

**Reading:** I Peter 5:1-4

**Topic:** Leadership Principles  
From the Bible

**INTRODUCTION:** When one is given the responsibility of \_\_\_\_\_ others, it is important to have knowledge and understanding of basic scriptural \_\_\_\_\_ of leadership.

## **I. RESPONDING TO CRITICISM:**

### ***A. Everyone Will Be Criticized By Someone:***

1. Someone has said, "When you become a leader, you also become a \_\_\_\_\_, not just of the devil but also of other \_\_\_\_\_ who you may or may not be leading.
2. There are many reasons why people may choose to criticize a \_\_\_\_\_, jealousy, unsubmissive attitudes, disagreements over direction, etc. but no leader is exempt from \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Jesus was the greatest teacher and \_\_\_\_\_ who ever was, and yet He received His share of criticism especially from other spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ who were jealous of Him. Mt. 27:17,18

### ***B. How To Respond:***

1. The natural and carnal reaction to criticism is to \_\_\_\_\_ back at those who criticize us, but there is a God directed \_\_\_\_\_ to respond that may not only calm the critics, but may change their minds. Jud 8:1-3
2. There are some steps to take to help \_\_\_\_\_ with the critics:
  - a. Meet with the critic or critics \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. Sometimes people who are murmuring and criticizing behind one's back change their attitude when having to sit down and talk \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Compliment the critic or critics on some \_\_\_\_\_ things that they are doing before asking them what it is that they are \_\_\_\_\_ about.
  - c. Pray with them after the discussion and then pray \_\_\_\_\_ them after they leave. Sometimes people just need to come to the realization that you as the leader are doing the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and it may not always please everyone all the \_\_\_\_\_.

## **II. AVOID USELESS DISCUSSIONS & ARGUMENTS:**

### ***A. Time Wasted:***

1. Sometimes you will encounter people who will always want to start a \_\_\_\_\_ wasting discussion or an argument over an inconclusive \_\_\_\_\_ that never make anyone more spiritual. 2 Tim. 2:14
2. These kinds of discussions not only waste \_\_\_\_\_, but they will lead to carnal attitudes and possibly divisive spirits that harm the unity of the Body of Christ and the \_\_\_\_\_ people are involved in. 2 Ti. 2:16

### ***B. Promote Peace & Unity:***

1. Jesus Christ taught in the Sermon on the Mount about the importance of being a \_\_\_\_\_, not a troublemaker, and stated that those who make \_\_\_\_\_ are children of God. Mt. 5:9
2. There are many things that one could disagree with another on, but most of those things are \_\_\_\_\_ things that matter little or not at all for eternity, so the Word of God instructs us to \_\_\_\_\_ on things that matter for eternity and that will \_\_\_\_\_ up people. Rom. 14:19
3. The wise thing to do when someone raises a question that will lead to an unprofitable \_\_\_\_\_ is to kindly change the subject to something that is \_\_\_\_\_ edifying and helpful. I Tim. 6:20,21

## **III. HUMILITY:**

**A. The First Lesson To Learn:**

1. The disciples of Jesus were eager to become a \_\_\_\_\_ of His new kingdom that was coming and their eyes were on \_\_\_\_\_ rather than ministry. Mk. 9:33,34
2. Jesus was obliged to remind them more than once about how one will be \_\_\_\_\_ in His kingdom and it was not by attaining a \_\_\_\_\_ but by humbling oneself before God. Lk. 14:11

**B. The Word From God:**

1. The Lord spoke through the prophet Micah and in clear \_\_\_\_\_ stated what He required of him and anyone else who would desire to do the \_\_\_\_\_ of God: Micah 6:8
  - a. Do Justly – live righteously
  - b. Love mercy – Be merciful and you will also receive mercy. Mt. 5:7
  - c. Walk \_\_\_\_\_ with God.
2. Any leader who will be effective and be \_\_\_\_\_ by God will first learn the lesson of humility, that recognizes that without Jesus, we can do \_\_\_\_\_. Jn. 15:4,5

**CONCLUSION:** There are many good books that have been on the \_\_\_\_\_ of leadership, but the best leadership principles are found in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.