

HELPFUL POINTS ON LEADERSHIP

(July 1987 – EKB)

Notes from: “**Be the Leader You Were Meant to Be**” – Le Roy Eims, (Victor Books)

Who is fit to lead?

1. Those who realistically count the cost. *Jam 3:1*. (Not the careless, or the personally ambitious.) Time, family, cost.
2. Those who feel generally inadequate. God does not call us because we feel adequate to lead, but He calls us to lead knowing that He will be with us, and be our enabling. *Ex 3:12*.
3. Those God calls to lead, Moses, *Ex 3:10*, Gideon, *Jud 6:14*.

Leader’s Source of Power – Fellowship with God Himself by: *2Sam 22:33*.

1. Reading and meditating in God’s Word, *2Tim 3:16,17*.
2. Prayer and seeking God’s face, *Amos 5:4*.
3. Obedience to God’s revealed will, *Ex 19:5, Deut 28:1*.

The Inner Life of a Leader.

1. **Purity of Life.** *Dan 1:8, 1Tim 3:2-7, 1Sam 16:7*.
A full separation between righteousness and lawlessness, *2Cor 6:14-16*,
light and darkness
Christ and Satan
faith and unbelief
God’s House and false worship.
Deciding about “questionable things”.
Is it helpful? *1Cor 6:12*.
Does it get me in its power? *1Cor 6:12*.
Does it cause others to stumble? *1Cor 8:12,13*.
Does it glorify? *1Cor 10:31*
2. **Humility.** *1Pet 5:5,6, Jam 4:6,10, Mic 6:8, Phil 2:3,4, 2Cor 10:12, 2Cor 12:9*.
3. **Faith.** *Heb 11:6, Phil 4:19*, God will provide. *Ps 1:3, Jer 17:7,8, Ps 121:3-5*.
God is wholly trustworthy.

Leaders’ attitude to others.

1. **A servant heart to serve others.** *Lk 22:27, 1Jn 3:16, Mat 20:25-28*. In the world, the organisational chart has the leader’s name at the top, and lines from top to bottom. Jesus reversed the direction without giving up His leadership.

2. **A sensitive spirit to lead, and help others.** *Mk 8:1-3.*
 - a. the unruly and headstrong, by restraint, *1Thes 5:14.*
 - b. the easily discouraged and likely to quit. *1Thes 5:14.*
 - c. the faint-hearted, timid, reluctant, fearful. *Josh 1:9.*
 - d. the weak who are struggling to overcome bondages.

Why some excel.

1. **Excellence.** *Pro 22:29(NKJV), Ps 8:1, Deut 32:4, Is 12:5, 2Sam 22:31.*
Do all things well, fully, completely, by prayer, faith and the help of God and others.
2Tim 3:17, 1Thes 3:10, Col 1:28.
2. **Initiative.** Get up and do it, do not sit back and wait for it to happen. Step out!
Initiative to serve others, to seek reconciliation with others, to seek help and knowledge from others, to think ahead, plan, dream, imagine.
3. **Creativity.** Try new things, new ways, and be prepared to change.

How to make an impact.

1. **Be whole hearted and committed.** *Ecc 9:10, Jn 2:17, Ps 119:139, Mk 12:30.*
2. **Be single-minded and stick to the task.** *1Cor 15:58, Phil 3:13, Lk 9:51, Lk 9:62, Heb 11:24,25.*
Three ways to fail.
 - a. given to laziness, *Rom 12:11.*
 - b. give all to wrong goal.
 - c. give all to too many things.
3. **Have a fighting spirit.** *2Chr 30:10, 2Chr 31:20,21, 2Cor 11:24-28, Neh 4:7-9, Neh 6:2,3, 2Tim 2:3-6, 1Cor 9:25-27.*

Plan a good beginning.

1. Walk in step with people. Suggest new ideas, but **wait** until they catch on to it. Lead them into it. Do not rush in and try to change things forcibly.
Saul had some good points at the start:
 - a. He hid himself, *1Sam 10:21,22.*
 - b. He did not strike out at those who despised him, *1Sam 10:27.*
 - c. He waited for an opportunity to lead, *1Sam 11:5,6.*
 - d. He gave glory to God, *1Sam 11:13.*
2. Do your “homework” in preparation. When you suggest a plan to lead, know all the facts and figures clearly, and be able to answer every question. *Neh 2:5-8.*
3. Plan the work out in detail. P.O.L.E. Plan, organise, lead, and evaluate.

How to get more done.

1. “Do it now”, *Num 1:1-3,17,18.* God said do it, and they did it that day. Do not put off doing the things you don’t enjoy.

2. Pray to God, and trust Him, to send the help you need, to send the helpers you need, to do the jobs that need doing. *Ex 40:12,13*. God sent Aaron to help Moses. He was to be in charge of killing the sacrifices.
Num 3:5,6 God sent the Levites to help Aaron. *Num 8:6,11,19. 1Tim 3:6,10*.
Helpers are a gift **from** the Lord **for** the Lord.
3. Focus on objectives not problems.
Problem – *Num 11:4-6*. Moses looked at the problem, *Num 11:11-14* and felt crushed. God is the answer. *Num 11:16,17*. Seventy helpers to help Moses.
Ten spies focused on problems, *Num 13:31-33*.
Two spies focused on God, His Word, promises, *Num 13:30*.

Delegation

Do not try and do everything yourself – delegate!

Ex 18:13 Moses took advice humbly from Jethro. *Ex 18:17-23,24*.

Jethro's advice

1. Pray for the people.
2. Teach God's Word.
3. Show them the way to walk – by visible example.
4. Delegate responsibility to others – **carefully** to able, just, true, good men.

Training Leaders.

1. There must be like-mindedness in the goal. Their methods may be different. Ezra and Nehemiah had the same goal but different methods. Ezra would not ask the King for help. Nehemiah asked for help all the way. *Ezra 9:3*. How Ezra handled sin in the camp. *Neh 13:21,25*. How Nehemiah handled sin in the camp.
2. **Maturity.** *1Tim 3:6, 1Tim 5:22* is needed. Take responsibility in humility, faith, prayer.
3. **Faithfulness** *Pro 20:6, Ps 12:1, 2Tim 2:2*. Wait for faithful men to come before sharing the load, those who are faithful in small things first, *Lk 16:10*, faithful in another man's area of work, *Lk 16:12*, e.g. Joshua to Moses, Elisha to Elijah.
4. **Keep others informed.** Do not assume others know what is going on. *Ac 7:25, Josh 21:43 Josh 22:10,11,12, 26,27,30*. Lack of communication almost led to civil war.
5. **Doing unpleasant tasks.** Keep up administrative duties, *1Chr 18:14-17*, as David did, though he was a soldier at heart.
6. **Cope with personal trials,** tests, problems, *Rom 5:3-5*. Trials produce endurance and ability to stand, when they are endured in faith, thanksgiving and praise to God. *Jam 1:2-4*.

Surviving Dangers

1. **Covetousness** – personal, material gain, materialism, *1Thes 2:5, Col 3:1-5, 1Jn 5:21*. Covetousness is idolatry.
 - a. This causes loss of perspective and focuses on this world and material things. *1Jn 2:15, Rom 8:6, 2Cor 4:18, Jn 18:36, Ecc 5:10, Lk 12:13-15.*
 - b. Covetousness gives God second place and soon no place at all. *Ex 20:3*. Loving something more than God is idolatry. *1Tim 6:9,10, 2Tim 4:10, 1Tim 6:17-19.*

2. **Self glory or pride.** *1Thes 2:6, Mk 12:38-40*. Boasting. Pride in giving to God. *Mat 6:1-4*. Pride in our **achievements** for God. Bring “Mr Successful”. *Ac 2:47*. God does the adding. Pride in our **service** for Christ. *Ac 20:19*.

3. **Discouragement.** This is a deadly danger, coming from Satan. Many leaders have been driven from their works in the depths of despair. *1K 18:39*. “Elijah’s success.” *1K 19:4*. “Elijah’s discouragement”.

Discouragement

 - a. Brings a false sense of values, *1K 19:4*. “It’s hopeless! I might as well die!” Actually Elijah did not die – ever! *2K 2:11*.
 - b. Causes us to run from our responsibilities. *1K 19:9* – Elijah ran to hide.
 - c. Causes us to blame others for our troubles. *1K 19:10*.

4. Things are blown out of perspective. *1K 19:18,10*. Things were actually 7000 times better than Elijah said they were. David had similar troubles, *1Sam 30:3,4*. but David encouraged himself in the Lord, *1Sam 30:6*. Result – see *1Sam 30:19*. Do not let molehills become mountains.

Meeting the Needs of the Group

The leader should seek to deepen the spiritual lives of those he leads, in grace, in knowledge, effective service, and devotion to Christ.

The men who joined David’s band were initially misfits, malcontents etc. *1Sam 22:2*.

However after they had been under David’s leadership for sometime they became dedicated, strong, mighty men of valour. *2Sam 23:9,10*.

It takes a leader to make a leader

There were no giant killers in Saul’s army. *1Sam 17:11*. After David, the giant killer became leader, there were many giant killers in the army. *1Chr 20:4-8*. It takes a giant killer to make giant killers!

Jesus said, “go and make disciples...” *Mat 28:19*, and this command was given to His twelve disciples. You have to be a disciple, a disciplined follower, to make a disciple of Christ.

How is it to be done?

In a group of people, not all have the same devotion or desire to grow.

1. Arrange a volunteer Bible study and prayer group. Privately ask those with special hunger and interest, if they would like to meet for an early morning Bible study and Prayer time, one hour, some day of the week.

2. After you have three or four people “signed up” announce this special Bible study and Prayer time to the whole group. Invite whosoever will.
3. Announce that the rules, standards, aims of the group will be decided at a breakfast meeting the coming week.
4. When you meet, begin by telling them the purpose you have in mind, e.g.:

<i>Rom 8:29</i>	Goal: to become more like Jesus.
<i>Jn 5:39</i>	Goal: to learn more about Jesus.
<i>Ac 20:32</i>	Goal: to be built up in the Word of God.
<i>Mat 9:36-38</i>	Goal: to pray for labourers to be raised up.
<i>Ps 119:9,11</i>	Goal: to memorise the Word for clean lives.
<i>Ps 119:105</i>	Goal: to find guidance.
<i>Jer 33:3</i>	Goal: to pray for specific needs in our lives.
<i>Heb 11:6</i>	Goal: to deepen our faith.
5. Select a Bible study programme, as provided by the World Home Bible League, Navigators, Luis Palau studies, “Know what/why you believe” by Paul E Little, etc.
6. Assign a chapter for preparation, and discussion the following week. Each one is to complete the study before the next study group meeting.
7. Contact each one during the week before to see how they are getting on.
8. Pray for each one daily.
9. When you meet, pray together, as God leads, and directs – maybe for evangelism and souls that are lost. *Col 4:2-4, Ac 16:14, Col 1:9,10, Mat 9:36-38.*
10. Scripture memory can be included.

Personal Time.

After a few months you will notice one or two who show greater spiritual hunger than the rest. These are the ones you have been waiting for. Invite these to meet with you personally, man to man, for some special training. Have lunch together so that you can explain what you have in mind. *Is 58:10, 1Thes 2:10,11.* This is **INDIVIDUAL DISCIPLING**, *Num 27:15-18, Deut 3:28.* Charge, encourage, and strengthen. Read *1Thes 2:11* again, and exhort, comfort, charge, *1Cor 14:3*, edify, exhort, comfort.

1. **Edify** - personally share things that will build up faith and strength in God. Encourage.
2. **Exhort** – guide in areas of life that need to be brought into line with God’s Word.
3. **Comfort** – help him to overcome bondages, problems. Encourage when discouraged.
4. **Charge** – assign him special projects that will help meet specific needs and build up gifts and abilities.

Multiplication: The goal is reached, when this person in turn, starts discipling another whom he has led to Christ in the same way.