



Lesson 2: Leadership & The Team  
*Prerequisites, Commitment, & Team Dynamics*

Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

- 1 Timothy 3:14-15 -

## Lesson 2: Leadership & The Team

### *Prerequisites, Commitment, & Team Dynamics*

#### I. WHAT YOU WILL LEARN IN THIS CLASS

- Biblically Based Qualities for Leaders
- The Calling of God
- The Importance of Being Committed to the Doctrine and Vision of the Local Church
- Together We Make a Great Team! (*Principles of Team Dynamics*)

#### II. BIBLICALLY BASED QUALITIES FOR LEADERS

The passage below from the book of Leviticus lists physical defects that prevented a person of priestly lineage from serving in the Tabernacle.

*“Say to Aaron: ‘For the generations to come none of your descendants who has a defect may come near to offer the food of his God. No man who has any defect may come near: no man who is blind or lame, disfigured or deformed; no man with a crippled foot or hand, or who is hunchbacked or dwarfed, or who has any eye defect, or who has festering or running sores or damaged testicles.’” Leviticus 21:17-20*

In principle, or typologically, we could say that the (dis)qualifications point to a wide variety of spiritual (dis)qualifications for ministry.

Below is a list of the “defects” and an explanation / application for those serving and leading in the church today.

- Blindness** -- Leaders need spiritual vision and insight in the Word of God and should not continue to walk in the darkness of their old life without Christ.
- \_\_\_\_\_ – Leaders need an unimpeded spiritual walk with the Lord. They should not be unbalanced in their understanding of the Word of God, over – emphasizing one truth above another, or teaching a false doctrine.

Leaders should not have a “spiritual prosthetic” – that is, be hollow or fake, making sure their ministry work and involvement is not a replacement for a real relationship with the Lord and His people.

Leaders need to be healed from past hurts and sores resulting from bad encounters or previous falls.

- **Flat Nose** – Leaders need to be those who can carry out their work without being unduly curious and intrusive into people’s lives – avoiding “poking their nose” into other people’s business without maintaining proper respect and confidentiality.

Leaders with a “flat nose” are unable to sense the working and moving of the Holy Spirit and do not appreciate the sweet incense of the spiritual sacrifices of praise, worship and prayer.

Leaders with a “flat nose” are often those who are easily offended by a change of events, and people.

Leaders need to be able to “spiritually breathe” - that is, practice confession and forgiveness. Also, they must not be “stuffed up” or “allergic” to new and different methodologies - must be adaptable.

- **Anything Superfluous** - Leaders must not take a good thing and add something to it to the point of making it freakish, unbalanced or distorted.

Being superfluous is having some spiritual disfigurement or deformity or something extra or extended beyond the norm. Team members should accurately demonstrate the Word and way of God, not presenting a distorted view of Christ by “adding” to what God is doing or saying or to the Word of God. An example would be adding something “extra” (superfluous) to a testimony or prophetic word to try to embellish it or make others think the event or the testimony or their gifting is greater than it is in reality.

The Hebrew word means “something extended, or stretching.” A superfluous leader is someone who is never satisfied with what God is currently doing and saying - they are always looking for something “extra.”

Leaders need to stay within the locus of their ability, gifting, calling and training.

- \_\_\_\_\_ - Leaders should not have an unbalanced walk with the Lord.

Leaders need to be able to press on even though they had their toes stepped on by others! We must not live in the past, nursing and rehearsing the hurts. Sore feet can make you defensive and overly sensitive when anyone gets too close.

Leaders may be sore footed if they try to kick down doors for ministry instead of waiting on God to open them.

Leaders also need to be spiritually agile, not flat footed. They must be able to move with the Spirit, and run through spiritual barriers - to “run through a troop and leap over a wall.”

- \_\_\_\_\_ - Leaders with broken hands don't have a good grasp on the sword of the Word of God. They are unskilled or untaught in the truths of the Word of God.

Leaders should have:

- *lifted hands* – in worship and surrender and prayer.
- *supporting hands* – which hold up the hands of their leaders.
- *joining hands* – joining with other believers in fellowship, unity, prayer, worship and covenant.

- **Arched or Contracted Back** – Leaders need not to be bowed over by the weight of their responsibilities. This could be caused by not properly delegating tasks to other responsible parties. It can also be caused by trying to place too much responsibility or authority on or in new Christians – resulting in them being hurt or crippled.

Leaders must also be those who are not always looking inward – they must learn to reach up and out. Leaders must not be overly shy, or have feelings of inferiority.

- **Dwarf** – The Hebrew word and its root suggest one who is thin, gaunt, lean fleshed, beaten small, or pulverized. Leaders must not have stunted spiritual growth. Dwarfed leaders are those who are malnourished in the Word and Spirit. Don't be thin-skinned!
- **Blemish in the Eye** – Leaders need to have a positive outlook and viewpoint. They need to not have an overly critical or criticizing eye. They need to have clear spiritual vision, without weird spiritual tangents. A clear perception of reality and unmingled, unmixed, and unfaded perception of truth is vital.
- \_\_\_\_\_ – The word here means “to have an itch.” Those with scurvy need constant attention. They virtually always have an itch that needs to be scratched. Scurvy causes a weakened condition, loss of stamina, and can result in picking up other diseases easily. Team members should not pick up the “latest dirt,” such as other people's offences, gossip, or strange “new” doctrine. Leaders need to be careful that they don't develop “itching ears” for the latest teaching fad.

- **Scabbed** – A scabbed person has skin sores, eruptive disease, or festering running sores. Persons who are scabbed tend to deal only with “surface” issues. Leaders need to be able to be “touched” or “reachable” by others without contaminating them with offence or hypersensitivity. They also need to exhibit good personal discipline and hygiene.
- **No Reproducing Ability** – A good test of how God is working through your life is if you are reproducing godly character and attributes in those that follow you. There is no success without a successor. Team members need to be strong in God and able to lead.

### III. THE CALLING OF GOD

We all are called to live for Him – and we all have varying gifts and opportunities to use those gifts for God’s glory.

- God has a purpose and calling for everyone.

*“For many are invited, but few are chosen.” Matthew 22:14*

*“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.” John 15:16*

*“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God –“ Romans 1:1*

*“To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ – their Lord and ours:” 1 Corinthians 1:2*

*“Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no-one may boast before him.” 1 Corinthians 1:26–29*

- Often the call is initially to come and be prepared.
- When God has a job to be done He looks for people.
- God needs you to do your job.
- God needs you to be a certain person using the gifts and graces He has given you.
- God has someone He needs you to be.
- How does He get you to be that person?

### IV. THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING COMMITTED TO THE DOCTRINE AND VISION OF YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

Every local church is called to preach the gospel and to evangelize. Each local church works out that calling in various ways and means. Every believer needs to be a part of a local church, working and serving the Lord. Each believer in a local church needs to be in unity and aligned with the purposes of God and the doctrine and work of the church and its unfolding vision under the guidance of its leaders.

Unity is vital to success.

*How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!*

Psalm 133:1

*Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.*

*There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called – one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

Ephesians 4:2–6

Important principles contributing to the ongoing growth success of the early church included: the disciples' constant attention to the teaching of the apostles, their unity as believers, regular fellowship, giving, and worship.

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

Acts 2:42–47

The teaching of the apostles gave structure and consistency to their nascent faith of the thousands of new converts. The disciples' unity of purpose and submission to the still somewhat raw leadership resulted in a growing and happy body of believers. The stresses resulting from the marked growth along with the ongoing developing structure of the new wineskin of the "church" could have proved too much for the movement as a whole, but the apostles and prophets continued to faithfully lay down the foundation of truth and experiential reality in the presence and gifts of Jesus, the Messiah, Son of God, the One who died for their sins, and was now the resurrected and glorified Lord.

As problems arose, such as ministering to those neglected in the daily food distribution, the people responded to the apostle's direction and the secondary

leadership (deacons) stepped up (to the plate!) to serve the Lord and His children in the grace and anointing of the Holy Spirit.

## V. TOGETHER WE MAKE A GREAT TEAM!

### Principles of Team Dynamics

Below are some excellent principles that, properly applied, can literally change your life in many areas: at work, at home, and in your service and work in the church.

- Don't develop a competitive spirit – be a team!
- Don't be insecure, jealous, or proud of your ability or your calling. Each member of the body has a part to play.
- Remember, when Saul was small in his own eyes, he was great. When he became insecure about David, he went astray. 1 Samuel 15:17
- A man's gift makes room for him and brings him before great men. Proverbs 18:16
- Do not promote yourself or you may be asked to move down to make room for someone else. Proverbs 25:6, 7; Luke 14:7–11
- An overseer must . . . not be a new convert (novice), so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation of the devil. *Conceited* here means “to raise or make smoke,” symbolizing pride and insolence. It intimates a smoke screen that blinds and/or deceives yourself and others. 1 Timothy 3:6
- Be open to suggestions and commands of those in leadership over you.
- Flow with the leadership and with each other. There are many leadership styles. Be open to various types of leading and expression to God. Ezekiel 47:3–8; Psalms 46:4
- Stay holy in all of your life. 1 Peter 1:13–16
- Recognize that gifting and anointing are not necessarily linked to character. (For example: the gifted, but carnal and immoral church in Corinth)
- Unholy people can be caught up in worship and prophesy when God's presence is manifest. (For example: King Saul – prophesying) 1 Samuel 10:9
- Gifting is not an authentication of calling, but faithfulness is.

It is important that we:

- Join the team.
- Work under and alongside each other with a humble and adjustable attitude.
- Find our place of calling, gifting, service, ministry and destiny.
- Serve the Lord by serving people.
- Take the gospel to every people group.
- Become a “Go-er”, “Stay-er”, “Pray-er” and “Pay-er” for the glory of

God and the advancement of His Kingdom in and through the local church.

We go to take the gospel and plant churches locally and around the world.

We stay at home in the local church to work for the Lord and keep the church strong and growing so that it can continue the work of taking the gospel around the world.

We pray so that the presence and power of the Lord, and His continued grace will be on our lives, meeting the needs of His people, and we pray for open doors to witness, for favor in our community, and many other needs.

We pay (give tithes and offerings) so that the financial burdens of gospel work and missions support and pastoral leadership can continue, and so that we can maintain a facility to prepare people to perform the purposes of God.

### **Continual Nurturing and Further Development**

Don't stop growing in your giftings and graces. Keep learning from the example of others and growing in your knowledge of the Word of God and the leading of the Spirit.

*“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever! Amen.” 2 Peter 3:18*

Answers:

Pg. 10 – lame

Pg. 11 – broken footed

Pg. 12 – broken hands, scurvy