

Class 401

Discovering Leadership

Liberty Worship Center

You may not think of yourself as a leader. After all, isn't leadership a spiritual gift?

It is, yes. But the definition of leadership that we use is, "Leadership Is Influence." And everyone is influential. Everyone. We want to help you use that influence for God.

In classes 101 (salvation, baptism, communion) and 301(The Holy Spirit) you have especially been challenged to begin to see yourself as influential. In class 201, you were introduced to habits that would help you stay spiritually strong. *This* class will help to launch you toward that ministry that God has created you for by helping you see the process that will get you into your ministry calling.

Let's review the basic understandings of leadership in the body of Christ so that we have a common foundation to explore your calling and placement within the local church. The greatest leader EVER (Jesus) taught these, which means that we should learn them, meditate on them, and put them into practice!

Review of a few key foundational Bible principles covered in previous classes:

1. **We are a Kingdom of _____.** Exodus 19:6 ...you will be a Kingdom of Priests... 1 Peter 2:5 you are...a holy priesthood, Rev 1:5 a kingdom and priests to serve our God.
 - a. We are a kingdom OF Priests
 - b. Not a kingdom WITH a priest
 - c. Everyone of us has a role to play as a priest
2. **You have spiritual gifts. Use them.** 1 Corinthians 12:7 to EACH ONE the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. In Class 301 the you were given opportunity to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This baptism has the potential to unleash your spiritual contribution to the body. Everyone has been given a gift or gifts to contribute, making them a unique "priest" in their gift. Lean into your gifts.
3. **The _____ is available to you.** Everyone has the opportunity to become a close friend of Jesus and a highly trained operative in His Kingdom.
4. **God wants to make His Name Great Through You!** God used Moses to proclaim His name and character (Yahweh, "I AM") before Pharaoh and the world. Through Moses, God demonstrated His power to deliver His people, causing His name to be proclaimed throughout the earth. God used Moses mightily to meet with Him, and convey His message to the people! He used Him to impact the people of Israel by taking them from slavery into the promised land. In the same way God used Moses, Daniel, Paul, and many others to do miraculous, supernatural works in His name, He can use you too! These concepts help us see portions of the process that God uses to make us influential and make a real impact for His Kingdom!

Jesus' Staff Meeting

Luke 10:1-12

The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit. **2** These were his instructions to them: “The harvest is great, but the workers are few.

So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields. **3** Now go, and remember that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves. **4** Don't take any money with you, nor a traveler's bag, nor an extra pair of sandals. And don't stop to greet anyone on the road.

5 “Whenever you enter someone's home, first say, ‘May God's peace be on this house.’ **6** If those who live there are peaceful, the blessing will stand; if they are not, the blessing will return to you. **7** Don't move around from home to home. Stay in one place, eating and drinking what they provide. Don't hesitate to accept hospitality, because those who work deserve their pay.

8 “If you enter a town and it welcomes you, eat whatever is set before you. **9** Heal the sick, and tell them, ‘The Kingdom of God is near you now.’ **10** But if a town refuses to welcome you, go out into its streets and say, **11** ‘We wipe even the dust of your town from our feet to show that we have abandoned you to your fate.

And know this—the Kingdom of God is near!’ **12** I assure you, even wicked Sodom will be better off than such a town on judgment day.

Intro: Jesus taught basic and powerful skills that you can learn, and that will make people want to follow you!

I. Going Together

- a. *vs 1. The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit.*
- b. It is important as a leader to understand that God never sends us in alone.
- c. He's placed the right people around us in order to accomplish everything He's called us to do.
- d. Before you go on a mission from the Lord, ask the Lord who is supposed to go with you!
- e. Everything done in the Kingdom is team work, no one is a lone ranger! Who are you going with?

II. Think Abundance

- a. *v.2 the harvest is plentiful*
- b. Develop a mindset of _____
- c. **Most people see position, power, or luck as leadership.** Jesus indicated that it starts here, with thinking abundance.
- d. We fight with others and live a sinful lifestyle when we see lack
James 4:1-2 What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you? **2** You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it.
- e. Learn to treat every individual as a part of God's harvest, all the time! Some will say yes!
- f. You cannot lead if you have trained yourself to see lack.
- g. Jehovah Jirah means “The Lord Will Provide” “The Lord Will See To It.”
- h. There is a HUGE harvest out there!

- i. Not a minor harvest, not a small harvest, not a barely enough harvest. ABUNDANT!
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III. Recruit Workers

- a. *v.2 the laborers are few*
 - b. There is only one lack in this kingdom: _____! (Until God sends the workers!)
 - c. There is no lack of money in Christ's kingdom. If we all tithe and offer what the Lord asks of us, there is an abundance.
 - d. There is no lack of people who want to hear. Jesus tells us the harvest is plentiful.
 - e. Again, start by seeking a partner. Then the two of you should seek others.
 - f. Jesus number one prayer request of leaders is not for salvations, but workers, because when we have workers, salvation and growth is a given (literally)
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IV. Ask, and ask the right source

- a. *v. 2 Ask the Lord of the Harvest*
 - b. James 4:2: you have not because you do not ask
 - c. Many of us ask everyone else first!
 - d. Ask God before the Pastor, the budget, or the people.
 - e. Make sure you have discussed your requests with the Lord of the Harvest!
 - f. Asking causes us to take responsibility for our lives
 - g. Non-askers are manipulative (they want others to do without taking responsibility for it)
 - h. God put you here to rule over, subdue. Asking allows Him to work without violating the chain of command.
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V. Become the _____ to your own prayers

- a. *V.3 Ask... then Go!*
 - b. Faith without works is dead. James 2:20, 2:26
 - c. We don't treat prayer as a hopeless, last-ditch effort. We should put action behind our prayer.
 - d. You should pray this prayer **as** you go to work!
 - e. God is answering the prayers of generations past right now at LWC.
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VI. Expect _____

- a. *v. 3 like lambs among wolves*
- b. Stop expecting everyone to like you
- c. Stop expecting the Christian life to be easy!
- d. Stop expecting other Christians to like you
- e. It IS the best way to live, not the easiest. If you want easy, look elsewhere.
- f. Criticisms, complaints, rejection, backstabbing, slander, and hurt among any others comes with any type of leadership, especially in ministry. Understand that if you're facing opposition it's often because you're headed in the right direction. If there wasn't opposition, the enemy wouldn't be angry.

VII. Reject self-sufficiency

- a. *v. 4 do not take purse or bag or sandals*
 - b. No self-made men or women need apply here
 - c. Learn to involve others if you want to love them
 - d. Don't take everything you could ever need, because self-sufficiency turns hearts away.
 - e. Being dependent teaches us to allow God and others into our lives and partake in His Kingdom together.
 - f. Asking them to help is what brings their heart in. (Ask for advice or a hand, -get a heart)
 - g. Moses ,Gideon, Peter, Paul - God asked them to partner with HIM! It's time for us to partner with God!
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VIII. Stay _____

- a. *v.4 do not greet anyone on the road*
 - b. One of the greatest ways to stay focused is remember who you are, whose you are, and why God has placed you on this earth! Remember your identity and purpose!
 - c. Understand that what you are doing is eternal!
 - d. You are not a professional best friend, or a professional counselor. You are a messenger. Do the job.
 - e. Be a person of purpose, not gossip, a politician, or a slanderer.
 - f. At Liberty Worship Center, we encourage every disciple to be a solution bringer not a problem starter!
 - g. We all share the same calling in part. That is found in the great commandment and the great commission. Don't look in any other direction.
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IX. Start relationships with genuine _____ (blessing)

- a. *v.5 when you enter a house, first say...*
 - b. Be sure the first thing that comes out is positive and blessing
 - c. I Cor 14:1-3 prophecy is strengthening, encouragement, comfort
 - d. Doors open when we bless, close when we murmur, complain, criticize (even constructively)
 - e. We are even asked to bless our enemies or those that spitefully use us!
 - f. speak blessing all the time! Be like Barnabas which is "Son of Encouragement." (Acts 4)
 - g. As a leader, understand that others have enough people who will tear them down. Instead, be someone who builds others up.
 - h. Approach others with the right heart and attitude.
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X. Fellowship Is Important

- a. *v.7 eat with them*
- b. If you're going to make disciples, do so like Jesus and spend time eating together and fellowshiping.
- c. Realize that effective discipleship can be done outside of the church, just as it can be done in the church.

- d. The early church often had “small groups” in houses during the week , and they also had the large “church service” style gathering as well.
- e. You cannot deeply minister to those who do not yet trust you. Trust is built through relationships over time.

XI. Understand the _____ of your work

- A. *v.7 the worker deserves his wages*
 - B. When you serve or lead in a ministry, what you’re doing is highly valuable kingdom work.
 - C. Your work as a leader in the local church impacts souls for eternity.
 - D. As you do the work of the Kingdom of God, don’t get discouraged when you see lack or frustrating results.
 - E. Don’t forget that every single prayer prayed, word said, sermon preached, teaching imparted, song sung, button pressed has eternal value for those who receive it!
 - F. What you’re doing in the church matters no matter how insignificant you may see it as.
 - G. God will give you more as you are faithful in the little.
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XII. Do 2 things:

1. Be a _____

v. 9 heal the sick and say “the Kingdom ...is near you”

- If you know Jesus, your call is to be a healer, repairer, reconciler, peacemaker
 - a. Become a person of obedience in this, not a person obsessed with visible results. Be obedient to pray for and minister to the needs of others!
 - b. Always follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
 - c. Offer healing those who recognize that they have a need
 - d. Have faith that God will use you in miracles!
 - e. Jesus came for those who have a need! He sends you to minister to them!
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2. Tell them God is available

- a. *v.9 the kingdom of God is near you!*
 - b. Part of each of our callings is to proclaim the good news of God’s Kingdom!
 - c. Every other religion shows how far you are from that god and what you have to do to appease him!
 - d. Religion shows how hard it is to know him
 - e. Your job is to show others how they can be close to Him! God is near!
 - f. Jesus said in Matthew 3:2 ““Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near.”
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XIII. Develop a plan to deal with _____

- a. *v. 11, 16 Even the dust... wipe off against them...*
- b. You will face heartbreaking, discouraging things in leadership. You will do your best to help others and bring them all God has for them, and they will reject you and say false things about you. You will experience pain, hurt, and times you will need to practice forgiveness.
- c. Healing needs to be a constant part of what we do in our own lives as well! It’s not a one time thing.

d. Philippians 3:13 Paul says “Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead,”

e. We must heal, dust our feet off and move forward toward what the Lord has for us!

XIV. Be careful what you party over (celebrate)!

- a. *(v.20 rejoice that your names are in heaven)*
- b. Jesus said we should only celebrate that you came in as a gift!
- c. Your biggest enemy is pride, so don't feed it by focusing on anything you have done- but on what He has done.
- d. But God resists the proud! James 4:6
 - a. It's God's grace that accomplished anything through us, not our power, or goodness, or strength.
 - b. Remember where you came from and what you were forgiven for.
 - c. Rejoice in the fact that He is using your life for great things, and that you can know Him personally and have eternal life in Him.

About the above skills:

These are skills, **not like gifts** (that you are or are not) born with! Anyone can develop them. Anyone can ask God for help in growing these skills. Take time now and rate yourself, asking God where He thinks you need to grow most. Take a moment and get healthy by taking stock of who you really are today.

Top Leader Habits if you believe that a huge harvest is out there:

1. Be in prayer.
2. Be prepared.
3. Know who you answer to.
4. Know your audience.
5. Clean up after your ministry.
6. Recruit help. Replace your self.

Questions To Help You Dream

None of these following questions have right or wrong answers. Please do not deliberate more than several minutes over any one question. Ask other people who know you for their input. These answers will change throughout your years, but reflecting on the questions can help you avoid the trap of double-mindedness, which causes God to give you nothing! (James 1:7)

1. What is my single greatest strength?

Try listing some of your strengths (ask around), and then circle the one you think may be your greatest strength.

2. What is my passion?

This might be (for example) the thing you are often thinking about last thing at night and

first thing in the morning. It's what gets your blood pumping, and interests you, even when others are bored by it.

3. What is my dream?

What do I hope to accomplish before I retire...? What does it look like?

4. If I could do only three things in my lifetime, what would they be? What are your three highest priorities?

5. What are three decisions or issues that cause me great stress, overwhelm me, or use up my energy?

6. What impassable roadblock (the "if only's") has me stuck, or makes me feel hopeless in certain areas? ("If only this wasn't there, I could do so much better"). List several "if-only's" that you have struggled with or do struggle with. Examples: If only I was a different race, if only I was taller, if only I could sing, if only I hadn't done that one stupid thing...

7. Who are three people in my life who I am mentoring or investing in?

8. What things on my to-do list can someone else do at least 80% as well?

(Have I learned to delegate responsibility and get others involved, or do I appear invulnerable)

9. What are the elephants on my schedule? (The one or two "large animals" in my schedule that I could get rid of and it would make a big difference. What are the time wasters that I should consider giving up?)

10. What three things could I do in the next three months that would make a 50% difference in the main challenges in my life?

11. Who are my iron-sharpens-iron brothers or sisters that I walk hand in hand with in following the Lord? My Mat-Carriers?

12. Who are three people who pour into my life and disciple me?

Answer Key 401

We are a Kingdom of Priests. Exodus 19:6

The Holy Spirit is available to you.

II. Think Abundance

Develop a mindset of plenty

III. Recruit Workers

There is only one lack in this kingdom: workers

V. Become the answer to your own prayers

VI. Expect opposition

VIII. Stay focused

IX. Start relationships with genuine compliments (blessing)

XI. Understand the value of your work

XII. Do 2 things:

1. Be a Healer

XIII. Develop a plan to deal with rejection