



DESIGNED TO ENHANCE YOUR
VALUES AND BELIEFS AS A CHRISTIAN.

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF

MINISTRY

& LEADERSHIP

A BIBLE STUDY GUIDE WRITTEN BY
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The Characteristics of Ministry & Leadership

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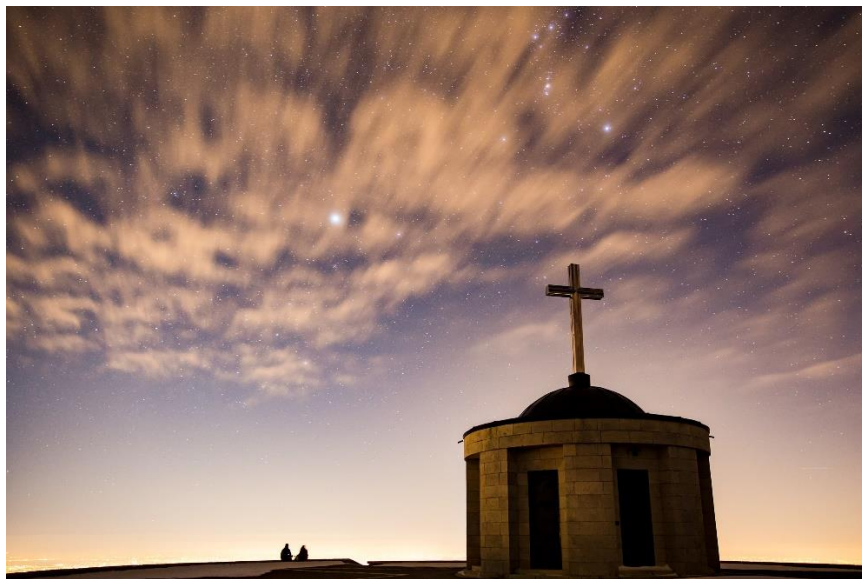
In my journey in life and as a Christian, both my grandmother and grandfather have had extensive implications. Firstly, they have enhanced my values and beliefs as a Christian especially when it comes to being an individual who conforms to the teachings and leadership principles stipulated in the Holy Bible. I would not have been a committed Christian if the two people were not so influential in my journey in life. Additionally, both my grandparents have enhanced by behavioral attributes especially when it comes to being compassionate towards other people in the society.

In my journey, there are numerous lessons that God has taught me. Firstly, He has inculcated strong values towards being an honest person. Honesty is always a pertinent virtue that goes an exceptionally long way towards ensuring that human beings are helpful towards one another. Another lesson that God has taught me in life is that I must be loving towards other people. Irrespective of where people come from, their ethnicity or status in life, God is love.

The fact that God loves us unconditionally implies that we have the obligation and duty to be loving towards other people. All people have been created in His image and likeness and hence we ought to see Him in other people. I have also learnt that I cannot make it or be successful on my own without Him. He is our Creator and hence knows me better than I know myself. It then follows that I must always trust and worship Him in everything I do. I have this strong conviction that God will be on my side in terms of family life as well as success in my career in the present and the future.

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I started this series, because I wanted to have a series which focused on education individuals about leadership, this is the first of 4 Separate Lessons, that I am certain will deliver life changing lessons. My goal is that my experience leads each reader to a greater understanding of the leadership principles of the bible.

This series is dedicated to my Wife Phyliss and the Sulton Family, who was one of the first families in leadership in my hometown, with a street names after us, my daughter Juanita and son Edward, you two are one of the main reasons I decided to create his project, as I wish this for every reader, my hope is that all the questions they have asked, the knowledge can be gained as you embark on a quest to gain an understanding of the written word during life's journey.

I also dedicate this Series of Lessons to all Teachers and upcoming Leaders and students. I Trust it will be of assistance in their Spiritual Journey and their quest to be a Servant / Leader to others.



Most Challenging Leadership Task:

Engaging People Toward the Organizational Mission

Leadership is one of the most rewarding roles one can have, but it is constantly presented with challenges. The challenges can be seen as an obstruction or an inclination to rise to the next level, test oneself, and improve in the process. When you are a leader, you cannot avoid interacting with people. You will repeatedly need to engage them so you can move in the intended direction. This can be a challenge since people are diverse, and sometimes difficult to deal with them. Moses, one of the best leaders in the Bible, became tired of the people he was leading. Jesus did everything right. He was without sin. He was a servant leader and helped humanity. However, even after all, it was not enough to get their loyalty; he was still betrayed, denied, and crucified.

Personally, engaging people in change implementation can be a hard and challenging task for a leader. Naturally, people are resistant to change, and even when change is necessary, the leader will still face opposition. The burden he/she will have to bear proves why it is essential to adopt the change. After doing so, he/she must communicate effectively to help them be on board. After doing so, the next challenge will be ensuring they do not go back to the old ways of doing things.

Another challenge is people expect leaders not to make mistakes, and if they make them, they are judged harshly. However, leaders are people, and humans and humans' error. Trying the level best not to make mistakes is strenuous. Trying to live up to the expected standards is a real struggle, a real challenge. However, leadership is a gift from God, and we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us (Phil 4:13).

One of the main reasons Paul focused a watchful eye on self and teaching is he wanted to ensure he remained on the right track as far as God's instructions are concerned. Paul was a faithful person who always wanted to ensure he did not disobey God in any way. One of the main strategies he considered necessary as far as remaining obedient to God understood self. According to Paul, one cannot succeed or become a complete Christian unless they understand themselves.

Engaging People toward the Organizational Mission Continued

From a different perspective, Paul was focusing a watchful eye on self and teaching encompasses being helpful to other people and, therefore, contributing to the growth of Christianity. As a staunch Christian, Paul was adamant he had an important role to play as far as Christianity's development and promotion were concerned. He could not achieve it unless he focused a watchful eye on self and teaching. This is an approach which was also consistent with the teachings of Jesus.

So, he could learn from his mistakes, Paul ensured he focused a watchful eye on self and teaching. He was always evaluating himself to identify where he had gone wrong and therefore make the right corrections to avoid making similar mistakes in the future. Because Paul was a role model to many people in the Christian society, he categorized maintaining focus as an essential aspect of promoting Christianity to Christians and other people. These perspectives are there for indicative of the various reasons as to why Paul focused a watchful eye on self and teaching.

Christian leadership is usually offered by those pastors who desire to see the will and the Lord's work being completed. Using God's word and will as the guidelines, the pastors can work as Christian leaders by showing how things are done based on the operation pattern described in the scripture. When leading, leaders tend to use different styles. There are tends to be no specific style characterizes a leader all the time. However, it is helpful for a leader to identify the styles and test themselves to determine the best leadership characteristics.



Leadership Style

During my supervised leadership activity, a leadership style which I was able to identify was servant leadership. I was able to examine the leadership of a pastor. During the entire exercise, I realized the leader was a servant leader. As a servant leader, a person should be a servant first. One must focus on other people's needs, mostly their team members, before considering their own needs. A servant leader must acknowledge other people's perspectives and provide them with the support they require to meet their personal and work goals. They also involve others in making decisions and building a sense of community in the team. Being a servant results in more trust, healthy relationships, and high engagement with the members.



A leader who guides, helps, and mentors their followers to grow is customarily considered a servant leader. Some of the behaviours associated with the servant leadership style include emotional healing, helping others grow, behaving ethically, empowering, conceptualizing, and creating value for a community. A servant leader, like a pastor, tends to acquire their leadership example from the Bible. Jesus was a good model servant leader.

He submitted his life to sacrifice services under God's will. Based on the reading John 13:1-17, Jesus was able to provide an example of what it means to serve other people. He washed the feet of his followers was the responsibility of a house servant. Based on the verse, Jesus's primary motivation was the love for followers. He was aware of his position as a leader. He voluntarily became a servant leader to his followers and set an example his followers could follow.

Principles

When assessing the leader, I was able to identify several principles the leader used and there were some he did not use. A fundamental principle used was he paid more attention to putting his followers first. I realized the pastor was making others' issues to be a key priority than his own. Even in the odd times, he would get a call and made sure he attended to the matter. He would be tired or just spending time with his family, but every time someone needed his help, he dropped everything to console, help, or even pray with his followers.

The other principle was of helping others to succeed and grow. As the pastor, he led his members to seek out their gifts they could use in the church and the community. Thus, he helped the followers find their gifts and guided them on putting those gifts to great use. There was also the principle of behaving ethically. Indeed, a pastor is usually a role model to the congregation. They tend to have high standards set in the Bible. A follower typically expects the pastor to be fair, honest, and open with their followers.

With this principle, whenever a follower came to the leader with an issue, the pastor would keep all the information given to them confidential and worked on helping the follower in any way he could. A principle was not utilized by the leader was the ability to handle complicated issues. A pastor should be discerning. While many issues arise in the church, a pastor must deal with complicated issues.



Using Leadership Principles

Using servant leadership requires a high level of awareness to make it work. When interviewing the leader, he claimed the main reason for using servant leadership principles is it did provide significant benefits to other people. According to the pastor, he loves providing guidance, and most people are self-motivated and want to do the best they can. However, there are certain times when they need guidance and encouragement to steer them in the appropriate direction. Therefore, when he shares his time in this manner, he can empower and build confidence in other people to do their best.

The pastor claimed he uses the principles because he aims to be an excellent example to other people and wants to spread the good news regarding God's kingdom. Leaders are going to succeed in motivating the members of their congregation should be able to identify with and meet their needs. A good leader should have a genuine love for their members and show interest in other people's needs. It is only by doing this their followers can be able to follow them.

Recommendation

Implementing the principles of servant leadership helps the employees feel as if they are more vested in the work, which means the organization will be able to attract and keep top talent. A good way of implementing the leadership style is through showing empathy. The best leaders are the ones who understand the way to place themselves in the shoes of others. Leaders must always be aware of the tools their teams need to be successful and look at the potential roadblocks may prevent high-performance members.

Another recommendation is ensuring team awareness. People can be unmoored from the purpose of the organization if they do not know their own impact. Those aware of the purpose of whatever they are doing can become more creative and enable themselves to find ways of accomplishing the organization's goals.

Leadership

As evident in the book of Romans 15:2, it indicates the Bible is the book of relationships. The Bible suggests the relationship we have with God and how we can have such kinds of relationships. From the verse, it shows the way we should treat and interact with fellow people. In Romans 13:9, Paul says we are sure we are treating others the way God will treat us if we follow his commandment. Indeed, good leaders like pleasing people and leaders must always keep doing so for other people and help build them up. As individuals, we should make ensure we encourage one another and support each other. Therefore, leaders must ensure they keep supporting their followers and help them whenever they need assistance.

A leader should be concerned for their own needs and help others who are in need. Leaders also need to ensure they are not quick at blaming their followers. Still, they should try and see how they can help other people to learn from their mistakes and ensure they do not make the same mistakes again. It is always essential leaders be the people to teach other people and let them see how they should treat each other. More importantly, a good leader should establish a good relationship with others to form a firm foundation based on trust and where people believe they can depend on the other for help.

Leaders

As Christians, when we are reborn into a new life, our motivation is usually the desire to serving other people. Romans 15:2 say each of us should ensure we please our neighbours for their good and build each other up. The desire to serve others is usually inspired by the hope we have in Christ. Because of this hope we have, as a leader, we should be motivated to lead differently to see the interest of the followers and build the community.

As a leader, building other people up involves promoting a shared vision and community cohesiveness. In 1st Timothy 3:9, Paul is unequivocal regarding maintaining a shared vision. He says they should keep hold of the profound truth of faith with a clear conscience. Leadership should be about influencing other people and providing aid and support to people to accomplish specific tasks. As leaders, we should work towards encouraging personal and professional growth. In doing this, we will be able to please others and build them up. People should know as leaders; we are interested in more than only the output. A good leader should want others to be their best and willingly to help them to get there and achieve the best in their lives. It is true people tend to work harder for those leaders who show a genuine interest in the personal development and will make followers want to follow such leaders.

Study Questions

Question 1: What does the Bible say about the role of communication in leadership?

Question 2: How can the Bible help in enhancing the effectiveness with which a leader is successful in overcoming different challenges?

Question 3: What is the best way in which leaders can align their work with the teachings of the Holy Bible?

Question 4: How can the Bible be useful in improving decision-making for leaders?

Question 5: What is the role of a leader in improving the followers in accordance with the Bible?

Question 6: How can leadership weaknesses be overcome through the use of Bible teachings?

Question 7: How can the Bible be useful to the leader in the modern world?

Question 8: How can a leader minister to the followers through the use of the different lessons from the Bible?

Question 9: How can a leader become more patient and tolerant through the use of the Bible?

Question 10: What is the role of leadership in promoting Christianity?

Question 11: How can a leader promote organizational mission through the use of Biblical principles?

Question 12: How is organizational success connected to leadership competence in biblical issues?

Question 13: What is the role of Christianity in improvement of organizational leadership?

Question 14: How can leaders enhance the vision of their respective organizations through the use of concepts in the Bible?

Question 15: What is the role of a leader in improvement of followers' alignment to Christian principles?

Question 16: How can an organization achieve success through collaborative leadership in line with biblical concepts?

Question 17: How is organizational leadership related to organizational performance?

Study Questions Continued

- Question 18. What contribution does the Bible makes to the success with which a leader develops a framework for organizational mission?
- Question 19. How can organizational leadership be improved through the use of lessons from the Old Testament?
- Question 20. How can lessons from the New Testament be used to improve organizational leadership in a sustainable way?
- Question 21. How can leaders improve the manner in which they communicate expectations to followers through the use of doctrines espoused in the Bible?
- Question 22. What is the main reason as to why a leader should listen to followers within the context of an organization?
- Question 23. What are the main obstacles for integrating biblical principles in leadership processes?
- Question 24. How is organizational leadership affected by perceptions of leaders towards the Bible?
- Question 25. How can a leader achieve improvement on their respective weaknesses through the different concepts of the Bible?
- Question 26. What is the main reason as to why a leader should be involved in decision-making in line with the stipulations of the Old and New Testaments?
- Question 27. What is the main function of a leader in improving how they relate with organizations that are in the same sector based on the lessons of the Bible?
- Question 28. How can leaders use the Bible in improving ethical standards in their organizations?
- Question 29. How can leaders integrate the concepts of the Bible in development of an ethical code of conduct?
- Question 30. How can leaders use the Bible in improving risk management in their organizations?

Biography Timeline of Pastor Eddie Sulton

- 1963 Accepted Jesus as my saviour at SBC (Mom and Dad & grandmothers' hands)
- 1964 - 1965 Was greatly influenced by my Senior pastor (Rev Ben Sulton- Grandfather)
- 1966 Was baptized (Rev Sulton Shiloh Baptist Church)
- 1988 Was called to full time ministry.
- 1988- 1991 Discipled by the Shiloh Baptist church (Pastor David Mack)
- 1992 - 2001 Ordain as minister St John Pentecostal church
- 2004 Was ordain as Senior Pastor Elohim Temple of love
- 2009 Ordained as Bishop of the Elohim Keep It real Ministry by Authority and order House.
of Prayer and Praise Pentecostal
- 2010 Received My Doctor of Humanity Degree from the Spirit of Truth Institute
- 2012 – 2013 Attended Bible School (liberty university)
- 2014 - 2018 Received Bachelor of Arts in Christian studies, Theology Grand Canyon University
- 2018-2020 Grand Canyon University; Online and Distant Learning Master of Arts in Christian Leadership

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