

The Call to Lead

Leadership is simply the ability to influence others. Leaders use their influence to get people to a place which they would not have gotten on their own. The trust placed in spiritual leaders is a sacred one. When people give you the power of influence in their lives, they trust that you're going to act in their best interest. However even when acting in the best interest of others, leaders can be misunderstood and resisted. Often the change needed the most is the most misunderstood and resisted.

Therefore leaders must learn to be comfortable with standing alone. True leadership does not happen in a pack. It is often a call to be second guessed. Anyone who has led very long is familiar with the tendency of people to be Monday morning quarterbacks

One of the biggest mistakes that a leader can make is to get their personal affirmation from the people they lead rather than from the Lord. Jesus received His personal affirmation from the Father. Even when the people wanted to make Him king He knew better than to fall for their flattery. There was a time when many of His followers abandoned Him because His words were too hard. He simply looked at those who remained and gave them the option to leave also.

While we must be considerate the opinions of others, in the end it must be God that we please. Calloused and uncaring leaders loose their influence quickly. However, there are times when we must get our orders and affirmation from God and God alone

This means that a leader must prioritize our relationship with God. We love and serve His people, but our affirmation and approval must primarily come from Him. We want to hear Him say..."Well done my good and faithful Servant..." Leadership can sometimes feel like a lonely job... but we are never truly alone... He said I will never leave or forsake you... I am with you always even to the end of the age...



A Letter from Steve We Need Your Help

Dear Friends,

Apostolic ministry is needed now more than ever... We are called us to serve leaders, and congregations during a time when they need it the most, but can afford it the least. Without this help many of them would simply give up. Every month Sheryl and I are hosting leaders in our home, preaching and teaching in various cities, working in local churches, and counseling with leaders by phone, and internet. We care deeply for these allotted to our care.

We need your help to expand this work. Right now the need exceeds our ability to respond. We are getting calls and request that we cannot respond to simply because the expense is too great. We have never asked for help before, but we feel some of you would want to know about the need. Please consider investing in this valuable ministry.

Sincerely Yours,
Steve Youngblood

Please send your offerings to:
Church Foundations
19810 Turtle Trail
Kirksville, Mo. 63501

Church Foundations

*Apostolic Building Patterns for the
local Church*

A Priceless Gift

The value of a Red Chief Tablet and a #2 Pencil

In the first grade my most treasured possessions were a well worn ball glove, a red chief writing tablet, and a # 2 lead pencil. My teacher at Beaver Elementary was named Mrs. French. She worked hard to teach our class how to read and write, I'm sure it was difficult due to the fact that all I could think of was getting to the playground to put that baseball glove to work. I did not understand the value of the gift she was trying to give to me until later in life.

The bible was written in pen and ink by men who knew Him. They understood the value of recording His words. In fact the bible has been supernaturally preserved in order that we could get to know Him as the Living Word. To know Him is the beginning of knowing ourselves, He helps us understand our past, our present and our future. These are all things we deal with on the way to fulfilling our destiny Knowing Him is the key to everything we need. Jesus lived in unbroken communion with the Father. He went to the cross so we could enjoy the same unbroken fellowship that He demonstrated was possible..

I want to encourage you to listen to His voice and then to write down what He says. Of course your words won't have the same authority as scripture but they will still have great value. I have learned from experience that if I don't write things down, I will forget them. I won't remember them when I need them the most. Writing helps to focus our creative process, dreams and ideas take shape and principles and truths become imbedded in our hearts thru the simple act of writing.

I once heard this axiom which I have used over and over again to goad myself to write. "A man who knows is a full man, and man who speaks is a clear man, but a man who writes is a precise man." The powers of many God ideas have been harnessed in my life because of Mrs. French. I have learned that I am a much better builder, leader, and communicator if I spend time putting my thoughts into written form. I want to encourage you to become a writer... journaling is one of the greatest things you can do as a leader. You will return to your writings for encouragement, direction and course correction.

I trust that He will speak and you will listen carefully that you may obey. Keep your red chief notebook and a #2 pencil handy...who knows when you will hear His voice.



"Leaders use their influence to get people to a place which they could not have gotten to on their own."

THE LEADERSHIP JOURNAL

Published By

Church Foundations

Building Better Churches

Steve Youngblood

19810 Turtle Trail

Kirksville Mo 63501

660-342-5208

steveyoungblood@churchfoundations.com

www.churchfoundations.com