

## BEING GOD'S KIND OF LEADER IN A BROKEN WORLD 1 Corinthians 4:1-7

*Leaders: The Strategies for Taking Charge* by Warren Bennis/Burt Nanus

Five myths about leadership:

- 1) Leadership is a **rare skill**.
- 2) Leaders are **born**, not **made**.
- 3) Leaders are **charismatic**.
- 4) Leadership exists only at the **top** of an organization.
- 5) The **leader** controls, directs, prods, and manipulates.

Leadership is not the **exercise** of power; it is the **empowerment** of others.

### GOD'S KIND OF LEADER WILL KNOW GOD'S KIND OF SUCCESS.

What is God's definition of success?

#### I. **PICTURES OF GOD'S KIND OF LEADER** (v. 1)

##### A. **SERVANT**

Acts 13:5 (Of John Mark)

*When (Barnabas and Saul) reached Salamis, they began to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had John as their helper."*

Acts 26:16 (Used by Jesus of Paul in his commission)

*"Arise, stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you."*

God's kind of leader has the **attitude** of a servant and sees himself as carrying out the **assignment** of his superior.

##### B. **STEWARD**

There are numerous styles of leadership: authoritative, bureaucratic, consensus, vision, traditional—and any of them can be found in the Bible and may be used of God. But the one that most closely aligns with God's heart is **SERVANT-LEADERSHIP**.

Mark 10:41-45

*"When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.'"*

#### II. **PRINCIPLES FOR GOD'S KIND OF LEADER** (vv. 2-7)

A. A leader must personify **trust**. (2)

B. A leader must practice **integrity**. (3-5)

- Leaders must be **whole** themselves to lead others to **wholeness**.

C. A leader must possess **humility**. (6-7)

#### **CHARACTER COUNTS**.

"Character isn't inherited. One builds it daily by the way one thinks and acts, thought by thought, action by action. If one lets fear or hate or anger take possession of the mind, they become self-forged chains."—Helen Gahagan Douglas, 1975

Questions every leader needs to ponder:

**1) To what extent am I a success as God sees me?**

**2) How can the qualities of servant-leadership be more apparent in me?**

**3) Am I cooperating with God as He seeks to grow them in me?**

With God, success is not so much what you **DO** as what you **ARE**.

WHAT I HEAR GOD SAYING TO ME: