

How to Make An Impact - Part 2

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Introduction.

- A. Chuck Colson has written that society today is on the edge of chaos.
 - B. Fred Smith writes that leadership is something we are and something we do.
 - 1. Leaders fail for character flaws more than for
 - 2. Character development is a process.
 - 3. Leaders who last don't stop growing.
 - C. We have been looking at the book of Titus.
 - 1. The place.
 - 2. The purpose.
 - 3. The people.
 - 4. We looked at the overview of Titus in three parts.
 - a. Focus on the church.
 - b. Focus on the home.
 - c. Focus on the world.
 - 5. Chapter one deals with leadership. Chapter two deals with learning. Chapter three deals with lifestyle.
 - 6. Importance of the book.
 - a. Relevant.
 - b. Realistic.
 - c. Remedial.
- I. Tonight we want to look at chapter one verses 6-9.
- A. Verses 6-9 true leadership is the center of instruction.
 - B. In verses 10-16 it's false leadership in view.
 - 1. Counterfeiters are trained to spot phony bills by observing genuine bills.

2. Knowing the true aids us in spotting the false.

3. In the church we need to focus on the truth.

C. All Christians are leaders for we are salt and light in the earth. (Matthew 5)

1. A leader has followers.

2. Leadership is not determined by position but by person.

3. Mothers, for example, are leaders.

D. Elders are behavioral models to the body of Christ.

1. The qualities of elders should be that of mature believers in Christ.

2. Spiritual leadership is determined by character.

E. Qualities of leaders,

1. Blameless. (Titus 1:6)

- a. This does not mean perfect or blameless.

- b. Progress is the test of maturity. (1 Timothy 4:15)

1. Even new believers can be showing progress.

2. Are you making progress or are you just getting older?

3. Parents mark the progress of their kids; what if God marked your progress?

4. The quality of your testimony is born out by your co-workers.

- c. The home is a training ground for leaders, and many of our students come from dysfunctional homes.

1. The quality of leaders is determined by the quality of the home.

2. This should alarm us.

- d. Moral purity demonstrated in a one woman man.

1. A steward marveled that I was showing affection to my wife after 43 years of marriage.

2. Quality Christian marriages are the greatest need of a pagan society.

3. I was chaplain of the Cowboys during the Staubach years and we saw several players and coaches come to faith in Christ.
 4. The quality marriage of one couple impacted these men.
- e. Believing children also demonstrate a quality leader.
1. Kids are not blown away by your mistakes.
 2. Kids will be blown away if you are phony.
 3. If you came to faith late in life the question is what difference is Christ making in your life today?
 4. Evangelicals today are placing a guilt trip on parents by placing all the blame on parents for recalcitrant children, but children have a responsibility to respond to training of good parents.
 5. One Campus Crusade leader had a son who walked out but later returned because of the quality of parenting he had received.
2. Personal life marked by positive and negative characteristics.
- a. Negative.
1. Not overbearing, self-willed and obnoxious.
 - a. I had some elders that were always against me and Ironside told me wherever there is life there are bugs.
 - b. Anyone desiring power should never be given power.
 2. Not quick tempered.
 3. Not given to much wine.
 - a. The principle here is moderation.
 - b. This goes for eating as well as drinking.
 - c. Running more than 8-10 hours a week is more than needed for cardio vascular fitness.
 4. Not violent, pugnacious physically or verbally.
 - a. Some verbal abuse is worse than physical.
 - b. The mouth must be under control.
 5. Not pursuing dishonest gain.

- a. A Christian leader is not in ministry for money.
- b. Many sitting here are gifted at making money and feel guilty for it.
- c. If we are making money honestly, however, there is no guilt.
- d. To not sue fellow believers is a mark of maturity.

b. Positive.

1. Hospitable, a lover of strangers.

- a. Early Christians had no Motel 6 yet evangelists needed lodging.
- b. Many Bible studies are more effective because of the wife's hospitality than the man's teaching.
- c. True hospitality relaxes the guests.
- d. Young people respond to genuine hospitality.

2. Loving what is good.

- a. Good things.
- b. Good people.

c. Self controlled.

- 1. My pagan father prepared me for ministry by his self control.
- 2. I learned discipline by my pagan father.

d. Consistent.

- 1. Congruency between what is said and what is done.
- 2. Hypocrisy does not become believers in Christ.

e. Holy.

- 1. Many so called holy people are really miserable.
- 2. God does not want the Christian life to be miserable.
- 3. If I use a pen as a screwdriver it would ruin it and not accomplish my objective, and holiness needs to be employed appropriately.

4. Take God more seriously and yourself less so.

5. Take time to laugh.

f. Disciplined.

1. Discipleship is developing discipline.

2. Audubon gave up comfort to observe birds.

3. What are you willing to give up for Jesus Christ?

4. Soldiers in the Middle East are paying a price for their work.

g. Hold firmly to the trustworthy message about Christ.

1. Encourage others by sound doctrine.

2. Refute error.

3. How many people do you know over 55 still tracking for Jesus Christ?

4. They are often reaching for the bench.

5. No one should be retiring from ministry.

6. Leaders run to win.

7. Winners cross the finish line.

8. I used to run low hurdles and developed a friendship with the indoor mile champion who taught me the difference between running a short dash and a marathon.

9. Many people fail during the last half of their lives.

10. Trotman said pray that you might finish well.

11. None of us knows how much time we have left but I am praying to finish well.

12. Older men should encourage younger men from making stupid mistakes.

13. Leaders are becoming an endangered species.

