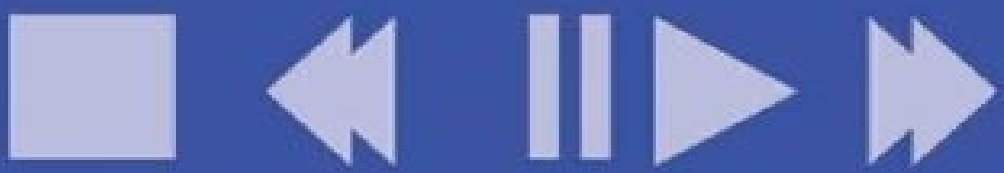
Dag Heward-Mills

Leadership Made Easy



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Leadership Made Easy

by Dag Heward-Mills

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Unless otherwise stated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible

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Chapter 1 - Recognize Your Desire as a Symptom of Your Call to Leadership

Are you a leader? Can you become a leader? The answer is yes! In this chapter, I will be showing you certain symptoms that reveal the leader within.

Paul wrote to Timothy and told him to look for people with leadership qualities.

A Desire

…If a man desire the office…

1 Timothy 3:1

It is interesting to note that Paul wanted people who had the desire for the office. Timothy was instructed to look for certain qualities in people who had the desire for the office.

A desire to lead is a symptom of a leader within. A desire to help other people is a great symptom that God has given you the gift of leadership. A desire to serve others with the good things you have, is a great sign of leadership.

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

Romans 10:1

Paul had a desire to help the Jews. He was constantly burdened by this desire. All true leadership stems from the burden to help people whom you love.

The greatest sign of leadership is the burden and desire which compels the leader into action. That overwhelming burden/desire is the common feature in every great leader.

I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: Romans 9:1-3

Some people go through difficulties in life. After they have recovered from their pain, they have a strong desire to help others avoid the pain and suffering they went through. A true father wants his children to have what he couldn't have.

A true leader wants his followers to be better than himself. Jesus said,

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do…

John 14: 12

Jesus wanted His followers to do greater things than He had done. If you do not have a desire to help people to become great, perhaps you are not a leader. If you just have a desire to help yourself, that is not leadership!

Leadership is a desire to help other people achieve great things for themselves. A man who has a desire to win the lost at any cost is a leader for the cause of the Gospel.

In the earlier days of my ministry, I did not even know what the office of a pastor, evangelist or apostle was. I thought these were far-fetched positions which I could never occupy. All I wanted to do was to help people to meet Jesus. All I wanted to do was to help people to grow in Christ. I felt that once people grew up in the Lord, many of their problems would go away. A desire to help people is a symptom of the call of God.

Misuse of Leadership

There are some people who have a desire for money, power and fame.

Without knowing it, they intend to use the position of leadership to gain these things. That is not leadership! That is what I cal the art of "vampirism". A vampire is a blood-sucking bat or in human terms, someone who preys ruthlessly on others. Africa, and many nations of the world, have been well endowed with vampire-like leaders who have sucked the wealth of their nations. Unfortunately, some churches have also had leaders, who like vampires, have sucked away the wealth and the life of the church. A vampire is not a leader and a leader is not a vampire! Peter warned against this in his letter to the church.

The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall

be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

1 Peter 5:1-3

Obviously leaders with wrong motives were not uncommon in Peter's time.

They are certainly not uncommon in our time. God is looking out for men and women who will agree to take up the mantle of leadership and pay the price thereof.

That desire within you to help others is the sign of a call of God upon your life.

It is time to help. God wants to raise you up to do just that. As you read this book, may the anointing to lead be upon you in the name of Jesus!

Chapter 2 - Do Not Rush Around from One Emergency to Another

Two Types of Leadership

1. Emergency style leadership

This involves running around from one crisis to another. It is not an effective style of leadership.

The solving of a crisis gives a false feeling of security to the emergency style leader. After settling one crisis, he feels he has accomplished something great. He does not know that the next crisis is brewing.

Pastors solving leadership crises, financial crises, crises over rebellion, crises over debts, crises over breakaways are fully engaged all the time. There is a better way!

2. Preventive style Leadership

Preventive leadership involves a style of leadership, which prevents the occurrence of all these crises. There are fewer crises under this style of leadership. People involved with the preventive style of leadership often hold training conferences, shepherds camps, teaching seminars, etc. Such leaders are more relaxed and more in control of their churches or organizations.

Seven Steps to Preventive Style Leadership 1. Teach your people what you want them to know.

I have discovered that almost everything can be taught. It is possible to get whatever you desire from your subordinates by teaching them. Every subject on earth is taught by someone. Learn to teach in order to achieve your desired result.

2. Train people to be loyal.

Disloyalty is one of the causes of crises in organizations. Rebels and traitors have a way of destabilizing entire churches. You can minimize your crises by emphasizing loyalty.

3. Hold regular conferences, retreats and camps.

These are opportunities for teaching and discussion.

4. Do not borrow money.

Debts create uncertainty! The possibility that your whole world could come crashing down on you because of debt is disturbing. I hate debt. I do not borrow and I would not advise you to borrow money. It is possible to live without debt.

Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

Romans 13:8

5. Distinguish between unimportant but urgent requests and important but non-urgent duties.

Jesus was summoned urgently to attend to Lazarus but it was more important for Him to do other things. He did not rush around to unplanned activities unless it was absolutely necessary.

It is important for a leader to be able to distinguish between requests that require abandonment of scheduled activities and ones that do not.

A wise leader will not rush around to unplanned activities unless it is absolutely necessary.

Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of

Mary and her sister Martha. (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.) Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby. Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.

When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.

John 11:1-6

A pastor has many important and non-urgent duties. A pastor must spend time in prayer and in the Word.

Praying and studying the Word do not sound as urgent as someone dying in the hospital. Waiting on God does not sound as urgent as having to write cheques or sort out administrative issues, yet a leader who attends to his non-urgent but important duties will achieve more.

6. Do not overextend yourself.

You can only do so much with your life. Overextending yourself means you take up things that God has not sent you to do. This creates stress and crises.

Evangelists who become pastors have one leadership crises after another.

They are incapable of extending themselves into an area God has not ordained for them.

God does not expect us to do everything. We are not as essential as we may think. If we were that important, no young pastor would ever die! If we were that important in the scheme of things, James, the brother of John, would not have died in the middle of his ministry.

Do your part and leave the rest to God. Have you never read where God says you must rest?

There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did

from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Hebrews 4:9-11

7. Delegate whenever you can.

Jesus ministered for three years and delegated the rest of the work to His disciples. He had no delusions about what He could accomplish on His own.

He did not even attempt to go beyond the borders of Israel to minister. He delegated that aspect of His ministry to His disciples. Do you remember that Jesus sent His disciples to the uttermost part of the earth? Did you notice that Jesus did not attempt to go to the uttermost parts of the earth? He delegated the work of going to the uttermost parts of the earth to the disciples. He did not try to prove to anyone that He could go to the uttermost parts of the earth himself. His role was to minister to the Jews and to die on the cross. Jesus'

job was defined in Matthew 15:24. He intended to stick to His assignment.

He delegated the rest to us.

But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Matthew 15:24

Chapter 3 - Always Remember: "Nobody Wins Until We All Win!"

When I was in medical school, this truth was very real to me. Our end-of-year exams were very stressful. One of the most tense moments of my life was when I waited for my final results. By the grace of God, I passed every exam.

However, there was always a friend or other who did not make it. I came to discover that unless we all passed, our joy was never really complete. How can you rejoice when your best friend has to repeat the year? How can you rejoice when six people are becoming doctors and one has to repeat the year?

Every leader must remember that nobody wins unless we all win. If your marriage is working, you wil never be ful y happy unless your friend's marriage is also working.

Five Lessons That Teach Us That "No One Wins Unless We All Win"

1. Jacob had twelve sons and lost Joseph to slavery.

Even though after Joseph was lost, he still had eleven sons left, he could not rejoice. Jacob was a wise man. He knew that no one wins unless we all win.

And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces. And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days. And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him. And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, and captain of the guard.

Genesis 37:33-36

2. Jesus taught about the shepherd who left the ninety-nine sheep to seek for the lost one.

How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray.

Matthew 18:12,13

3. Jesus taught about the woman who swept the entire house to find one lost coin.

Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?

Luke 15:8

4. Jesus taught about the prodigal son's father who had one son but waited hopefully for the prodigal son to return.

For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

Luke 15:24

5. Jesus taught about the banquet that did not begin until all of the seats

were taken.

…Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.

Luke 14:21-23

Chapter 4 - Know the Names of Many People

...and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.

John 10:3

People will follow someone who knows their names! It is very important that a leader knows the names of the people he works with. No one is a number or an object. If you want to lead people, try to remember their names and call them by name.

Five Reasons Why You Should Know the Names of Many People 1. Every successful leader knows the names of many people.

2. People feel special when you know their names.

Everyone gravitates towards where he feels special. People do not feel disregarded or despised when you call them by name.

3. When you know the names of people they feel that you are friendly and human.

People are attracted to someone who is friendly and warm.

4. Knowing people by their names connects you to them in a personal way.

This creates the bond of leader and follower.

5. Knowing the names of people makes you closer to them.

I sometimes wonder at pastors who may have only sixty members and cannot

remember all their names. If you cannot remember people's names, they will not like to follow you. When you know somebody's name, they feel you are real and they feel you are near enough. People are less inclined to follow a distant figurehead. King David was a great leader. One of the reasons he was loved is because he was near enough to the people he led.

But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them.

1 Samuel 18:16

Chapter 5 - Invest in Yourself

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

1 Timothy 4:16

Every leader who invests in himself will ensure that he remains the leader.

Three Reasons Why Every Leader Must Invest in Himself 1. Because of the law of deterioration

This law says that everything is decaying naturally. Nothing on earth stays in a healthy original condition for long.

This is why the Bible warns that the crown (your leadership position) is not guaranteed forever.

Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds. For riches are not for ever: and doth the crown endure to every generation?

Proverbs 27:23,24

2. Because of the law of staying one step ahead There is no leadership unless you are a step ahead. I am constantly investing in myself in order to stay at least one step ahead of my followers. Without doing this, I would actually fall out of my position.

3. Because of the law of taking care of yourself before you can take care of someone else

Whenever there is any problem on a plane, adults are instructed to take care

of themselves before taking care of their children. Paul said the same thing.

There is no way you can save others unless you save yourself. A doctor cannot attend to others if he is sick. The blind cannot lead the blind.

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

1 Timothy 4:16

Seven Ways Every Leader Can Invest in Himself 1. Read the Bible everyday.

In 1986, I travelled to London as a student. I bought one thing for myself – a special reference Bible. I used up al my meagre student's allowance to invest in myself. I have never regretted that investment.

…but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap…

Galatians 6:8

2. Read Christian books everyday.

Read books about things you do not know.

3. Listen to audio tapes and CDs.

When added up, the hours spent listening to tapes are equivalent to several semesters of lectures at the university.

4. Attend seminars, conferences and church services.

These will make you a better person.

5. Spend more money on your books than you do on your clothes and your hair.

6. Watch video tapes and DVDs of anointed men of God.

7. Build up a personal library of books, audio and video tapes, CDs and DVDs.

Chapter 6 - Value Time and Manage Time

Six Ways to Manage Your Time

1. Distinguish between important and urgent things.

Many people claim they cannot do certain things because they have no time.

However, the reality is that they are unable to manage their time.

Do you call yourself a leader? If you are a leader, you must be able to distinguish between the important things and the urgent things. *Many things that are urgent are not important and many important things are not urgent.*

A real leader is someone who cuts away the unimportant things and ensures that he does what he is supposed to do.

2. Do not get involved with things that are not on your schedule.

If you are a leader, you will know that many good things are not necessarily the things you must do. I have decided that I will spend my time in prayer and in the ministry of the Word. Even as I write this book, I am under pressure to do many other things. I have decided that to write this book is the most important thing for me to do at this time.

Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Ephesians 5:16

3. Surround yourself with competent helpers who will do certain essential jobs for you.

A responsible employee who takes care of important things for you is a valuable asset. There are things that must be done for me so that I can have time for the things that only I can do. I am a pastor overseeing over four hundred churches; you can imagine the number of problems that arise everyday. I have to decide what to do: counselling people, praying for people, sorting out financial problems, solving managerial issues, and the list goes on.

With the help of intelligent administrators and problem solvers I will have time for my work.

4. Get rid of people who fail to do jobs that are delegated to them.

These people will create problems for you and drag you into areas which should have been taken care of.

5. Stay in your calling.

How can you develop the art of using your time wisely? I want to share with you a secret which I believe is a key to managing your time effectively. It is also a key to fulfilling the will of God. Did you know that you have only seventy years to live (more or less)? This means that you have only a limited time to serve the Lord. God is expecting you to do certain things. A true leader discovers what he is supposed to do and sticks to it. Stay with your cal ing. Don't branch out into other people's territory. If you are a teacher, teach the Word. If you are a pastor, give yourself to pastoring; don't try to become a prophet.

6. Avoid useless socializing.

Chatting around and being friendly is often time you could have spent fellowshipping with your heavenly Father. People may say that you are not very friendly but you know what you are doing.

Avoid wasting your time on useless television programmes. It is not that I cannot afford a television. I just will not have the time to waste on silly TV

programmes!

Chapter 7 - Great Achievements Require Great Discipline

To be disciplined means to be controlled, restrained, well-organized, regular, orderly, and regimented.

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

Matthew 4:1,2

Jesus subjected Himself to the strict discipline of fasting for forty days and nights. That is no mean achievement! Anyone who has fasted without eating for even three days and nights will discover the terrible strain it puts on your self-control. To be a great leader you must discipline yourself in prayer, fasting and reading the Bible. There are times I stay in one room for eight hours, praying to the Lord. I can stay alone for hours in the presence of the Holy Spirit. You cannot do this without self-discipline. Do you want to be a great leader? It is time to discipline yourself in every way. To write this book, involves great self-discipline. For hours and hours, I transmit on to the paper the words that you are

reading. It has not been an easy task! But I know that there will be no great achievement without great discipline.

Five Things Every Leader Should Be Disciplined About 1. A daily quiet time

2. To spend several hours in prayer

3. To read the Bible everyday

4. To fast regularly

5. To read books

Chapter 8 - Have a Vision

The greatest secret about vision is this: Your vision will make you into what you desire to become. Every great leader moves towards the vision and goal that he has set.

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

Proverbs 29:18

The vision a man has makes him a leader. Your vision is what drives you and propels you on. If you are a leader and there is no vision before you, I really question whether you are a leader or not.

It is what I see ahead that keeps me going. In my mind's eye, I see a mega church! I see thousands of people being brought to Christ. I see many miracles taking place in my life and ministry. That is what keeps me going.

You do not make your vision, it is your vision that makes you!

What is the key to having a great vision? I'l give you a good secret. Look around you and see anyone doing the things you like to do. Make it your vision to achieve what that person has achieved and more. Without a vision, you will flounder in the sea of aimlessness.

Chapter 9 - Value Every Moment in the Presence of a Great Leader

Three People Who Valued Their Fellowship with Great Leaders 1. John the disciple spoke of his interaction with Jesus.

He shared how he had actually touched the Lord and heard Him speak.

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) 1 John 1:1,2

This was the greatest experience of his life. A few moments in the presence of a great leader will teach you many things.

2. Elisha refused to go away from the presence of Elijah.

He knew how important it was for him to stay close. On four different occasions, he refused to go away.

And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said unto him, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel.

2 Kings 2:2

3. Joshua was greatly affected by His close interaction with Moses.

Remember that Joshua was the only one who went up the mountain with Moses.

And the Lord said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them. And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.

Exodus 24:12,13

All the members of Moses' original team became "someway" as time elapsed.

Aaron moved into idol worship. Miriam became disloyal and critical. But Joshua was full of wisdom because of his closeness to Moses.

And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the Lord commanded Moses.

Deuteronomy 34:9

Seven Things to Notice in the Presence of Great Leaders 1. Notice their vision.

You will be inspired to have a greater vision.

2. Notice their achievements.

It will show you what is possible.

3. Notice their focus.

You will see the secret of concentration at work.

4. Notice their relationship with God.

It will inspire you to be closer to God.

5. Notice their appearance and their language.

You will feel the atmosphere of greatness.

6. Notice how they handle situations.

You will receive wisdom for your own situation.

7. Notice their weaknesses.

When you see their great achievements in spite of their weaknesses, you will be encouraged.

Chapter 10 - Take Charge!

And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him.

And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep.

And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish.

And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the

sea obey him!

Matthew 8:23-27

Jesus was called up when there was a problem.

It was raining and everyone was drowning.

When Jesus was called, He took charge. I remember my first night alone as the doctor- in-charge of the Korle-Bu Hospital emergency room. It was a frightening experience for me. I was a new doctor and I was expected to lead the way and to know what to do in each case. Throughout the night, people were brought in unconscious, sick and some even dead. I rose to the occasion and became the leader in the emergency room. How did I do it? I just did what I thought was right from the training that I had received. As time went by, it became easier. When Saul became a new leader, Samuel gave him this very instruction, “Do what you think is right and the Lord will be with you.”

And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee.

1 Samuel 10:7

What is the key to taking charge as a leader?

The key to taking charge is to simply take charge.

Just rise up and speak confidently! Do what you think is best and God will be with you.

Chapter 11 - Master the Art of Raising Money

Every leader is going to need some money to accomplish his mission. If you do not know how to raise money, you will not be a successful leader.

Elisha the prophet was a bold fund-raiser. He met with a widow who was about to eat her last meal. Elisha convinced this woman to give up her last meal for his ministry. When the woman did that, she was led into a great financial miracle. It took a bold man of God to raise money for the work of ministry.

Five Keys to Successful Fund-Raising

1. Trust

I have come to accept the fact that part of my job as a leader is to raise money. I am often raising money for different projects. What is the key to successful fund-raising? People must trust you! Trust is something that builds up over the years. The more people trust you, the more they will be prepared to release their wealth. There are people who would give me thousands of dollars if I were to ask. They trust me because they have been with me for many years.

Dear leader, the key to your fund-raising ability is integrity. Whenever money is raised for a specific purpose, use the money for that specific purpose. As time goes by people will trust you.

2. Be careful about projects which will take a long time to complete.

If you start something that does not conclude, people will think that you deceived them; they will think that you collected the money and used it for something else.

3. Do not raise money for inappropriate projects.

Do not raise money to meet the personal needs of pastors. I would advise you not to raise money to buy clothes, cars or to finance a holiday for the pastor and his wife. The congregation will not be happy to pay for luxuries that they themselves do not have. People prefer to give money to missionary work, evangelism and building projects.

4. Do not raise funds too often.

Donor fatigue sets in when fund-raising is too frequent. Depend on regular tithes and offerings for most things.

5. Be conscious of the 80-20 rule when you are raising funds.

Most people can give very little. However, a few people can give much more.

The 80-20 rule tells us that 80% of our income comes from 20% of the people.

Raise funds from the eighty per cent but expect much more from the wealthy twenty per cent.

Never forget this fact. A leader will always need money to fulfil God’s vision.

Pray for financiers. Be a man of integrity. God will help you and you will

never lack!

Chapter 12 - Be Merciful

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Matthew 5:7

A leader is someone who knows the importance of showing mercy.

Certain political leaders came on the scene spitting fire and brimstone. They passed judgements on others for minor crimes and sentenced them to death.

Years later, they discovered that members of their own government were doing worse things. If they were to apply the same measuring rod to these individuals, they would probably have to execute their entire government.

“Blessed are the merciful for they shal obtain mercy” (Matthew 5:7).

A wise leader knows that he may need mercy himself one day. That is why a true leader is merciful to his followers.

Are You Spiritual?

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Galatians 6:1

This Scripture says that people who are spiritual must be careful to be merciful. Have you caught a thief today? Please show mercy! I know that you find it difficult to appreciate the circumstances under which you could be accused of being a thief one day.

I am not predicting that every man of God will fall. All I am saying is that it is wise to be merciful rather than judgemental. Mercy triumphs over judgement.

Surely you will need the mercy of God in your life. God looks at how much mercy you show to others. The blessing of merciful people is that they will also receive mercy.

A leader is a humble person who also knows that he is capable of falling one day. Years ago, I met a pastor who was so judgemental about Kenneth Hagin. He

spoke at length and described the faults of Kenneth Hagin to me.

He then gave me a book full of criticisms about Kenneth Hagin. As this pastor spoke, I marvelled at the critical spirit he possessed. Some years later, this critical pastor divorced his wife and lost his ministry. The next I heard of him, he was in prison. There is no need to be judgemental.

Are you a leader? Be merciful; you may need it one day.

Chapter 13 - Have Genuine Friends

One of the first things a real leader does is to make friends. It is these same friends who will help you. The people who support you will become your followers. Are you a person who makes friends, or scatters people? Your friendships form a basis for acts of loyalty, support and even sacrifice.

What is the secret to having genuine friends?

Be a genuine friend yourself.

A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Proverbs 18:24

Never forget that you reap what you sow. If you are a traitor, traitors and rebels will surround you. If you are a loyal person, loyal people will surround you.

Nevertheless, no matter how loyal you are, you will still have some traitors.

Betrayal is a part of real life. Jesus was a loyal friend and leader, but he had Judas.

In spite of this, decide to be a real friend so that you will gather genuine people around you. If you are honest, dishonest people will not flow with you.

If you are holy, unholy people will not feel free to become your friends. As they say, “Birds of a feather flock together.”

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