

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, unsubmitive 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.