

**Each Believer's Place in the Church - Leveling (chap 5-8)** a study for the college and career class at Gulf Coast Baptist Church by Steve Thomas 1/18/26

**Introduction**

Chapters 5 and 6 are not going to be given a deep dive for this class, for a couple of reasons. First, I don't fully agree with the premise of chapter 5 "The Dangers of Independence". There are several lines in that chapter that I do not think are biblical. I understand the premise, that interdependence is more valuable than independence. And that being independent is what got Adam and Eve in trouble in the garden. Satan does want us to believe that we can be self-sufficient, instead of relying on God. However, the Bible does teach liberty for the believer. I think there might have been some entanglement in this chapter that I would like to avoid. You are welcome to read the chapter yourself and decide if I got it right or not. Chapter 6 is on the danger of the super pastor, and I think we have covered that topic enough. So we move on to the chapters on leadership.

**Chapter 7** Lead like \_\_\_\_\_ - Narrow your \_\_\_\_\_ and expand your \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus had many disciples, at one point he had 70 numbered. But he usually traveled with \_\_\_\_\_ and he had an inner circle of \_\_\_\_\_ - Peter, James, and John. (Mark 5:37; Luke 8:51; Matthew 17:1-2; Mark 9:2, Matthew 26:37; Mark 14:33)

More effective than preaching to thousands, is to \_\_\_\_\_ in three individuals once a week for an extended period of time.

Our apparent obsession with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ has come at the expense of \_\_\_\_\_ and more \_\_\_\_\_. This is the type of focus that regularly sees lives \_\_\_\_\_ and hearts \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ even more than \_\_\_\_\_ determines the most effective disciple-making .

Are we \_\_\_\_\_ in those who exist in the margins? Are we giving attention to those who might be \_\_\_\_\_ candidates? Is this investment based on curriculum and a specific plan, or do we \_\_\_\_\_ for the purpose of personal development?

**Chapter 8** Lead like \_\_\_\_\_ Never do what you can \_\_\_\_\_. (Ex 18) If the Senior Pastor does all the things he \_\_\_\_\_ do, and even the things he \_\_\_\_\_ to do, he will soon \_\_\_\_\_. He will also never \_\_\_\_\_ those around him, failing to \_\_\_\_\_ the ministry.

Healthy delegation seeks a \_\_\_\_\_ unhealthy delegation \_\_\_\_\_ a problem.

As other leaders are \_\_\_\_\_ it is important to occasionally delegate opportunities that they can handle well, even if you can handle them \_\_\_\_\_.

Self- sufficiency is a form of \_\_\_\_\_ and it is not how God intended ministry to be. It ignores the inherent \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that we were born with.

Handing off ministry is both God's \_\_\_\_\_ for our ministry and the \_\_\_\_\_ by which our ministry is meant to last.

One of the most challenging aspects of delegation is learning to delegate \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ (credit).