

## MULTIPLYING LEADERS | Eph 4:1-16 | Geldart | Tru Community Church | 11/17/24

### 1. Welcome

- a. Connect Cards
- b. Giving

### 2. Announcements

- a. New Website!
  - i. With podcast
- b. Pie Night Next week
- c. Baptisms Dec 1 – ADVENT

### 3. [1] Wrapping Up Multiply sermon series today!

- a. Has been our fall focus – started sept 8
- b. Sharing time at the end

#### c. [2] Recap sermons:

- i. Jesus's call to make disciples of all peoples, spreading out all the way around the world
- ii. We're all called to make disciples that make disciples
- iii. Must do life together in small Groups that plant Groups
- iv. And Churches that plant churches
- v. We talked about 4 chair discipling way to think about stages of dship
- vi. Including the need to intentionally disciple our kids and youth
- vii. We talked about 13 misconceptions about how to make disciples
- viii. The call away from shame and isolation toward active engagement with our neighbors
- ix. The call to share the good news with others
- x. And how ultimately we can only do kingdom building multiplication work if we are continually and intimately connected to Jesus as the Source.

### 4. Today we're going to cap it off by talking about multiplying leaders

- a. Who is a leader
- b. And who do they do

### 5. Today: 2 kinds of leaders

- a. Leaders with authority/position
- b. Leaders with influence
- c. Bible talks about the need for both
- d. We need leaders who have the position and authority to lead in the body of Christ
- e. But we also need ..... everyone else.
  - i. And not just as attendees, consumers of our services

ii. But as ENGAGED ACTIVE WORKERS, INFLUENCERS -- MINISTERS

6. [3] Ephesians 4: 11-16

- a. **POSITION LEADERS:** <sup>11</sup> And he [JESUS] gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,
- b. **[4] INFLUENCE LEADERS:** <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. <sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.
- c. **This is God's Vision for the church. – For Our Church**

7. **PRAY**

8. Institutional vs Organic Models of Church

a. [5] Traditional, Institutional model

- i. Leadership is just one or a few – PRIESTS/MINISTERS
  - 1. Every one else – laity – just lays around in rows and consumes. Like infants
  - 2. Who never really mature. But sway back and forth based on winds of teaching – and are completely dependent on their positional leaders.

b. [6] Organic Model

- i. Leadership is disbursed to everyone!
- ii. Everyone is involved and working. Doing their part
- iii. Still leaders, even positional ones,
- iv. But everyone is active in influencing – doing the work of ministry
- v. No one is laying around
- vi. Everyone is a minister – a leader.
- vii. And the body grows by building ITSELF UP in love.

c. THIS IS THE BIBLICAL PICTURE OF BODY LIFE – and leadership within it.

9. If we're going to pursue the mission of Jesus to make disciples who make disciples and plant churches that plant churches, we need --- LEADERS

- a. Both positional and influential
- b. So we need to be raising up both as we grow and “do church”

i. As the body GROWS

10. Yes, we can do some of this with imparting information.

- a. Sermons
- b. Trainings
- c. Classes
- d. Studies

11. But there's no substitute for actually practicing it.

- a. Rolling up your sleeves
- b. Getting your hands dirty
- c. Getting engaged.
- d. Getting experience
- e. What works well
- f. What failed miserably
- g. And getting better at it

12. So that:

- a. Positional Leaders are ready to go when planting is ready (groups and churches)
- b. And influence leaders are always at work, doing the work of ministry. Leading and influencing others through love for Christ. With word and deed.
- c. BOTH TAKE PRACTICE

13. How do we get leaders this practice?

- a. KDWC – leadership cohort
  - i. Some in our church have gone through this, and are going through it now
  - ii. [7] One of the books they're studying is called Your Leadership Edge
  - iii. Two of the KLC's foundational principles of leadership are:
    - 1. Leadership is an activity, not a position
    - 2. Anyone can lead, anytime, anywhere
- b. This is totally compatible with the vision of leadership modeled in the Bible and what we're talking about in this series

14.7 Ways to lead with INFLUENCE

- a. [8] Engage actively with a LG
  - i. Come to LG looking for people to encourage, ways to serve
  - ii. Volunteer to take responsibility for something in the life of the group
    - 1. Organize meals / care for needy members
    - 2. Lead a study/discussion
    - 3. Pray out loud

4. Be willing to share something below the surface to model this kind of transparent and vulnerable interaction
5. Practice giving attention to others
  - a. Ask good questions
  - b. Learn to draw out people as an act of care, love, and honor
6. Step onto the LG leadership team and learn/practice actually leading a group
- iii. Embrace the vision to multiply groups by volunteering to help start new group.
  1. We're in the process of figuring out how to plant another life group
  2. Maybe you need to commit to being a part of that next group, help it launch and flourish. Come talk to me.

**b. [9] Get in the dship process**

- i. Get discipled, practice, grow
- ii. Begin discipling others

**c. [10] Serve on a Tru Ministry Team**

- i. Kids Ministry
- ii. Youth
- iii. Music
- iv. Tech
- v. Hospitality
- vi. Outreach
- vii. Building

**d. [11] Offer your skills informally to care for others**

- i. Auto repair
- ii. Financial planning
- iii. Construction/remodeling
- iv. Take food to those sick or in need
- v. Administration gift is huge
- vi. Counseling and soul care
- vii. Guest followup
- viii. Lead an equipping seminar on
  1. How to read the bible
  2. Prayer
  3. OT theology
  4. gracious generosity
  5. caring for the poor

## 6. evangelism

### e. [12] Engage your actual neighbors

- i. Build relationships that can bear the weight of truth
- ii. Neighbors who live around you, at your work, school, etc

### 15.[13] RAISE OTHERS UP to lead

- a. A good leader doesn't just do the work of ministry, but HELPS RAISE UP OTHERS to do the same
  - i. RAISING up leaders, body building ITSELF UP in love
- b. What influence do you already have to help others take their own steps of leadership?
- c. ICNU conversations
- d. Deal with our own fears, pride
  - i. Most of Our fruit is supposed to grow on other people's trees

### 16.[14] Lead with a limp

- i. Contrary to what many of us think, Good leaders aren't the experts who always get it right, and have their act together
- b. Take heart!
  - i. The Bible is completely – like 99.99999% -- filled with leaders – both positional and influential, who struggled and failed.
    - a. Why not 100%? – JC!
  - ii. Who were very imperfect
  - iii. In fact, many, explicitly led out with a limp.
    - 1. Rather than try to hide or pretend.
    - 2. Jacob wrestled with God, and God his hip thrown out – walked with a limp ever since – one that taught him humility and dependence
    - 3. Moses had a speech disorder (stutterer)
    - 4. Samson had a weakness for idol worshipping women
      - a. Cost him his position, eyeballs, and eventually his life
    - 5. David – Psalms about his sins and failures
    - 6. Peter – lots of failures, public ones. But he kept going under the banner of grace, as he learned it himself
    - 7. PAUL – tended to be rash, wasn't as good a speaker as others, and had some sort of "thorn in the flesh" that hindered his ministry
      - a. Many scholars think it was some sort of eye condition
    - 8. And his most famous disciple, Timothy, was insecure and timid, anxious to the point of having chronic upset stomach issues.

iv. And yet God used them

1. And many specifically led out with their limp, not trying to hide it, but as evidence to all that the one they pointed to was the perfect one.
2. Paul, in speaking of the “thorn in his flesh” →
3. [15] 2 Cor 12: <sup>8</sup> Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. <sup>10</sup> That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

v. If you take steps of leadership, I encourage you to lead with a limp

1. As the Gospel invites us to do. God’s power is made PERFECT, in our weakness.
    - a. What an insane and profound truth we all need to hear and digest!
  2. Not only does it help you lead out of his strength and not your own
  3. But it also signals to others that neither are they expected to be perfect, and thus they can actually lead out too!
- c. One of the most surprising things those I’ve disciples have reflected to me over the years is how my willingness to be open about my struggles, sins, insecurities, fears, anxieties, has been key for them to both trust me and want to grow to become like me
- i. That’s crazy!
- d. I spent most of my young adult life trying to HIDE MY insecurities, sins, and failures
- i. Especially some of my most embarrassing failures and addictions
  - ii. Things I swore I’d take to my grave
  - iii. But the Lord gently led me along a path of healing that included me sharing those struggles with others, and inviting them along the journey with me
  - iv. And even areas of my life and story that I thought most disqualifying and shameful, he transmuted into areas of deep and profound ministry. – some of my most fruitful!

- e. I stand before you today as a deeply flawed and imperfect leader.
  - i. And yet God has been faithful to and through me so far.
  - ii. And learning to lead with a limp has been an unexpected joy and rest for me.
  - iii. And I suspect it will be for you too.
- f. What's your limp? And how might God be inviting you to lead out in spite of it, and in some cases, BECAUSE OF IT?

### 17.[16] Applications

#### a. [17] Take a next step into practicing leadership at Tru

- i. What might it look like for you to take a next step of leadership?
  - 1. Particularly INFLUENCE leadership?
  - 2. Servant leadership
  - 3. Hint, we try to pick positional leaders from a pool of people who are ALREADY PRACTICING influence leadership!
  - 4. YOU ARE CALLED TO LEAD OUT at TRU!**
  - 5. And we NEED YOU if we're going to really go after this Multiplying Kingdom vision He's giving us.**
- ii. What's a next step of growth you could take to become a more engaged INFLUENCE leader at Tru?
- iii. What do you need in order to take that step? (talk to a current leader? Get more equipped? Embrace courage and just-do-it?)
- iv. How do you need to more intentionally lead with a limp?

#### b. [18] Help OTHERS take next steps of leadership

- i. Who do you need to come alongside to help them take next steps of their own leadership?
- ii. What ICNU conversations do I need to schedule?

### 18.[19] Sharing

- a. What's something from this Multiply Series that's stuck out to you?
- b. What next steps are you sensing God asking you (us) to take in response?
- c. What could be the benefits/fruit of this kind of focus for Tru?
- d. What could be the challenges/costs of doing church with this Multiplication focus?
- e. How have you seen God at work on this theme over the last few months?

### 19. Pray to end





**multiply**

GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES



# multiply series

1. Go and Make Disciples
2. Multiply Churches
3. Multiply Disciples
4. Discipling the Next Generations
5. Finding Yourself in Discipleship
6. How to Make Disciples
7. Multiply Neighbors
8. Being Contagious
9. Multiplying Small Groups
10. Bearing Fruit that Lasts
11. Multiplying Leaders



# ephesians 4:11-16

**[POSITION LEADERS:]** <sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,

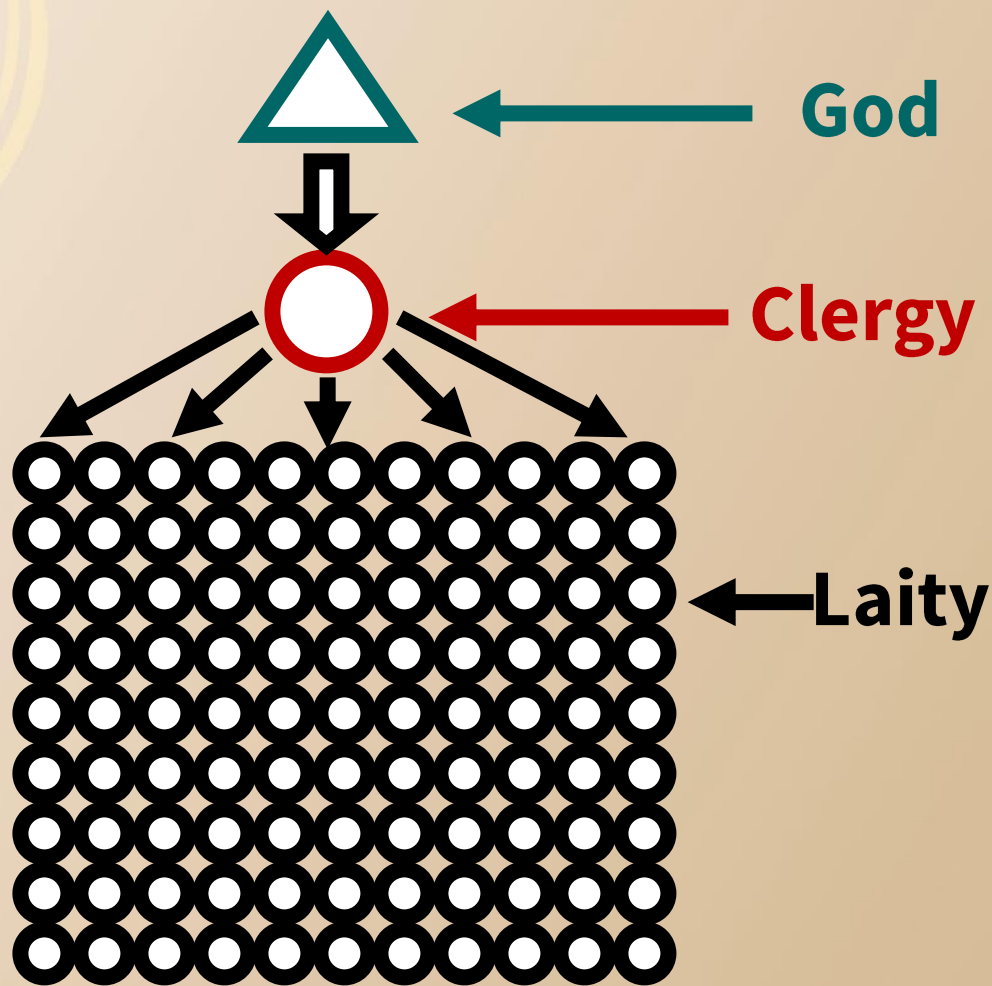


# ephesians 4:11-16

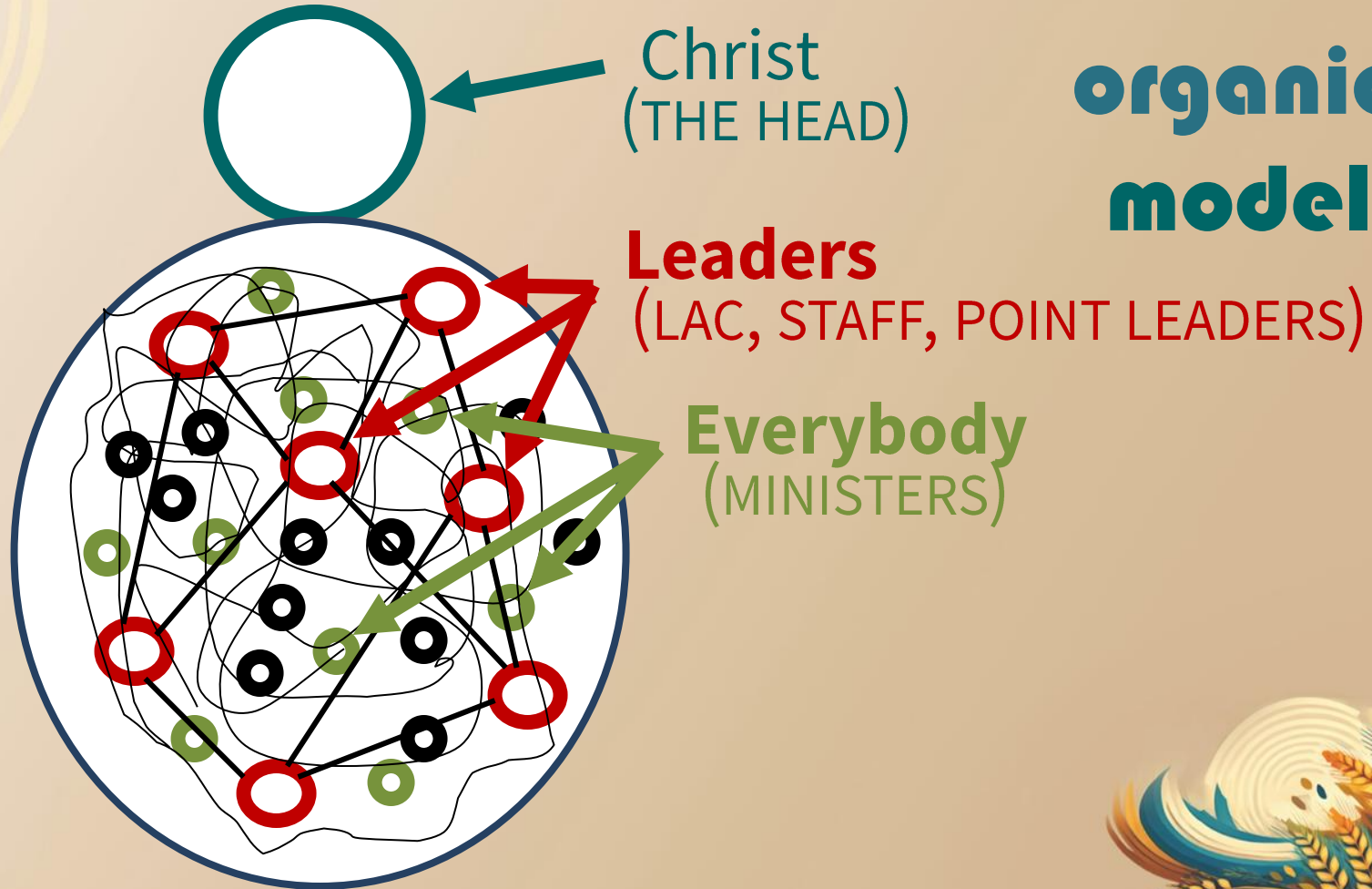
**[POSITION LEADERS:]** <sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, **[INFLUENCE LEADERS:]** <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. <sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.



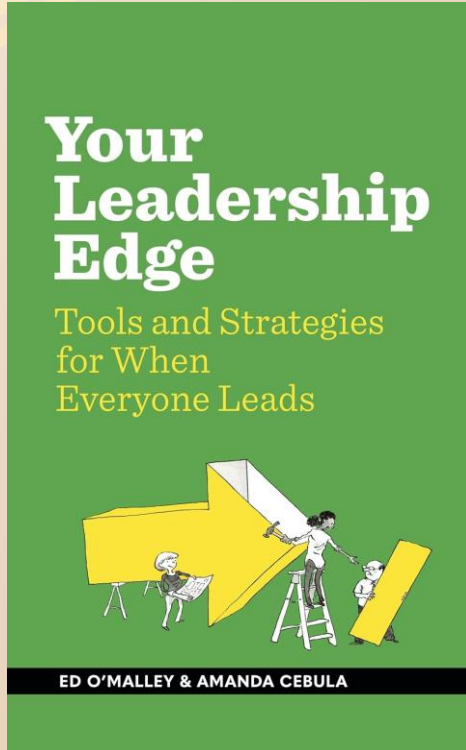
# institutional model



# organic model



# your leadership edge



- Leadership is an activity, not a position
- Anyone can lead, anytime, anywhere





# leading with influence

1. Engage with a small group (Life Group)



# leading with influence

1. Engage with a small group (Life Group)
2. Get in the discipleship process



# leading with influence

1. Engage with a small group (Life Group)
2. Get in the discipleship process
3. Serve on a Tru Ministry Team



# leading with influence

1. Engage with a small group (Life Group)
2. Get in the discipleship process
3. Serve on a Tru Ministry Team
4. Informally offer your skills to care for others



# leading with influence

1. Engage with a small group (Life Group)
2. Get in the discipleship process
3. Serve on a Tru Ministry Team
4. Informally offer your skills to care for others
5. Engage your actual neighbors



# leading with influence

1. Engage with a small group (Life Group)
2. Get in the discipleship process
3. Serve on a Tru Ministry Team
4. Informally offer your skills to care for others
5. Engage your actual neighbors
6. Raise others up to lead





# leading with influence

1. Engage with a small group (Life Group)
2. Get in the discipleship process
3. Serve on a Tru Ministry Team
4. Informally offer your skills to care for others
5. Engage your actual neighbors
6. Raise others up to lead
7. Lead with a limp



# leading with influence

## 2 CORINTHIANS 12:8-10

Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore **I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses**, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

7. Lead with a limp



# applications



# applications

## 1. Take a next step of practicing leadership.

- What do I need in order to take that step?
- How do I need to more intentionally lead with a limp?



# applications

## 1. Take a next step of practicing leadership.

- What do I need in order to take that step?
- How do I need to more intentionally lead with a limp?

## 2. Help others take next steps of leadership.

- Who do I need to come alongside to help them take next steps of their own leadership?
- What ICNU conversations do I need to schedule?



# multiply sharing

1. Go and Make Disciples
2. Multiply Churches
3. Multiply Disciples
4. Discipling the Next Generations
5. Finding Yourself in Discipleship
6. How to Make Disciples
7. Multiply Neighbors
8. Being Contagious
9. Multiplying Small Groups
10. Bearing Fruit that Lasts
11. Multiplying Leaders

- What's something from this Multiply series that's **stuck out** to you?
- What **next steps** are you sensing God asking you/us to take in response?
- What could be the **benefits/fruit** of this kind of focus for Tru?
- What could be the **challenges/costs** of doing church with this Multiplication focus?
- How have you **seen God at work** on this theme over the last few months?