Kind of Leader.
- 3) Exercise the Right Kind of Leadership.

## Principles of Effective Leadership

## **1. Follow Christ's Plan for the Church.**

(Eph. 4:7-13)

## An Overview of Ephesians 4:2-16

#### **Preserving Unity in the Church**

- I. Put on the Attitudes of Unity (2)
- II. Focus on the Basis of our Unity (4-6)
  - A. We share a Common Life "one body"
  - B. We share a Common Source "one Spirit"
  - C. We share a Common Future "one hope"
  - D. We share a Common Master "one Lord"
  - E. We share a Common Belief "one faith"
  - F. We share a Common Confession "one baptism"
  - G. We share a Common God & Father "one God and Father of all"
- III. Follow Christ's Plan for Unity (7-16)

## Follow Christ's Plan for the Church

I. Christ Distributes Spiritual Gifts to the Church (7)

## Discerning One's Spiritual Gift

- **1.** Study what Scripture teaches about the gifts.
- 2. Pray for God's direction.
- 3. Assess their own desires, spiritual strengths, and weaknesses.
- 4. Seek the wisdom and confirmation of others—*ultimately the rest* of the church is responsible to evaluate a person's giftedness.
- 5. Just faithfully serve.

## Follow Christ's Plan for the Church

- I. Christ Distributes Spiritual Gifts to the Church (7)
- II. Christ Appoints the Leaders of the Church (11)

## The Duties of the Pastor-Teacher

- 1. Feed the sheep
- 2. Lead the sheep
- 3. Keep members of their flock from going astray
- 4. Pursue sheep when they go astray
- Protect sheep from wolves—that is, those teaching false doctrine and evil practice
- 6. Help heal those who are hurt.

## Identifying Those Called to Ministry

The biblical process in 1 Tim. 3...

- 1. Craving (1) "aspires; desires"
- 2. Character (1-7)
- 3. Capacity to teach (2) and to manage (4-5)
- Confirmation (10) the elders select and test, the congregation confirms, and the elders lay on hands.

## Follow Christ's Plan for the Church

- I. Christ Distributes Spiritual Gifts to the Church (7)
- II. Christ Appoints the Leaders of the Church (11)
- III. The Leaders Equip the Members of the Church (12a)
  - A. Teaching God's Word (Lk. 6:40; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
  - B. Praying for God's People (Heb. 13:20-21; Acts 6:4)

IV. The Members Accomplish the Service of the Church (12b)

## The Church's Mission

- A ministry to God: worship and a pillar and support of the truth
- 2. A ministry to **believers**: nurture, care & edification
- 3. A ministry to the **world**: evangelism

## Follow Christ's Plan for the Church

- Christ Distributes Spiritual Gifts to the Church (7)
  Christ Appoints the Leaders of the Church (11)
  The Leaders Equip the Members of the Church (12a)
  The Members Accomplish the Service of the Church (12b)
- V. His Plan Results in the Growth of the Church (12c)

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## Principles of Effective Leadership

### 2. Be The Right Kind of Leader (Matt. 23:1-12)



## Be the Right Kind of Leader (Matt. 23:1-12)

I. Demonstrate Personal Integrity (2-3)

#### **Practical Steps:**

- 1. Be faithful in daily time in the Word and prayer
- 2. Always meditate on the Scripture
- 3. Never tolerate your sin... *however small it may seem!*

## Be the Right Kind of Leader (Matt. 23:1-12)

II. Love God's People (4)

Ways to show love...

- 1. Sacrificially (1 Jn. 3:16)
- 2. Practically (1 Jn. 3:17-18)
- 3. Relationally (1 Cor. 13:4-7)



# Be the Right Kind of Leader (Matt. 23:1-12)

III. Seek God's Glory (5)

• "They broaden their phylacteries..."

"[They] lengthen their tassels."



## Be the Right Kind of Leader (Matt. 23:1-12)

IV. Cultivate Real Humility (6-10)

#### The Scribes and Pharisees loved four things...

- The place of honor at banquets
- The chief seats in the synagogues
- Respectful greetings in the marketplace
- Being called "Rabbi" by men



# The Path from Pride to Humility (1 Pet. 5:5-7)

- 1. Submit yourself to rightful human authorities (5a).
- 2. Serve others in practical, menial ways (5b).
- **3**. Submit yourself to God's providence (6-7).

## Be the Right Kind of Leader (Matt. 23:1-12)

V. Practice Servant Leadership (11-12)

- 1. To be great in Jesus' kingdom is to serve everyone.
- 2. A true spiritual leader humbles himself to exalt his God.
- **3.** A godly leader understands leadership is using his gift to equip others to do the work of ministry.
- 4. A godly leader understands that people are not there to serve us—we're there to serve them!

## Be the Right Kind of Leader (Matt. 23:1-12)

#### **Make These Five Commitments**

- 1) Demonstrate Personal Integrity
- 2) Love God's People
- 3) Seek God's Glory
- 4) Cultivate Real Humility
- 5) Practice Servant Leadership



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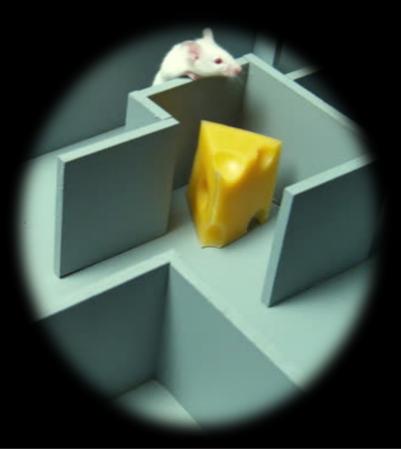
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## Principles of Effective Leadership



- I. Be A Problem Solver (1-3)
  - A. Discover the Problem
    - 1) You personally discover the problem.
    - 2) Someone tells you about the problem.
    - 3) Someone suggests a bad idea, but the bad solution is an effort to resolve a real problem.



- I. Be A Problem Solver (1-3)
  - A. Discover the Problem
  - B. Identify the Real Problem
  - C. Determine and Implement the Best Solution through Wise Counsel

- I. Be A Problem Solver (1-3)
- II. Cultivate a Team Approach (2-3,5)
- III. Delegate Responsibility (3)

## **Crucial Principles for Delegation**

- **1**. Delegate to those with the right character (3).
- 2. Delegate to those with a passion for that ministry (5).
- 3. Delegate to those who are skilled or gifted to serve in that role (5).
- 4. Delegate to those whom others affirm (5).
- Delegate guidelines and parameters but provide freedom for people to use their own minds and gifts.
- 6. Delegate not only responsibility but authority (6).
- 7. Shepherd those to whom you delegate.

- I. Be A Problem Solver (1-3)
- II. Cultivate a Team Approach (2-3, 5)
- III. Delegate Responsibility (3)
- IV. Cast a Vision for the Priorities (2, 4)
- V. Motivate People to Get Involved (2-3, 5)



V. Motivate People to Get Involved (2-3, 5)

- A. By open communication (2)
- B. By making people feel they are part of the process– because you make them part of the process (3)
- C. By using those who especially gifted or especially passionate about a particular ministry (5)
- D. By expressing gratitude for their ministry in a variety of ways

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- VI. Model Hard Work Yourself (4)



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