

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

I. A SPIRITUAL LAW: LEADERSHIP IS TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE

- A. Jesus only expects us to follow Him because He first lived an example that we are to follow
 - 1. 1 Peter 2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: NKJV
- B. As leaders in the Kingdom of God, we have the same requirements:
 - 1. Luke 12:48 For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more. NKJV
 - a. more is to be expected of & more will be asked of leaders
- C. See John Maxwell : STAIRS OF LEADERSHIP
 - 1. The first “step” is the lowest level of leadership
 - a. because people only follow due to the title / position we hold
 - 2. Our commitment and example will determine to what degree people will follow our leadership:
 - a. If our commitment and example is poor, people will not follow us beyond the first “step” on the ladder of leadership:
 - (A) **THIS WILL EVENTUALLY CAUSE A LACK OF:**
LOYALTY, INTEREST, AND COMMITMENT IN THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO FOLLOW US

II. HOW TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE:

- A. 1 Tim 4:12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. NKJV
 - 1. In order for no one to “despise” or “look down on” (NIV trans) Timothy’s leadership, there were requirements on his part:
 - a. “BE AN EXAMPLE TO THE BELIEVER”
 - 2. No one is expected nor required to honor or follow us, regardless of the title, or position in ministry we may hold:
 - a. unless we first: **LEAD BY EXAMPLE**
 - b. 1 Thess 5:12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;
 - (1) **Def KNOW**: to look upon, to consider, watching from a distance

B. SIX AREAS OF THE LIFE OF A LEADER BY WHICH THEY ARE TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE: (1 Tim 4:12)

1. WORD / SPEECH

- a. Eph 4:29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

2. CONDUCT / LIFE STYLE

- a. 1 John 2:6 He who says he abides in Him (JESUS) ought himself also to walk just as He walked.
- b. 1 Cor 11:1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. NIV

3. LOVE

- a. John 15:12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

4. SPIRIT (what is our spiritual condition.....and attitude)

- a. Amp Trans Eph 4:23 [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude],
- b. Rom 12:11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

5. FAITH

- a. 2 Cor 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.
- b. Rom 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
Rom 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

6. PURITY (Def. holiness)

- a. 1 Peter 1:16 because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."
- b. 2 Tim 2:19 "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

C. Phil 4:9 The things which you learned and received and heard and saw IN ME, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

- 1. Paul did not say: do what I say.....obey my teachings
 - 2. Paul led by example and he told his disciples that the things they learned and received:
 - a. "**HEARD**": as he taught the word of God
 - b. "**SAW IN ME**": as he lived what he taught
- (1) "**these things do**"

D. 1 Peter 5:3 nor as being **lords** over those entrusted to you, but being **examples to the flock**;

1. Def “**lords**”: exercise dominion over, subjugate, control
2. Def “**examples**” style, resemblance, sampler, model, pattern

E. 2 Thess 3:9 not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an **example** of how you should follow us.

1. Def “**example**”: style, resemblance, sampler, model, pattern
 - a. In Paul’s leadership style he put more emphasis on example than he did authority
 - (1) this style of leadership did not reduce his realm of authority, rather: it enhanced his spiritual authority....because his **life empowered his words**

F. Phil 3:17 Brethren, join in **following my example**, and note those who So walk, as you have us for a **pattern**.

1. Def “**example**”: style, resemblance, sampler, model, pattern
2. Def “**pattern**”: example, model
 - a. Paul literally states that his life was a model, pattern, example for others to follow.....as should ours

III. Christians have mistakenly believed that **Gifts of the Spirit, Anointing, Postitions / Titles:**

A. **qualify them to be followed or qualify them for leadership & ministry:**

1. If you study the scriptures and look at the qualifications for leadership in: Acts 6:3, 1 Tim 3:1-13, Titus 1:6-9
 - a. **it does not mention the words**: ANOINTING or SPIRITUAL GIFTS
 - (1) The reason why spiritual gifts and anointing do not qualify us for Leadership is due to the fact that:
 - (a) EVERY BORN AGAIN, SPIRIT FILLED BELIEVER HAS BOTH
 - (1) 1 John 2:20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One,
 - (2) 1 John 2:27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you,”
 - (3) 1 Cor 12:7 But the manifestation (spiritual gifts) of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:
8 for to one is given
 - (1) It is not our anointing our gifts that qualifies us for leadership, Rather: **IT IS THE LIFE WE LIVE THAT QUALIFIES US FOR LEADERSHIP**