

Areté

CENTRE FOR MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP

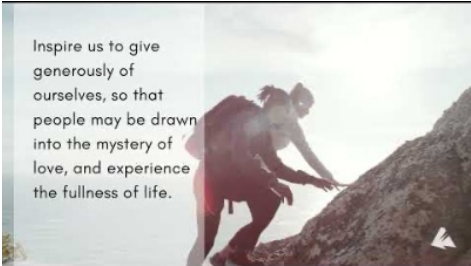
A work of the Missionaries of God's Love

Leadership in Scripture

Missionary Leadership: Theory and Praxis Lecture 2

1

Inspire us to give generously of ourselves, so that people may be drawn into the mystery of love, and experience the fullness of life.



2

The Core of Ministerial Leadership is Faith in Jesus

- Obedience to God
- Jesus as exemplar
- Leadership is an act of love



3

Learning from Nehemiah

- I asked them about the Jews that survived, those who had escaped the captivity and about Jerusalem (Neh 1:2)
- "The survivors who escaped captivity are in great trouble and shame; the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been destroyed by fire" (Neh 1:3)
- "When I heard these words I sat down and wept, and mourned for days" (Neh 1:4)



4

Learning from Nehemiah

"O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments" (Neh 1:5)

"Let your ear be attentive ...both I and my family have sinned. We have offended you deeply, failing to keep the commandments" Neh 1:6-7



5

Learning from Nehemiah

"Let your ear be attentive ...both I and my family have sinned. We have offended you deeply, failing to keep the commandments" Neh 1:6-7

Nehemiah inspects the walls and decides to rebuild
(Neh 2:11-16)



6

Learning from Nehemiah

- Sanballat challenges Nehemiah: Nehemiah: The God of heaven is the one who will give success, and we his servants are going to start building" (Neh 2:20)



7

Learning from Nehemiah

"Remember the Lord who is great and awesome, and fight for your kin, your sons, your daughters" (Neh 4:14)

"The work is great and widely spread out, and we are separated far from one another on the wall. Rally to us whenever you hear the sound of the trumpet. Our God will fight for us" (Neh 4:19-20)



8

Learning from Nehemiah

- Obstacles from within and without
- "I devoted myself to the work on this wall and acquired no land" (Neh 5:16)
- "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down" (Neh 6:3)
- Ezra reads the Law
- All the people answered Amen Amen, lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground (Neh 8:6)



9

Learning from Nehemiah

- All the people answered Amen Amen, lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground (Neh 8:6)
- "Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength" (Neh 8:10)



10

Jesus the Leader

- Servant Leadership
- Jesus the servant
- Not an option, but a mandate for his followers
- What scriptures speak of Jesus' servant leadership?
- Jesus the servant – Lk 5:1-11
- Not to be served but to serve – Matt 20:20-28
- The washing of the feet – Jn 13:1-20



11

Missionary Leadership – Matt 10:1-32

- Called by name
- With authority
- Proclaim the Good News: the kingdom of heaven is near
- Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons
- You received without payment, give without payment
- Simplicity of life
- Sheep among wolves, wise as serpents, innocent as doves
- Don't worry about how you are to speak or what to say
- Disciple is not above the teacher, be like the teacher



12

Lead out of your Experience of the Kerygma

- John 21



13

Paul: A Missionary Leader

- The Corinthian Correspondence
- Context
 - Paul established a community at Corinth after he had left Athens (Acts 18:1-17)
 - He was there about 18 months, from approx. AD 49/50 – 51/52.
 - Letters are a response to situation that had developed – factions, different preachers/leaders being feted, so the communion is threatened (1 Cor 1:10-17).
 - By 2 Corinthians – opposition to Paul's authority



14

Paul's Response to this Leadership Crisis

- Both 1 and 2 Corinthians begin with Paul's assertion that he is an apostle - Paul's leadership is based upon his vocation; his call from God.
- Paul is an apostle because he has "seen the Lord" (1 Cor 19:1)
- The sign he is an apostle is that his ministry is bearing fruit – especially the Corinthian community themselves (1 Cor 9:2; 1 Cor 4:15)
 - He is the gardener – who has planted, others have watered
 - Master-builder – he laid the foundation upon which others have built (1 Cor 3:5-9)
- His work will last – because Jesus is the foundation – eschatological validation (1 Cor 3:11)



15

Paul's Response to this Leadership Crisis

- The Proclamation of the Gospel
- Paul preaches the crucified Christ
- 1 Cor 15:3-4: Handed on what he had in turn received: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day (1 Cor 15:3-4)
- The preaching of the Gospel is part of the Gospel – Exalted Christ is proclaimed and it is the exalted Christ who speaks (2 Cor 5:20)
- His ministry arises from the kerygma – it is a ministry of reconciliation (2 Cor 5:18-20)
- Paul is an ambassador – one who acts on behalf of the one he represents.
- The sign he is an apostle is that his ministry is bearing fruit – especially the Corinthian community themselves (1 Cor 9:2; 1 Cor 4:15)
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16

Paul's Response to this Leadership Crisis

- A Spiritual Father
 - Paul as father to the community (1 Cor 4:14-15)
 - As a father he can address the problems of broken communion – abuses of the Lord's Supper (1 Cor 10:17-33)



17

The True Power of Leadership

2 Cor 11:21-23 – Paul lists the experience of suffering he has endured for the gospel

2 Cor 11:30 – “If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness”.

2 Cor 12:8-10 – the thorn in the flesh: Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.



18

The Treasure in Clay Jars – 2 Cor 4:7

- It is precisely because the vessel is so poor and weak that it is obvious that the power manifest in Paul cannot belong to him but to God alone (2 Cor 4:17).
- Embodies the Gospel he preaches – 2 Cor 4:10
- Paul is his ministry – his life is a witness to the new creation that is the believer in Christ Jesus.
- Like Jesus – Paul's dying gives life to those he has fathered in Christ (2 Cor 4:12).
- When Paul tells the Corinthians to imitate him – not so much morally as being conformed to the death and resurrection of Jesus .