

Reading: 2 Peter 3:18**Topic:** Maturing In Leadership Responsibilities

INTRODUCTION: Most leaders have become leaders because they have been _____ or developed over time, but good leaders realize that they need to keep _____ and improving with time.

I. UNDERSTAND THE PRINCIPLE OF FOLLOWING:

A. Follower First:

1. It has been said and it has also been _____ that no one can become a good _____ without first becoming a good _____. Mt. 4:18-20
2. When one is a follower of another leader, one can learn valuable principles through _____ and listening to their leader in order to gain _____ of good leadership practices. 2 Kings 3:11

B. Follower Again:

1. When one does become a leader, the learning curve does not _____, and though now leading others, the leader still will need to _____ those that God has placed in authority over him/her. Phil. 3:17
2. The supreme _____ to follow is Jesus Christ, but the Lord places other mature individuals who have had years of experience, into our lives to follow and _____ from. I Cor. 11:1

II. CARE ABOUT PEOPLE:

A. People, Not Position:

1. A truly mature _____ values people over position, and understands that they are his/her responsibility to care for, to develop and disciple to prepare them for _____ also. 2 Tim. 2:2
2. People were the _____ for Jesus during His ministry here on earth, and His heart was moved with compassion for them, while the religious _____ of the day only cared for themselves. Mt. 9:36

B. Valuable Resource:

1. A mature leader understands that _____ are the most valuable resource of any endeavor and if they are not esteemed as such, very likely they will not _____ and produce in ministry. Mk 10:1
2. Good leaders see people, not just for who they are right now, but see the _____ in individuals for future development and effective _____. Jn. 1:42

III. GIVE CREDIT TO OTHERS:

A. Not Doing Everything:

1. Unfortunately, some leaders refuse to _____ any responsibility to others that they are leading, so work that could be done is left undone and the ministry itself _____ because of it.
2. This immature behavior is the result of a negative _____ and negative thinking, perhaps out of a fear of someone else getting _____ for work, when the leader wants all the glory. Gal. 5:26
3. This was the unfortunate situation with King Saul, who could have had his _____ extended for generations, but he wasn't willing to share any credit with anyone else. I Sam. 13:3-4

B. Delegate & Give Credit To Others:

1. The Apostle Paul was greatly used by God in his _____ but he was not afraid to give credit and

honor to many others who had _____ him in his work for God. Rom. 16:1-8

2. A mature leader understands the value of teamwork, and he/she is not _____ to train and delegate responsibilities to others and then give them _____ for what they do. 2 Tim. 1:16-18

IV. BUILD A MINISTRY FOR PEOPLE TO RECEIVE FROM:

A. Remember Your Own Past:

1. Some people unfortunately forget that they didn't get to a leadership _____ by themselves, and as a result, they believe that the _____ and ministry revolves totally around them. 3 Jn. 1:9,10
2. Everyone has gotten to the place of leadership because they were _____ by someone else who took time, and patience and energy to _____ and develop them. I Tim. 1:1,2
3. If anyone _____ their humble beginnings, they will end up filled with pride and a haughty spirit that will eventually lead to their downfall. Pr. 16:18

B. Consideration Of Others:

1. When God places an individual in a leadership role, it is for the _____ of others, not to promote the person to a prominent place to be _____ by others. Mt. 20:25-28
2. The mature leader will _____ from experience, and recognize the contribution of his/her elders to their personal development and success, and then desire to _____ yet more from listening, observing, praying, and being God directed in his/her work. Phil. 3:12

CONCLUSION: To receive promotion and position is honorable, but then to _____ it instead of using it as an opportunity to _____ others is not the mature behavior that God is looking for in us. Let us strive as ministers, leaders and workers to keep humble and keep growing to be the best that we can be for Jesus.