

# “In Remembrance”

*A thought from Pastor Gabe Skillo.*



*“If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ”*

I Timothy 4:1-6, 11

## LEADERSHIP

### HOW TO BECOME A LEADER AT BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Some may think that leadership is a title to be given. However, it is much more than that.

Leadership in a church works much the same as leadership in other places; take the military for example. The first step in becoming a leader in the military is signing up; think of this as salvation. The next step of becoming a leader in the military would be putting on the uniform; think of this as baptism. It would be silly for someone to think that, at that point, they have earned some sort of leadership title. The next step would be boot camp preparing them for service; think of this as discipleship. An MOS (job description) would be given; think of this as basic Christian behavior and actions. Just because a description of what to do has been defined, it doesn't make that soldier a leader yet. From there, his reliability, faithfulness, diligence, response to authority, level of commitment, ability to be a team player and work ethic all play an important role in becoming a leader.

Likewise, a church is made up of soldiers in God's army. The Lord is our general. Under Him there are officers delegated to oversee a corps, division, brigade, battalion, company, platoon or a squad. A soldier progressing to oversee more is dependent upon their level of faithfulness (among other things) to what has been entrusted to them. This progression begins at the lowest of levels and the easiest of tasks.

In the Bible, Paul teaches Timothy this concept in 2 Timothy 2:2, “*And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*” In other words, Paul was stating that there IS a need to delegate things to other men. There IS a need in the ministry to entrust certain areas to many people. The more people get involved, the more effective the ministry will become. However, there are requirements given in this verse.

#### THE INDIVIDUAL MUST BE FAITHFUL – FIRST

Paul taught Timothy that, in order to entrust certain areas to an individual, an individual must first be faithful. Why? Proverbs 25:19 answers that best, “*Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint.*” Unless someone is faithful first, the process of delegating things to them will not be enjoyable and it will not make the ministry easier. For example, how can one become a key player in a certain ministry, with specific things entrusted to their care, if they can't even show up faithfully? Faithfulness is the most basic and the most necessary attribute to find in a leader. All the skill or knowledge in the world cannot be used without faithfulness. Faithful Christians are rare. Consider Proverbs 20:6, “*Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?*” There are many people that possess qualities of leadership, but, without faithfulness first, they will not be able to be relied upon. Another key reason for faithfulness is this; people follow in a leader's footsteps. If a “leader” is not faithful, all that he would be doing is producing a bunch of unfaithful Christians. Faithfulness is key. A pastor would not be following the Bible, if he allowed people to lead, with a major responsibility or title, before they were faithful.

#### THE INDIVIDUAL MUST BE ABLE

Just because there are opportunities in the ministry, it doesn't mean that every opportunity will fit every person. A person can be “able” to teach others also for 3 apparent reasons:

1. They are faithful first. So, that would make them “able” to teach others. After all, if they aren’t there, how would they be able to fulfill their MOS?
2. They have a natural inclination in that area. Part of the job of the pastor is to find areas people will become successful; not necessarily force them to do something they aren’t good at and despise.
3. They have received the necessary training and/or education. As a construction worker wouldn’t be “able” to build a house before receiving proper training, a Christian wouldn’t be “able” to be very effective in certain areas without training and/or education.

The decision to become faithful/able is an individual choice. It doesn’t matter how badly the pastor or anyone else wants someone to lead; they must first be faithful and show themselves able. There is a great need in churches for faithful and able people. In the book of Exodus, Moses was beginning to “wear away” due to the burdens of ministry. He received some wise counsel that completely fixed the problem! In Exodus 18:21 his counsel told him to, “... *provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:*” This was wise counsel! Without a doubt, since its in the Bible, it should be followed. We see again, in this verse, that someone needs to be “able”. Beyond being “able”, there were a few additional things:

#### SUCH AS FEAR GOD

In both Psalm 111:10a and Proverbs 9:10a it says, “*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom...*” Then, Proverbs 1:7a tells up that, “*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge...*” When someone does not fear God, they will be void of His wisdom and His knowledge. So, fearing God is a requirement of Christian leaders.

#### MEN OF TRUTH

A leader must be trusted. So, a dishonest person will not do. Also, a leader must always think based upon the principles from the Word of God. Men of emotion will change ideas, beliefs, loyalty, etc... daily. However, men of truth will remain the same from day to day.

#### HATING COVETOUSNESS

The Bible says in Colossians 3:5b that covetousness, “... *is idolatry.*” Covetousness is wanting something that belongs to someone else. Wanting anything of another man’s is an endless journey and quest. Covetousness removes one’s passion to seek God, therefore, it takes the place of God. Therefore, it is idolatry. Therefore, a Christian leader must be without covetousness so God can remain first.

Lastly, Luke 22:26 says, “... *he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.*” Matthew 23:11 says, “*But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.*” True Biblical leadership is NOT about people serving you, but about you serving people. The more one serves others the more they are a Biblical leader.

So, you want to be a church leader? You want to have responsibilities put on your shoulders and given to you to oversee? Make it easy for your pastor. Do the Biblical things needed for him to entrust you with more responsibility and leadership.

GET SAVED

GET BAPTIZED

BE FAITHFUL TO CHURCH

GO THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP

BE FAITHFUL WITH SMALL THINGS ENTRUSTED TO YOU

FEAR GOD

BE HONEST AND TRUTHFUL AND LET THE TRUTH MAKE YOUR DECISIONS FOR YOU

HUMBLE YOURSELF AND SERVE OTHERS