

Pastor Jonathan Rainey, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## **Lead Like Jesus!**

### **Leadership Matters**

**"The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails."**

#### **-John Maxwell**

The Old folks would say that if there is a Fog in the Pulpit then there will be a mist in the pew.

Leadership Matters. It's not everything because it is the only thing.

The Student of the New Testament will encounter several names given to this greatest of all offices. The pastor is called:

1. **Elder** - This speaks of his wisdom and maturity. Used 72 times in the New Testament.
2. **Bishop** - This speaks of his office as an overseer of the work of the church. Word was used 5 times in the New Testament.
3. **Pastor** - This word brings to mind the preacher's responsibility to care for the flock and to lead them in the Lord's will.

This word was only used once in the entire New Testament. Eph. 4:11.

4. **Preacher** - This speaks of his sacred duty to boldly herald the whole council of God's infallible, inerrant and inspired Word.

5. **Teacher** - This reminds the pastor that he is to instruct those given to his leadership.

6. **Servant** - This speaks of the fact that the pastor is not above his people, but is to devote his life to ministering to the need of others.

7. **Steward** - This word reminds the pastor that he is in the business of caring for the property of another: The flock of God!

There are 3 Prominent forms of Leadership in the Modern Church.

1. **The Episcopal** - This is a Bishopric, or a one man rule, where one man calls all the shots. Think Only Senior Pastor Model.
2. **The Congregational** – This is the Congregational voting Method. Every member gets a vote. This style can foster selfish, political maneuvering since the person or group with the most votes "wins," potentially fostering divisiveness and factions within the church.
3. **The Presbyterian** – In this model multiple elders are chosen by God and recognized by the congregation to represent the people. The elders are responsible for the teaching, spiritual oversight, and discipline of individual members.

I believe that elder rule is the form of government that best illustrates the principle that Yeshua the Christ, alone, is the Head of His Church

**I believe the New Testament pattern is that the church be lead by a plurality of men:**

**Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Yeshua who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons: Philippians 1:1 NASB**

Now look at what he says, "**to all the saints in Christ Yeshua who are in Philippi**"—then he adds this—"**including the overseers and deacons.**" This is the only letter in which he does this. This is the earliest Epistle where bishops and deacons are mentioned, and the only one where they are separately addressed.

I have a question for you, "Why does Paul address the overseers and deacons, but ignores the pastor?" Is Paul mad at him, so he snubs him? Did this church not have a pastor? No, they did not, there was no single pastor. In the New Testament there is never one Book, never one word addressed to one man as the pastor of the church. Yeshua the Christ is the Head of the Church, not a man. Elders are under shepherds who care for the flock.

It was always Paul's custom to ordain elders as soon as Church had been founded (Ac 14:23). Crete was an island of many cities. "**Crete of the hundred cities.**" **Homer called it.** It was Paul's principle that his little Churches should be encouraged to stand on their own feet as soon as possible.

Here we will start with the 5 F's of leadership! As we go through this I want you to study the parallel passage in 1 Tim. 3:1-7. Notice in both of these passages we have 20 characteristics of an Elder in the Church. Get this 19 of the 20 points have to deal with his Character and only one speaks to His Skill.

1. **Family Man v.6 This is what I call the KEEP IT REAL CLAUSE! LEADERSHIP STARTS AT HOME FIRST! The REAL YOU is seen at home!**

**Christianity begins at home. It is no virtue for any man to be so engaged in public work that he neglects his own home. All the Church service in the world will not atone for neglect of a man's own family.**

**Show Statistics from study of Dad's Faith and Church Attendance on Children**

- A. **Blameless** - (Ill. Lit. "To take hold of") This means that there is nothing in the Pastor's life that Satan or an unsaved world can take hold of to tear down the ministry or the church. (Ill. No man is sinless, but the Pastor must strive to be above reproach in every area of life!)
- B. **The Husband Of One Wife** – Simply put, no man can pastor a New Testament church if he has been married, divorced and remarried! Isn't Paul talking about polygamy? No! No polygamist would have been considered for the ministry anyway. How can a pastor who cannot control his own marriage counsel those who come to him for help with the marriages? No man who has been divorced and remarried is qualified to pastor any church.
- C. **Faithful Children** – A leaders ministry starts in the home. His children are to be Faithful (Some believe this means saved). Looking at this in parallel with 1 Timothy 3:4-5 I believe the children don't have to be believers (Honestly that is a God thing) but they have to be in Subjection to the Leader (Husband and Father) of the House. Talk about the difference between Submission (Hupotasso) and Subjection (Huptotoge).
- D. **Not Accused of Dissipation and Insubordination** – This is the Same base word for Prodigal in Luke 15. A Great example biblically of this is Eli (lack of leadership) and His sons Hophini & Phineas.

Because Eli's sons did not know or regard God, they acted in wicked ways. First, we are told that Eli's sons took a three-pronged fork and ate whatever meat they brought out of the pot when sacrificing an animal. This was in contradiction with the law for priests, who were commanded to eat the breast and upper thigh of the animals (Leviticus 7:30–34).

Second, Eli's sons were sleeping with the women who were dedicated to the service of the tabernacle (1 Samuel 2:22). This was against God's law forbidding adultery (Exodus 20:14).

A "man of God" came to Eli and revealed the judgment that would come upon Eli's sons for these actions. The sign that the judgment was divine was included: "What happens to your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, will be a sign to you—they will both die on the same day" (1 Samuel 2:34).

Soon after this time, Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, took the Ark of the Covenant out to battle against the Philistines. The Israelites were defeated, and judgment befell Eli's sons, as 1 Samuel 4:10–11 states: "The Philistines fought, and the Israelites were defeated and every man fled to his tent. The slaughter was very great; Israel lost thirty thousand foot soldiers. The ark of God was captured, and Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, died."

Worse, when Eli heard the news, he fell backward from his seat, broke his neck, and died on the same day. The pregnant wife of Phinehas heard the news, and she went into labor and died while giving birth (1 Samuel 4:19–21). The son was named Ichabod, a name meaning "the glory has departed."

Glory will Depart when Leaders fell to Lead!

## 2. **Faultless Man v. 7 (What the Leader is Not To Be)**

He is blameless as a Steward (Greek Word **Oikonomos where we get Economy**) of God. The overseer as "God's steward" does not own the church or the people of the church. But he is in charge of their spiritual nourishment, growth and behavior. God's steward must see that the household of God is cared for and looked after and that their energies and lives are directed to the will of the Master. The steward must do the will of the Master, carrying out His Word without any deviation whatsoever.

- a. **Not Self Willed** – The man who is Self Willed (0829-GSN) has been described as the man who is so pleased with himself that nothing else pleases him and he cares to please nobody. R. C. Trench said of such a man that, "he obstinately maintains his own opinion, or asserts his own rights, while he is reckless of the rights, opinions and interests of others." **Eudemus said that the Selfwilled (0829-GSN) was the man who "regulates his life with no respect to others, but who is contemptuous."** Euripides said of him that he was "harsh to his fellow citizens through want of culture." **Philodemus said that his character was compounded in equal parts of**

conceit, arrogance and contemptuousness. His conceit made him think too highly of himself; his contemptuousness made him think too meanly of others; and his arrogance made him act on his estimate of himself and others. Clearly the man who is Self Willed (0829-GSN) is an unpleasant character. He is intolerant, condemning everything that he cannot understand and thinking that there is no way of doing anything except his. Such a quality, as Lock said, "is fatal to the rule of free men." No man of contemptuous and arrogant intolerance is fit to be an office-bearer of the Church.

- b. **Not Quick Tempered** - He must not be an angry man. The Greek is orgilos (3711-GSN). There are two Greek words for anger. There is thumos (2372-GSN), which is the anger that quickly blazes up and just as quickly subsides, like a fire in straw. There is orge (3709-GSN), the noun connected with orgilos (3711-GSN), and it means inveterate anger. It is not the anger of the sudden blaze, but the wrath which a man nurses to keep it warm. A blaze of anger is an unhappy thing; but this long-lived, purposely maintained anger is still worse. The man who nourishes his anger against any man is not fit to be an office-bearer of the Church.

Think about Peter when he went for Malchus head.

- c. **Not Given to Wine** – Etymology Para “alongside” Oinos “Wine.” Self explanatory! The Pastor, along with all Christians, are to avoid alcohol.

ILL- A little girl was watching her parents as they dressed for a party. When her father put on a tuxedo she cried, “Daddy, I wish you wouldn’t wear that suit.” “Why not?” he asked. “Because,” she sobbed, “it always makes you sick the next day.”

Abraham Lincoln, in 1842, said: “Liquor might have defenders, but no defense. Whether or not the world would be vastly benefited by a total and final banishment from it, of all intoxicating drinks, seems to me not an open question.”

Alcohol- Defiles, Deadens, Dominates and it Destroys

1. ALCOHOL DESTROYS HOMES – It leads to arguments and abuse! One lady came into my office and said with tears in her eyes. “My daddy would get drunk and come into my room and force me to do things that were unspeakable. If it wasn’t him it would be the men he invited over to gamble!” Alcohol has been the cause of many marital affairs and been the cause of Adultery that is running rampant in our day! Alcohol has lead to many Divorces! Its lead to many children running away from home!

2. ALCOHOL DESTROYS ONE'S HEALTH -Alcohol destroys the liver, numbs the Brain and cause forgetfulness, speeds up diseases, weakens the nervous system, harms the bladder, rots the enamel of the teeth, thins the blood and damages the veins.

3. ALCOHOL DESTROYS HAPPINESS-Life becomes one long stupor lived from one drink to the next.

d. **Not violent** - Literally, "Not looking for a fight." Or "Not Physically Violent" He must not be a man ready to come to blows. The word is plektes (4131-GSN), which literally means a striker. It would seem that in the early Church there were over-zealous bishops who chastised erring members of their flock with physical violence, for the Apostolic Canons lay it down: "We order that the bishop who strikes an erring believer should be deposed." Pelagius says: "He cannot strike anyone who is the disciple of that Christ who, being struck, returned no answering blow." The Greeks themselves widened the meaning of this word to include, not only violence in action, but also violence in speech. The word came to mean one who browbeats his fellow-men, and it may well be that it should be so translated here. The man who abandons love and resorts to violence of action or of speech is not fit to be an office-bearer of the Christian Church. The Pastor is not to be a man of battles, but rather a man of peace. The Pastor must learn to control his temper and take the good with the bad, the smart with stupid the and the ups with the downs!

e. **Not Greedy for Money** - He must not be a seeker of gain in disgraceful ways. The word is aischrokerdes (0146-GSN), and it describes a man who does not care how he makes money so long as he makes it. It so happens that this was a fault for which the Cretans were notorious. Polybius said: "They are so given to making gain in disgraceful and acquisitive ways that among the Cretans alone of all men no gain is counted disgraceful." Plutarch said that they stuck to money like bees to honey. The Cretans counted material gain far above honesty and honour. They did not care how much their money cost them; but the Christian knows that there are some things which cost too much. The man whose only aim in life is to amass material things, irrespective of how he does so, is not fit to be an office-bearer of the Christian Church.

The Pastor must not use the ministry as a means of increasing his wealth. It is right and proper for a church to provide for their Pastor. Anything less is sinful! More about that later, but the Pastor is to stay away from shady deals, under the table deals, etc. He is to be above reproach in this area as well. Cretains were very deceptive. They did their ministry for Dishonest Gain See Titus 1:11.

### 3. Friendly Man v.8 (What The Leader is To Be)

#### A and B are the qualities which the elder of the Church must display to other people.

- a. **Hospitable** – (Ill. Literally, “One who loves the stranger.) The Pastor must have an open door. His people, as well as those outside the faith, need to know that the Pastor will receive them and will reach out to them in Christian love. It is the lady in Shunera whom Elisha encounters in 2 Kings chapter 4 who is given to the gift of hospitality. She provides meals in the beginning when Elisha stops by on the way back to Samaria or on the way to Carmel. And then she takes out a home-improvement loan and has a prophet’s chamber built so that Elisha can also spend the night. Countless are the numbers of God’s children who have been given to hospitality, who can care for the physical well-being of his children as they travel from place to place.
- b. **Lover of what is Good – A Leader must be fond of the Good things of Life of the Spiritual realm. Agathos (Good) in Greek means Spiritual Good.**

#### Letters C Through F comes a group of terms which tell us the qualities which the Christian office-bearer must have within himself.

- c. **Sober-Minded** – The pastor must possess a serious attitude and he must be serious about his work. This does not mean that he cannot possess sense of humor, (Ill. He had better have one), it means that he does not act in a foolish manner that cheapens the Gospel.
- d. **Just** – Means to do what is right.  
Ex. Joseph when Mary was pregnant with Jesus! He was a Just man. He wanted to do what was right before God and the Law. He could have put Mary away Publically or Secretly. Because he was a just man he chose to do it privately.
- e. **Holy** – Moral purity. To live like God. This is only done by Yielding to God’s Word by the Power of God’s Spirit.
- f. **Self-Controlled** - Literally means to be Grippled from within by an outside force. Means to have the Self Controlled. Means God’s grip is on the inside. Ex. Mom saying to Get a Grip. Meant that God has to have the Grip. Self-Controlled describes the man who has achieved complete self-mastery. Any man who would serve others must first be master of himself.

#### 4. Faithful Man v. 9a

Finally, there comes a description of the qualities of the Christian office-bearer within the Church.

- a. **Holding Fast the Word** – Clinging. Same word in Matt. 6:24. Means Loyalty to death. As a man can't serve God and Money, so the leader of the church has to be committed to the Word of God (Not opinions, Hearsay, Guesses, Hypothesis' or any other thing but the Word of God!

**A spiritual leader should be a man of spiritual maturity, of settled convictions, of sound doctrine and of ability.**

These three things are all mentioned quite clearly in verse 9:

- (1) **He must be a Spirit "taught" man.** This indicates maturity.
- (2) **He must "hold last the faithful word".** He must have settled convictions.
- (3) **He must be a man of "sound doctrine".** He must know the Bible, believe the Bible and hold fast to the truth of the Bible.

#### 5. Fruitful Man 9b.

- A. **Exhort** - He must be able to encourage the members of the Church. The navy has a rule which says that no officer shall speak discouragingly to any other officer in the performance of his duties. There is always something wrong with preaching or teaching whose effect is to discourage others. The function of the true Christian preacher and teacher is not to drive a man to despair, but to lift him up to hope.
- B. **Convict** - He must be able to convict the opponents of the faith. The Greek is elegchein (1651-GSN) and is a most meaningful word. It means to rebuke a man in such a way that he is compelled to admit the error of his ways. Trench says that it means "to rebuke another, with such an effectual wielding of the victorious arms of the truth, as to bring him, if not always to a confession, yet at least to a conviction, of his sin." **Demosthenes said that it describes the situation in which a man unanswerably demonstrates the truth of the things that he has said.** Aristotle said that it means to prove that things cannot be otherwise than as we have stated them. **Christian rebuke means far more than flinging angry and condemning words at a man. It means speaking in such a way that he sees the error of his ways and accepts the truth.**

That's Leading Like Jesus!



## Study on dad's faith.

According to data collected by Promise Keepers and Baptist Press, if a father does not go to church, even if his wife does, only 1 child in 50 will become a regular worshiper. If a father does go regularly, regardless of what the mother does, between two-thirds and three-quarters of their children will attend church as adults. If a father attends church irregularly, between half and two-thirds of their kids will attend church with some regularity as adults.

If a mother does not go to church, but a father does, a minimum of two-thirds of their children will end up attending church. In contrast, if a father does not go to church, but the mother does, on average two-thirds of their children will not attend church.

Another study, focused on Sunday School, found similar results on the impact of fathers:

- When both parents attend Bible study in addition to the Sunday service, 72% of their children attend Sunday school when grown.
- When only the father attends Sunday school, 55% of the children attend when grown.
- When only the mother attends Sunday school, 15% of the children attend when grown.
- When neither parent attends Sunday school, only 6% of the children attend when grown.

Another survey found that if a child is the first person in a household to become a Christian, there is a 3.5% probability everyone else in the household will follow. If the mother is the first to become a Christian, there is a 17% probability everyone else in the household will follow. **However, when the father is first, there is a 93% probability everyone else in the household will follow.**

Here's the point of all these statistics: Dad's impact on the kids' faith and practice is HUGE.