

Leadership - Part 2

Jim Downing

I. Introduction.

- A. Review: production versus personality characteristics, personal leadership over authoritarian leadership, and accomplishing objectives through others.
- B. The most common failure in leadership is lack of judgment in a situation. We often start to work on the wrong problem.
- C. The four things that should affect a decision: expediency, social pressure, legalism and morality.

II. Qualities of the leader.

- A. If a leader is to overcome emotional, perceptual and cultural blocks he must have self-confidence, constructive nonconformity, willingness to take risks, openness to experience, active curiosity, high motivation, tolerance for ambiguity, intellectual integrity and ability to think on a variety of levels.
- B. What leader would you choose if you could spend an hour a week with that person living or dead once a week aside from the Lord? What would be common is the most important quality you would find as a leader and something that likely you need the most.
- C. The source of sound judgment.
 - 1. The greatest gift that God has given to a human being is the ability to weigh evidence.
 - 2. One needs a degree of maturity for sound judgment.
 - 3. One needs stability for sound judgment.
 - 4. It is not something you inherit - everyone is equally capable.

D. Things universal to leaders - attributes.

- 1. Conviction.
 - a. He possess clarity and precision to definite, communicable and attractive objectives that are enthusiastically sustained by the leader.
 - b. Conviction brings beauty to common faces.
 - c. God's personality factory.
 - 1) The formula for Coke is unique and secret - so too the formula used to create each individual is unique and secret.

2) Just as the individual stars shine their own glory and are different contributing their note to the symphony, so too each person contributes his own individual note to the symphony. (1 Corinthians 15:41; Job 38:7)

3) Each has his own part to play.

d. Christian leadership should be different because the motive is not in profit.

e. It is dishonoring to God to compare ourselves with others. (Jeremiah, Romans 11)

f. God does not call a man contrary to his gifts. (Romans 11:29)

2. Drive.

a. The possession of a generous and an unusual endowment of nervous energy is essential to personal ascendancy.

b. How one attains this energy: inheritance, upbringing and nurture, and the conscious use or abuse of one's physical organism from day to day.

c. A leader's show of energy releases energy.

d. The top CEOs often share a common dynamism - a vital balance.

e. People like to follow others who have shown some success.

f. Magnetism must be possessed.

III. Problems in leadership.

A. A leader fails because he cannot size up a situation and because he is not able to do what needs to be done with what he has available.

1. A leader must be in the possession of resources.

2. The greatness of Billy Graham is his ability to get the crowds, not his speaking ability.

3. For the ministry's purpose, the resources are a band of men.

B. Problems when you begin working with other people.

1. The more cross relationships there are, the less efficient the leader can be.

2. The span of control is the basis of all sound organizations. Having influence on from three to six people is ideal for a leader.

3. When confronted with a problem the leader does not resign or appoint someone on his level, but appoints men beneath him to accomplish his objective.

4. This is still very inefficient - administration is not very efficient because it just increases the amount of men it takes to complete a task.

5. Problems multiply with more people.

C. Practical application.

1. Followers can easily nullify the objective if you do not know how to handle them. You must mold them into a band.

2. You have to have morale and a fighting spirit in the band to maintain the objective.

a. High morale is produced by meeting the needs of every band member.

b. The example of a commander who made sure every need of his group was met that led him to success.

3. Five relationships that must exist in a band of men.

a. The leader must be willing to lay down his life for his conviction; the leader must be willing to lay down his life for his followers.

b. The followers must be willing to lay down their life for their conviction, for their leader, and for each other.

D. Summary.

1. In leading a band of men you are leading yourself into trouble because of the number of cross relationships.

2. To lead you need to make sure all your followers' needs are met. They must be equipped.

Application questions.

1. What are some of the problems that arise in leadership? How does the speaker address these?

2. How do the qualities a leader should possess relate to the relationships that must exist within a band of men?

3. What leadership principles stood out to you that you find most applicable in your ministry? What steps can you take to better yourself as a leader in this regard? Be specific.
