

Lesson

Leaders Value Relationships

Leadership is the art that changes the world. Jesus is the reason the world changes for the good, and the Holy Spirit is the power we need to lead according to God's will and not our own. With all this as wind beneath our wings, the prime ingredient that makes it all work is an ability to work with people.

If it weren't for people, leadership would be easy.

The success of our relationships is based largely on what we as leaders value as we relate to people.

I. Godly leaders value _____ over _____

*To be trusted is a greater compliment than to be loved.
George MacDonald*

*Want of trust is at the root of almost all our
sins and all our weaknesses.
J. Hudson Taylor*

Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. Mark 10:42–44

A. Trustworthiness is the foundation of trust.

It is based on 2 keys:

1. _____ (who you are as a person)
2. _____ (what you can do)

B. Trust is the emotional _____ of a relationship.

C. Enhancing trust:

1. _____
2. _____

3. _____ exchange

II. Godly leaders value _____ over _____

Grace is truly a gift of God; we have all received it and are wise to give it in liberal doses.

Pursuing Grace

- A. Do not _____ but believe the best.
- B. Keep their best interest your highest agenda.
- C. _____ quickly and thoroughly.

*Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another.
Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13*

*Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ in God
forgave you. Ephesians 4:32*

Signs that forgiveness has taken place:

- 1. Your heart is clear, and you no longer _____ on the matter.
- 2. You do not confront the person with the _____ issue again.
- 3. You do not talk with _____ about the situation.

III. Godly leaders value _____ over _____

*No person was ever honored for what he received.
Honor has been the reward for what he gave.
Calvin Coolidge*

Giving is a part of life and should start whenever our financial life starts. One must not wait until he makes big money to start giving. Few men who wait to give ever really give. Giving is part of building a whole life. My dear friend Maxey Jarman had given millions of dollars to Christian causes. In the latter part of his business life he had some reverses. During this temporary period, I asked him if he ever thought about the many millions he

*had given away, now that he was not as wealthy. He replied, "Of course I have, but remember I never lost a dollar of money I gave. I only lost what I kept."
Fred Smith*

You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed — God is our witness. I Thessalonians 2:5

A. Two sides of _____.

1. Always wanting more.
2. Unwilling to share what you have.

B. Cultivating a _____ spirit.

IV. Godly leaders value _____ over _____

A. Don't take yourself too seriously.

B. Know the difference between _____ and being intense.

C. People need and want to have _____.

V. Godly leaders value _____ over _____

A. Leaders don't _____ for people to approach them.

B. Leaders make the first move to mend a _____ relationship.

C. Leaders will move on from a relationship with someone who _____ to engage.

VI. Godly leaders value _____ over _____

Spiritual leaders invest their efforts as a catalyst for life change.

*Even if you are on the right track,
you'll get run over if you just sit there.
Will Rogers*

A. Approach people on an intentional platform.

- Followers “hang out” looking for good _____
- Leaders “dig in” looking for good _____

B. Becoming a “change agent.”

1. _____ the people you serve.
2. Talk to _____ about what He wants for the person’s life.
3. Take the first step for each person to grow to the “next level.”

VII. Godly leaders value _____ over _____

A. When we hide our real selves from people, we short-circuit the fullness of relationships.

1. You _____ protecting the real you or trying to be someone else.
2. You _____ your own leadership potential.
3. No _____, deep relationship can be developed.

B. Remember that people like you _____ when you are yourself.

VIII. Godly leaders value _____ over _____

*People don't care how much you know
until they know how much you care.
John Maxwell*

A. You must _____ in the people you lead.

B. Invest heartfelt encouragement in the people for whom you are responsible.

1. _____ enough to notice their needs.
2. Pray for them.
3. Write short notes to lift their heart and give positive direction.
4. Always encourage with a _____ heart.

Application Guide

Be a People Person

John Maxwell

Chapter 1 What draws me to people?

(Understanding the qualities you enjoy in others)

1. Matthew 7:12 is popularly known as the Golden Rule.

Ask your wife to email your group leader her honest but also encouraging experience of how well you live out the “Golden Rule” at home.

A. Of the following five qualities, which one do you appreciate receiving from others most?

- *Encouragement*
- *Appreciation*
- *Forgiveness*
- *Listening*
- *Understanding*
- *Other* _____

B. Which one do you give to others the best?

- *Encouragement*
- *Appreciation*
- *Forgiveness*
- *Listening*
- *Understanding*
- *Other* _____

C. Which one do you most need to improve?

- *Encouragement*
- *Appreciation*
- *Forgiveness*

4. Which of the roadblocks to charisma do you most need to overcome?
(Circle one or two.)

Pride

Insecurity

Moodiness

Perfectionism

Over-sensitivity

Negativity

Chapter 3 How to be confident with people

(Learning to feel comfortable with others)

1. Why is confidence so important for a leader?

2. Rate your own "people confidence."

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Weak

Strong

3. From where/who do you draw your confidence?

4. What steals your confidence from you?

5. How do you gain your confidence back?

Chapter 4 Becoming a person people want to follow

(Developing the qualities of an effective leader)

1. Describe the kind of leader *you* most want to follow.
2. What is the role and significance of trust in a relationship?
3. How do you know you are called to lead?
4. Are you committed to giving more than you receive in your primary relationships? How do you sustain being a "giver" over the long haul?

Chapter 5 Motivating people for their benefit

(Developing the art of drawing out the best in people)

1. How do you know when you are leading according to your agenda or for the benefit of others? (This is often a fine line.)

2. Of the seven principles listed in the chapter regarding motivation, which do you believe is the most important, and why?
 - Know what you are trying to accomplish
 - Put yourself in the other person's shoes
 - Expose the problems immediately
 - Be prepared to take a risk
 - Appeal to the higher vision
 - Know when to stop
 - Cover the topic with enthusiasm

Describe why...

Chapter 6 How to be a person that people respect

(Understanding the value of your character and competence)

1. We know that the higher you rise in leadership, the fewer options you have. Why is this true, and why does it matter?

2. Briefly answer each of the following questions:

Are you a leader others can trust? Why should others respect you? The following questions will give you good insight into your trustworthiness and ability for others to respect you.

- a) Is your personal walk with God current and vibrant?
- b) Are you keeping your priorities straight?
- c) Are you asking yourself the tough questions?
- d) Who are you accountable to?
- e) Are you sensitive to what God is saying in the body of Christ?
- f) Are you overly concerned with your own image-building?
- g) Do you tend to be a loner in your Christian service?
- h) What are your major relationship weaknesses, if any? Any weakness that would affect the quality of your relationships with others and your level of influence as a leader.

Chapter 7 You can be an Encourager

(Using your skills to inspire others to excellence)

- 1.** Do people tend to migrate toward you in a public setting? Explain.
(People simply enjoy your presence and desire to be around you.)

- 2.** Are you genuinely sincere when you encourage others?
How do you maintain a high level of consistency in your sincerity?

- 3.** Give the names of five people you encouraged this week.
Describe how you encouraged one or two of them.

- 4.** What role does prayer have in encouragement?

Chapter 10 Being a person people trust

(Building integrity into your relationships)

1. Are you the same person in public as you are when no one is looking?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Not Usually

Always

If you did not circle 8, describe briefly why.

2. When you say you will do something, can people count on you to do it and in a timely fashion?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Not Usually

Always

3. If a leader breaks trust with a person, can he repair and rebuild it? How?

4. Why is it important for you to be yourself with others?

My Leadership Relationships

Date: _____

MODELS

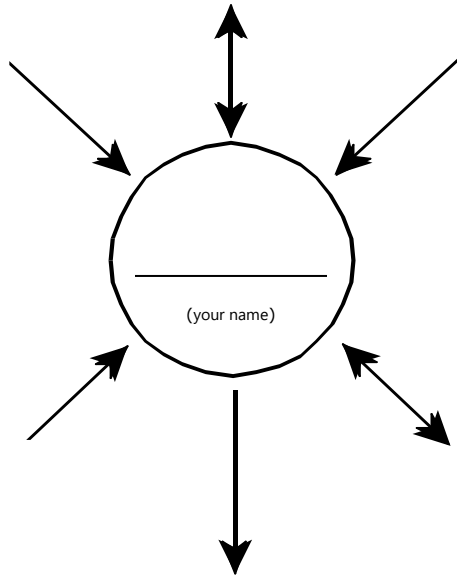
(People who live the way you'd like to live)

INNER CIRCLE

(Those closest to you)

HEROES

(People who you look up to and admire)



MENTORS

(People who coach you)

LEGACY

(Those you invest yourself into)

PEERS

(Fellow travelers with you)
