

## LEADERSHIP

"Leadership must be in the hands of few, but ministry in the hands of many." This is a powerful statement that we as believers must really take heed to, but ultimately we must get an understanding of the importance of leadership and the benefits of following leadership, to help advance the body of Christ in ministry.

**WHAT IS A LEADER?** A leader is a person who rules, guides or inspires others.

**LEADERSHIP** is the "process of social influence in which one person can enlist the aid and support of others in the accomplishment of a common task."

**FOLLOWER** is a person who accepts the leadership of another.

God is the one who appointed and authorized leaders, with Him being the Supreme ruler of all. God expects us all to follow Him. It is up to the leader to obey and adhere to God's commands. In doing so not only does the leader please God, but he will cause followers to walk in obedience to God which will ultimately cause them to profit in everything they do. Let's get one thing straight, it is not the leader's job to make his followers live the way that God wants them to live, that would be impossible. The leader must follow God and be the example to all so that they will see what they must do to please God. It is safe to say in order to be a good leader you must be an even better follower of God and that goes for everyone. Here are five key things that classify a Godly leader:

1. Godly leaders **LEAD BY EXAMPLE**
2. Godly leaders know how to **SERVE OTHERS**
3. Godly leaders know how to **HUMBLE THEMSELVES**
4. Godly leaders have a **DESIRE TO PLEASE GOD**
5. Godly leaders have the **FAVOR OF GOD**

**Where there are Godly leaders, there will be Godly leadership and with Godly leadership, there will be order and structure, so that those who are following will be able to execute any given task set before them.**

Good leaders possess the confidence in their ability to lead others. Confidence causes people to follow, especially when others can see the hand of God (FAVOR) upon your life. There are many good leaders in the Bible, but let's take a look at Nehemiah.

Nehemiah was not only a great leader, but he was a great servant. He was King Artaxerxes' cup-bearer. Most importantly he was a man of God who submitted himself under leadership and had favor with God. Nehemiah saw that there was a need to build the wall of Jerusalem because it had been broken down, but he being a Godly leader did not go to the King or anyone else first. He went before the Lord fasting, praying and interceding that the Lord would hear his cry (Nehemiah 1:1-11). After Nehemiah sought the Lord he was able to present his requests to

the King and the King did as Nehemiah requested according to the good hand of God that was on his life (Nehemiah 2:4-8).

Nehemiah was the one that God had chosen to lead this mission. There was only **ONE** leader or one **HEAD**.

Since the beginning of time God always chooses a person to be the head. Whenever there is more than one head over a mission there will be problems. This is the reason God places one leader over many people, so that there can be order and structure. That's why we only have one pastor over a local church, but the pastor will decide if he wants an assistant and who he wants to run different auxiliaries. Have you ever seen two heads on one body? It just wouldn't work. One would want to go one direction and the other would try and go in another direction. This would leave the body all confused and without any clear direction. God gave us the perfect example of how leadership must be in the hands of few. He revealed to us the GodHead, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. These three make up one because they work together, you can't have one without the other because they are one in the same. In the Old Testament God the Father was speaking and would appoint leaders to tell the world of the coming Messiah. When God the Son (Jesus) came on the scene He would talk about His father who sent Him, but also told us He would send us a comforter that would lead and guide us when he left. Now that God the Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost) is here He testifies of Jesus Christ returning for the Children of God. God showed us through this that there only needed to be one leader at a time and that we should allow the leader, to choose leaders, to lead followers in the ways of God, in order to build the Kingdom of God.

Nehemiah led followers to build. He faced opposition on every side in many different ways (Nehemiah chapter 4, 5 and 6), but he used Godly wisdom and knew who he could depend on to fight on his behalf. Nehemiah also had many willing workers who believed in the words that he spoke and the example he showed of being a leader. They knew that the hand of God was on his life. Through Nehemiah's leadership and his willingness to obey God, God blessed them to complete the wall in only 52 days (Nehemiah 6:15). The Bible lets us know that even their enemies knew that it could have only been by the hand of God that they were able to complete all the building in such a short time (Nehemiah 6:16).

I Believe that all the real saints of God have an ability to lead in some way, shape, form, or fashion, but we must keep in mind that we can't all lead at the same time in the same place. We must take on the mind of Christ and learn how to serve (Philippians 2:5-8). We must humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God (1 Peter 5:6), so that when it is our time to lead, we will know how to follow the leading of the Holy Ghost because we learned how to follow the leader that God gave us.

***It only takes one Commander to lead an entire army, but it takes an entire army to win a war.***

Let us remember that, "Leadership must be in the hands of few, but ministry in the hands of many."

Anonymous