

THE PERSONAL LIFE OF A KINGDOM LEADER

Introduction:

A Kingdom leader is:

- Concerned more about advancement of God's Kingdom than personal advancement.
-Example of Jesus: Philippians 2:1-11
-Example of Paul: Romans 9:1-4
- Motivated by a mindset of "holy violence" toward selfish ambitions and motivations, demonic strategies, discouragement, fear, passivity...
-Matthew 11:12
- Governed by a heart full of faith and perseverance to fulfill your vision
-Example of Caleb: Numbers 13:30; Joshua 14:6-12
- Securing their foundation on absolute Lordship to Jesus!
-Luke 6:46-49

A. THE CHARACTER OF A KINGDOM LEADER

A Kingdom leader will demonstrate...

I. HUMILITY

- 1 Peter 5:5-6: It must be our "clothing"; it's the fountain of grace
- Matthew 18:1-4: Necessary for entrance into the Kingdom

How can I demonstrate a spirit of humility in my life as a leader?

2. INTEGRITY

- Psalms 139:23-24: David desired a heart of integrity
- Job 33:3: Job knew that the words he spoke must be sincere.
- John 1:47: Nathanael demonstrated integrity

How can I demonstrate integrity in my life as a leader?

3. POSITIVE ATTITUDES

- Some quotes by Dr. Myles Monroe, *The Spirit of Leadership*, Whitaker House, 2005
- “The essence of leadership is not in techniques; it’s in our attitudes.” Why?*
- “Your attitude about yourself has a tremendous impact on your daily life and whether you fulfill your central purpose.” Why?*
- “You are what you believe. Your thoughts create your beliefs. Your beliefs create your convictions, your convictions create your attitude, your attitude controls your perception, and your perception dictates your behavior.”*
- “When you discover that the Creator made you with the same nature that he has, than you understand that your desire to lead is natural.”*
- Nehemiah 2:17, 20; 3:14; 6:9: Nehemiah was a successful leader because of his attitude of confidence in God’s call and provision:

What are areas in my life where I want to develop a more positive attitude?

4. DECISIVENESS

- Revelation 3:14-15: God will not tolerate “lukewarmness.”
- James 1:8: Double mindedness leads to instability
- Joshua 24:14-15: Joshua was decisive in his convictions and vision

In what areas of my life is God calling me to be more decisive?

5. DETERMINATION

- James 1:2-4: There will be determination to persevere in the face of trials.
- Luke 13:32; Philippians 3:12-14: There will be determination to fulfill the vision.
- I Corinthians 9:24-27: There will be a determination to exercise discipline in my life.
- Ephesians 6:10-20: There will be a determination to take a stand against the strategies of Satan.

In the points listed above, where do I struggle the most with determination? What steps will I take to develop greater determination in this particular area as a leader?

6. PURITY

- Matthew 5:8; Psalms 24:3-4: Necessary to see God
- II Timothy 2:22: A passionate desire to flee evil and pursue righteousness
- Proverbs 22:11: Leads to honor

What steps will I take to maintain a life of purity?

B. THE DISCIPLINE OF A KINGDOM LEADER

Ministry is the overflow of the heart. A heart that is fully surrendered to the lordship of Jesus will have a desire to grow in discipline. Discipline must flow out of an understanding of God's grace and not legalism. A Kingdom leader's personal life of discipline will greatly determine their fruitfulness in ministry. Why?

The Kingdom leader will demonstrate growing spiritual disciplines in the following areas:

1. **Quality quiet time**

- Mark 1:35: Jesus demonstrated the need for this in his life.
- Isaiah 30:15: Quiet times provide a source of strength for life's battles.
- Psalms 46:10: Quiet times create a fuller awareness of who God is.

Some helpful hints:

- Have a designated place.
- Be creative in how you do it to provide variety.
- Find the best time that fits your alertness.

2. **Devotion to prayer**

- Hebrews 4:14-16: View prayer as a privilege and not an obligation.
- Matthew 7:7-8: Prayer opens the door for God to work in our life.
- Matthew 6:10: Prayer establishes God's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.
- Matthew 16:19: Prayer enforces God's will on earth.
- Acts 2:42: The success of the early church was their devotion to prayer.

Some helpful hints:

- Pray with an audible voice, even while you walk.
- Pray for specific individuals and situations on a regular basis.
- Pray with another person.
- Take time to listen to God as to how you should pray.

3. **Daily reading of the Bible**

- Psalm 119: Numerous reasons why we should read God's Word
- Hebrews 4:12: God's Word brings to light the true nature of our heart.

Some helpful hints:

- Variety of ways to approach God's Word is the key to keeping reading from becoming only a routine to endure.
 - Take a few verses and meditate on them, writing in a journal
 - Read a few chapters a day from a particular book
 - Move back and forth from the N.T. to the O.T.
 - Include frequent reading of the Psalms
 - Do a word study using a concordance
- Pray the scriptures

4. **A life of order and discipline**

- Genesis 1: The universe and all of creation have a divine order. We are the highest order of creation and it would seem that our lives should have order.
- Proverbs 1:2,7; 23:23: Solomon points out the importance of discipline. To the extent that we walk in order and discipline, will we be effective in our life and ministry. Why is this true?

Some helpful hints:

- a. Ask the Lord to reveal what areas you need order and discipline in your life.
- b. Write it down and be accountable to another person as to how you will work at this.
- c. Receive God's grace to walk in discipline.

5. Accountability

-Luke 10:17: The "seventy two" that Jesus sent out reported back to Jesus.
-Malachi 3:16: Those who "fear the Lord" will speak often to one another.
-Acts 14:27: Paul and Barnabas were accountable to the church.
Accountability helps to enhance: motivation; encouragement; safety; discipline; and demonstrates a spirit of humility.

Some helpful hints:

- a. Seek an accountability partner to whom you can share specific goals.
- b. Be open and honest in your reporting.

C. THE STRENGTH OF A KINGDOM LEADER

The strength of a Kingdom leader is developed and rooted in their understanding of who they are in Christ. While skills of all kinds, spiritual gifts, and relational abilities are all important, one's knowledge of who they are destined to be and are "in Christ" is the key to effective leadership. Embracing the truths of God's Word in one's personal life will develop strength in a leader to endure the multitude of challenges that come to a leader. Here are some basic but powerful truths in Romans 5 thru 8.

- 1. I stand secure in God's grace – Romans 5:2**
- 2. I am secure in God's love – Romans 5:8**
- 3. I have the ability to "reign in life" through the abundant provision of God's grace – Romans 5:17**
- 4. I'm no longer a "slave to sin." – Romans 6:6-14**
- 5. I'm a "slave to righteousness." – Romans 6:15-23**
- 6. I have victory over every struggle through Jesus! – Romans 7:21-25**
- 7. I no longer live under condemnation – Romans 8:1-2**
- 8. I have power through the Holy Spirit to overcome my sinful nature – Romans 8:5-10**

9. **I have the same resurrection power in my life that raised Jesus from the dead – Romans 8:11**
10. **I have been adopted by Abba Father providing all the security that I need – Romans 8:15-17**
11. **I have a personal intercessor who know every single need I have – Romans 26-27**
12. **I have assurance that God works for the good on my behalf – Romans 8:28**
13. **I have a generous God who freely gives me all things – Romans 8:31-32**
14. **I have a God who will allow nothing to separate me from his love – Romans 8:35**
15. **I am more than a conqueror – Romans 8:37**

CONCLUSION:

- The development of the personal life of a Kingdom leader is a life-long challenge.
- The fruitfulness and effectiveness of our life as a Kingdom leader will be determined by the choices we make to walk in obedience to God's will based on His Word.
- God provides every resource necessary to live, work, and walk as a Kingdom leader.
- Here is my heart desire for you: Col. 1:9-14 - *For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. [10] And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, [11] being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully [12] giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. [13] For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, [14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*