

“8 Things Your Pastor Needs From You” - Kevin Moore

1 - Build Smooth Systems of Ministry

If there is something that you do more than one time, you need to build a system.

God works in systems and processes. The human body that God created is full of different systems that all work without you or me having to think about them. Our bodies breathe, pump blood, divide cells, and digest food—all at the same time without us having to work hard to make it happen.

This is how your pastor wants the student ministry to run. Each week, he is depending on you and your team to conduct a service, preach a strong message, follow up with students, serve the needs of parents, and reach out to local school campuses—all without mass confusion, clutter, or unnecessary work for him and others on staff.

The only way this takes place is if you set up smooth systems for all the departments of your youth program.

Questions:

What systems do you currently have? What can you do to make them better?

What are you doing more than twice that you need a system for?

2 - Be a 360-Degree Leader

Everything rises and falls on leadership, and leadership rises and falls on communication. Communication is a huge key to the success or failure of your church.

Success travels at the speed of communication.

Your senior pastor has delegated the task of shepherding the student ministry to you. That means you are the leader. If you are the leader, that means you are responsible for the flow of information in and out of your department.

Your pastor wants you to make sure that all the proper information is not just passed up to him but also passed left and right to the other ministry departments in the church, as well as passed down to all your team members and volunteers.

It is your responsibility to make sure that communication easily flows up, down, left, and right so that all the components of the church can work together to accomplish the vision.

Question: Who is above you, beside you, and below you who needs the information?

When you are meeting, someone needs to ask these questions:

- Who above me needs to be informed, kept in the loop, or talked to?
- Who beside me—other departments or leaders—do I need to contact, inform, or confirm with?
- What needs to be communicated or passed on to those who are under us on the team?

3 - Regularly Inspect What You Are Over

People don't do what you expect; they do what you inspect.

If you are involved in an area, take ownership of that area.

Asking questions is not micromanaging. Asking questions is good stewardship.

If you take ownership of your area of ministry by casting good vision, releasing authority, and following up effectively, you are being a good steward of what you have been given.

I read somewhere one time that when you are faithful over a little, you will be faithful over much. If you want a raise, promotion, or more success in ministry, be faithful with what you've been given, and you just might get it.

Questions:

What does inspecting your area of ministry look like?

What could it look like?

4 - Pay Attention to Details

It's not the big things that will hurt you; it's the small details that will kill you.

Here is how you can lead without getting killed by details:

1. Set a goal.
2. Establish the steps to completion.
3. Follow through until completed.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3.

When you pay attention to the details of your department, it means your pastor doesn't have to. If your pastor has to take care of the minutiae of your ministry, why does he need you? He doesn't.

Look carefully at the details of your ministry, or you may soon be looking for another place of employment.

Question:

What details could you get better at?

5 - Confront Problems Quickly

One of the worst statements you can ever make as a leader is, **"I'll take care of this problem later."**

I've found that if I don't take care of my problems quickly, my problems quickly take care of me.

Your senior pastor wants you to be a great problem solver.

The story of David and Goliath is one of the best problem-solving illustrations. In the story of David and Goliath, we see that David did three things.

1. He acknowledged the problem.

He saw the nine-foot-tall problem.

He did not run from it. He did not ignore it. He acknowledged it.

2. He looked for the best option for solving the problem.

David asked himself, those around him, and his authority figures, "What should I do?"

Should I leave? Should I let someone else fight? If I fight, what am I going to fight with?

He finally came to the conclusion that the best way to handle the problem was for him to fight Goliath using a slingshot.

3. He handled the problem quickly.

Once David knew his plan of attack, he ran down the valley and quickly handled the problem.

The three things David did are the exact same things your pastor wants you to do when problems arise:

1. Acknowledge the problem.
2. Look for the best option for solving the problem.
3. Handle the problem quickly.

Your pastor has plenty of confrontations and problems to deal with on a weekly basis. Because of this, he wants you to do the best you can to solve the problems in your department quickly and correctly.

6 - Have Good Financial Stewardship

Scripture teaches that if we are not faithful with money, we will not be faithful with spiritual things either.

Your pastor wants you to be a good financial steward of not only your own money but also the church budget allocated to you and your department.

Here are some good questions to ask before spending church money:

1. Why do we need this item?
2. Is there a way to get the same result without spending any money?
3. Have I shopped around for the best price, checking at least three stores?
4. If I get this item, will it negatively affect other parts of my budget?

7 - Have Strong People Skills

The greatest asset in every area of your life is people.

People build buildings.

People give money.

People serve in ministry.

And it is people we are trying to reach with the gospel.

The more you master the art of connecting with people, the more success you will have.

Here are six secrets to great people skills:

1. Smile.
2. Look people in the eye.
3. Seek to hear before being heard.
4. Ask more questions about them and talk less about yourself.
5. See them for who they could be, not just who they currently are.
6. Under-promise and over-deliver.

8 - Give Your Heart More Than Your Talent

Your talent and \$3.00 will get you a cheap cup of coffee.

Everyone has talent.

Everyone has a skill set.

Everyone has something they are naturally good at.

But not everyone has heart.

Your pastor is less concerned about your talent than he is about your heart.

Your talent and your abilities may have gotten you where you are today, but it will be your character, your integrity, and your humility that determine where you are in the future.

If you will take the next six months and lead with your heart, God will take you farther than you ever dreamed.