

**A Global Call
For
Christian Leadership**

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Hand Out

Introduction: Discussion

Let us ponder for a moment:

Why is it so difficult to recognize displays of leadership today ?

Are we in a leadership vacuum ?

Is failed leadership behind the failure of moral and ethical patterns of service?

The first question we need to explore is – What is leadership ?

1. Do we have an adequate understanding of what leadership entails ?
2. Is there a Christian view of leadership that could make a difference in these difficult times?

Most of us define leadership as decisive, appropriate and timely action on the part of a person who holds a position of authority.

When we say there is no leadership, what we typically mean is that we feel like nothing is happening to deal with the problems we see growing.

While there may be some truth to that statement, “we don’t seem to have strong leadership,” I think this presentation will help us discover that the truth is that good leaders are in short supply in the church because of the misconceptions about leadership.

Let us explore a secular perspective on leadership.

The standard model for leadership depends on learned skills, experiences and decision making ability.

Learned skills , experiences and decision-making ability are regarded as the key attributes of leadership in a secular perspective.

In a secular perspective on leadership the emphasis is on doing—accomplishing tasks, achieving goals—**and little attention is given to relationships.**

With this definition, we tend to think of leaders in terms of their **authority** and **management skills.**

With this concept, **service flows up rather than down.**

We serve the leader.

We do what the leader requires to achieve HIS or HER goals.

The relationship between the leader and his followers is just a means to an end.

Within the concept of a secular perspective of leadership vision comes from the leader or the needs of the organization as defined by the leader.

The potential of the leader and organization is virtually unlimited, given enough skill and knowledge of the leader.

But with this concept, there is no room for God or the spiritual dimension.

This type of leadership squeezes God out of the picture, and out of our ministry's day-to-day activities.

Let us explore a Christian Perspective on Leadership

Christian leadership acknowledges a Triune God.

A Christian perspective on leadership involves relationships.

A Christian perspective of leadership is about **spirituality**, **character** and **community.**

The idea of the presence of God's Spirit makes each one in a ministry feel a direct connection with the goals of the group.

In a Christian perspective on leadership Character is critical!

Character is the conduit for producing successful Christian service and leadership.

In a Christian perspective on leadership we lead because of **who we are in Christ.**

It is our **relationship with Christ** that works to form and shape our person.

Our character, who we are in Christ, our relationship with Christ is what flows **DOWN** from the leadership to the followers.

In a Christian perspective on leadership it is the Christian leader's **obedience to Christ** that produces service by example.

Jesus was very careful to say to those He led, "Follow me!"

"Follow me," "Do like I do," "Believe like I believe," "Trust like I trust," "Live for the Lord like I live for the Lord," is the highest calling of Christian leadership.

We make disciples of those who follow **our** Godly example.

We bring those who emulate our life of obedience into a deeper fellowship with God **BY EXAMPLE. ("Follow Me!")**
This is how we build a sense of community.

How do we Define Christian Leadership?

Christian leadership is an art form of worshipping Christ.
Christian leadership is a teaching and servicing process that **envisions, influences, shapes and enhances** so that both leaders and followers realize God's goals for change within their community.

Let us actively explore the following areas of discussion for sound leadership:

1. **Creativity**—Leadership is a creative process that comes from individual expression. Leadership comes in many sizes and shapes.
2. **Worship**—Christian leadership is **always** sacrificial.
3. **Teaching**—is the **primary process** of leadership. Christian leaders are **"teachers"**, and influence (**by Godly example**) bringing others along in the learning/shaping development process.
4. **Service**—the **vehicle of the leader is the needs of others**. Service flows out of **obedience to God**, who directs our leadership into service to others within our community.
5. **Vision**—we measure our leaders by their ability to **interpret God's vision**. Without a vision people perish.
6. **Shapes and enhances**—leadership is a **sculpturing exercise** that creates and builds in positive ways.
7. **Leaders**—leadership is **not a solo event**. It involves a team, and its goal is empowerment of other leaders.
8. **Followers**—they are an integral and potent force in the leadership process. We judge leaders by the quality of the ministry community **formed under their leadership**.

Selected Scriptures
Qualities of a Christian Leader

I Samuel 16: 1-13 " King David "

2 Timothy 3: 1-9 , 12-14 " Difficult Times "

Mark 11 : 22-26 " Have Faith in God "

John 20:27 " Be a Believer "

Ephesians 4:11-13