

Churches Grow When Members Work

LESSON THREE - INDIVIDUAL LEADERSHIP

INTRODUCTION:

- A. GOD HAS PROVIDED THE CHURCH WITH LEADERSHIP(**Eph. 4:11**).
- B. GOD EXPECTS ALL TO EXERCISE WHAT WE MIGHT CALL INDIVIDUAL LEADERSHIP.
 - 1. When we see a need we do what we can in a humble way whether anyone else does anything or not.
 - 2. The exercise of **personal responsibility**. Self-starters.

I. EXAMPLES IN THE BIBLE:

- A. **JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA**(**Mat. 27:57-60**).
 - 1. Joseph took the initiative. He was not sent or drafted.
 - 2. He not only saw the need, he did something.
- B. **ANDREW IN BRINGING PETER**(**John 1:41-42**).
 - 1. Andrew realized his brother's need and did something.
 - 2. **Mat. 28:19-20**. Personal leadership is a part of God's plan(**2 Cor. 4:13**).
- C. THOSE "SCATTERED ABROAD"(**Acts 8:1, 4**).
 - 1. Initiative came from an inward compulsion(**Jer. 20:8-9**).
 - 2. **Mat. 12:34**. Our hearts should be full of the gospel.
 - 3. Most evangelism depends on personal effort(**Acts 5:42; 8:4; 11:19-20**).
- D. **PRISCILLA AND AQUILA**(**Acts 18:24-26**).
- E. THE **GOOD SAMARITAN**(**Luke 10:30-37**).
 - 1. What did those who recognized as leaders do?
 - 2. Who sent the Samaritan?
 - 3. What cause the Samaritan to do what he did? Inner qualities.
- F. **CORNELIUS**(**Acts 10. 24-33**).

II. OTHER EXAMPLES:

- A. **JAMES P.** "TEACHER TRAINING CLASS."
- B. **LLOYD TAYLOR'S** WORK AT MARYVALE.
- C. **IRENE TOLIVER** IN ASHFORK.
- D. **JACK GREENWOOD** AND BOB MCLAUGHLIN.

III. WHAT DOES LEADERSHIP REQUIRE?

- A. **YOU** TO LEAD.
 - 1. A willingness like Paul's is necessary(**1 Cor. 11:1**).
 - 2. Leading is not griping or merely giving advise. It is doing - example!
- B. **KNOWLEDGE**.
 - 1. We are expected to learn so we can lead(**2 Pet. 3:18; Heb. 5:12**).
 - 2. Zeal without knowledge is harmful(**Rom 10:1-3; Mat. 15:14**).
- C. **WISDOM**.
 - 1. Begins with reliance on God(**Prov. 9:10**).
 - 2. And a proper motivation(**James 3:15, 17**).
 - 3. Sometimes involves knowing when to lead and when to follow.
- D. **CONVICTION**(**2 COR. 4:13**). FAITH COMPELS AND ENABLES.
- E. **VISION**(**Prov. 29:18**). THE ABILITY TO SEE AHEAD - PERCEIVE THE NEED.
- F. **SACRIFICE**(**Rom 12:1**).
 - 1. Leadership requires paying price - time, money, effort, etc.
 - 2. Such a sacrifice inspires others to follow.
- G. **COURAGE**.
 - 1. Taking initiative means taking a risk(**Ecc. 11:4**).
 - 2. Sometimes leadership costs us friendship.
- H. A **TOUGH SKIN**.
 - 1. He who leads must be able to take criticism, most of which will be destructive and unjust.
 - 2. A good leader can distinguish just criticism from unjust and use both.
 - 3. Be sure you are right and then go ahead(**1 Pet. 3:17; 4:19**).

CONCLUSION:

- A. WE ARE NOT ADVOCATING THAT CERTAIN ONES JUST TAKE OVER.
- B. WE ARE SAYING IT IS TIME WE SHOW MORE INTEREST IN THINGS RIGHTEOUS AND **ACT!**