

FIVE-MARKS SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Leader Outline

Date:

Leadership Team:

Share your ministry position.

What do you love about your current ministry?

What is the greatest challenge to your current ministry?

Thanks to Greg Stier and the Alliance Peacemaker for the outline of this training.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Introduction:

Trouble in the American Church?

- Division rather than unity
- Immorality among leadership rather than examples to imitate
- Declining numbers seeking a church home
- Power and control struggles among leaders rather than humble servitude

Root Causes?

Read Philippians 2:1-4

Read 2 Corinthians 12:15

Mark 10:41-45

What do these passages tell us about the character of church leaders? Write out the responses on a white board or on newsprint.

Do we see these characteristics valued in our secular settings and workplaces? Why or why not?

FIVE MARKS OF A SPIRITUAL LEADER

1. Great Leaders Lead!

What is your current leadership role? What ministry do you impact?

- What are the core values of your ministry? (What matters most to you as you consider the impact you hope to have on those you serve? This should be done in teams if there are multiple people from the same ministry leadership team.)

- What behaviors should mark each of these values? (In other words, what strategies are in place to make sure that your team is living out this value in your ministry setting?)

- If you were living out these values, what outcomes would you be able to observe in your ministry? (For example, if you value sharing the gospel with the children in our SS program, then an observable outcome will be boys and girls trusting in Jesus and being baptized.)

- What would you say is the mission of your ministry team? Is the mission of your team linked to the mission of your church?

- What is the vision for your team this year? Is it unique? Does it support your values? What next steps need to happen for your leadership to fulfill this vision?

If the leader of your current ministry team resigned, would the ministry continue to thrive?

Jesus dies, yet the church thrives...why?

Read Matthew 28:18-20

Read Acts 1:8

- What was the mission given to the disciples? (Group discussion)
 - How would you define a disciple? (Write on white board.)
 - What does it mean for you, as a disciple, to be a disciple-maker in your ministry?
 - Read Ephesians 4:10-13.
 - How do we live out this verse in your ministry area?
 - Do you see the outcomes of maturity in your church today?

- What does it mean to **lead under the authority of Jesus**? What happens if we lead from our own authority?

- What does it mean to **lead in the power of the Holy Spirit**? What happens when we minister and lead from our own power?

What is one take-a-way from this section?

2. Great Leaders Model Life

How many of you can state “imitate me as I imitate Jesus?” (1 Corinthians 4:16, 17)

Summarize the following passages:

- Read Hebrews 13:7
- Read Luke 6:40

What character qualities and ministry characteristics are you expecting from those on your team?

Stop and ask the Father what character issue needs work in your life. Start with the Fruit of the Spirit as you pray about asking the LORD to strengthen your character in that area.

- Read Galatians 5:22-26. What would your spouse or closest friend say about this fruit being evident in your life?
- As a leader how important is it for you to model the fruit of the Spirit? Why? Where and when do you need to model this fruit.
- How do you understand verse 25 and its application to your walk with Father? What does this verse have to do with the fruit of the Spirit?
- Do you struggle with verse 26 as a leader?

What is one take-a-way from this section?

3. Great Leaders Pray.

Leaders in the church take time to listen for the voice of the Father.

- Read Luke 5:15, 16 What are your observations about leaders and followers?
- Read John 10:27-30 What are your observations about listening?
- Ephesians 6:18. What is the context of this verse?

How often and for how long do you pray as a leadership team? Enough? How might you begin to change the culture of prayer in your ministry setting? How might you begin to change the culture of prayer in your personal life as a spiritual leader?

How often do you pray over those difficult or important decisions? Enough? Talk as a group how prayer should enter into decisions made in our ministry as a ministry team and as a church?

What the church needs today is not machinery or better strategies; not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men and women whom the Holy Spirit can use – men and women mighty in prayer. The Holy Spirit does not flow through methods, but through men and women of prayer. E.M.Bounds

Next steps in prayer for you personally and for your team?

4. Great Leaders Understand the Spiritual Battle.

- **There is an enemy who seeks to kill** and destroy the church. Read these passages and write down any observations that we need to be aware of as spiritual leaders.
 - 1 Peter 5:8, 9
 - Ephesians 6:10-12

Satan will try to divide and cause confusion. Leaders need to know how to handle everyday conflict in our ministry settings.

FOUR KEYS TO RESOLVING CONFLICT on your ministry teams:

1. **Glorify God through handling conflict**

a. Ephesians 3:20-21 and Romans 12:17-21 Observations?

b. How might you apply these truths in team or personal conflict?

2. **Get the log out...**

a. Matthew 7:3-5

- What are we called to do in this passage?

- How much of this depends on us? How much on the other person?

b. Colossians 3:12-14

- What are we to put on? Are these “clothes” natural?

- What does it mean to:
 - Bear with one another...
 - Forgive whatever grievances...
 - Forgive as the LORD forgave you....

What might it look like to model this aspect of conflict to your ministry team?

3. **Gently Restore**

a. Matthew 18:15-20. Observations?

b. Galatians 6:1,2. Observations?

Why is restoration so important?

4. **Go and be Reconciled**

How do leaders model actively pursuing genuine peace and reconciliation?

Summarize what these verses tell us about reconciliation.

a. Eph 4:32-5:2

b. Matt 5:21-24

c. Matt 6:9-15

d. Matt 7:9-12

What is the strategy of Satan when it comes to the church?

Think of a conflict you are currently involved in. What should you do? Is the conflict one you can overlook, or do you need to engage in the four steps above?

5. Great Leaders love.

Is this a cultural mark of a secular leader? Why or why not?

Look at these examples from Scripture. What do you observe? What is your response?

- **Matthew 20:25-28**

Observation:

Response:

- **John 13:12-17**

Observation:

Response:

- **John 13:34-35**

Observation:

Response:

- **1 John 4:7-10**

Observation:

Response:

Five Marks Conclusions:

Of all the things we worked on today, what are three take-a-ways you want to work on with your team?

1.

2.

3.

Spend time talking as a team and narrow your combined list down to three that you all agree needs attention.

Joint next steps:

1. Take-a-Way #1. _____

What will “success” of our next step look like?

Who owns holding us accountable to move forward with this step?

2. Take-a-Way #2. _____

What will “success” of our next step look like?

Who owns holding us accountable to move forward with this step?

3. Take-a-Way #3. _____

What will “success” of our next step look like?

Who owns holding us accountable to move forward with this step?