



Membership † Discipleship † **Leadership**

Proverbs 29:2 *"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; But when a wicked man rules, the people groan."*

I am a leader of \_\_\_\_\_.

A person who can influence, inspire and inform others by providing wisdom and understanding to reach a particular purpose. A leader must trust in the LORD with all their heart, lean not on their own understanding; in all their ways acknowledge Him, and allow Him to direct their paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

## "FIT For The Kingdom, III"

### Initiative † Integrity

† Proverbs 4:7 *"Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding"*

Initiative and Integrity complement each other when you're striving to be fit for the Kingdom. A leader must possess the ability to make wise and integral decisions that glorify God. As you demonstrate initiative, ensure that you adhere to high morals and Biblical principles. Sometimes our standards of success will put us in a position where we're willing to compromise our integrity. It is vital that you stay in the will of God! All decisions should be made based on Biblical principles and not personal preferences. Others will make every attempt to get you to conform to what's comfortable for them. *"Now, who will want to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats. Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ. Remember, it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!"* (1 Pet. 3:13-17 NLT). It can be complicated but it surely does not have to be. Do the right thing for the right reason and God will reward you for your righteousness. We can plan different strategies to help those that are being led by us. But every initiative should direct others to Christ. We cannot continue to think that we can get by with just showing up and hearing the word of God. You have to also be doers of the word (James 1:22). Please do not deceive yourself into thinking that you can get by on hearing only. You must apply what is being taught. Show initiative. James 1:21,25 says to receive the implanted word with meekness for the saving of your soul. If you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it. You have to make sure that your soul is right before you can lead others to Christ.

Even if you don't have an official title as a leader, someone is always watching your Spiritual walk with God. Trust that your walk with Christ will lead someone to Christ. This week focus on Proverbs 10:9 *"People with integrity walk safely, but those who follow crooked paths will slip and fall."* (NLT)

† Romans 12:2 “... be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Initiative is critical for all believers. Jesus is the example that all should follow and he said “I always do those things that please the Father” (Jn. 8:29). When showing initiative, adhere to what is written in the word of God. Allow the Holy Spirit to be your guide. Whether you’re submitting to authority, teambuilding with other believers, or leading unbelievers to Christ, everyone has to carry their own cross. In Nehemiah chapter 4, God gives us a Old Testament example of the people having a mind to rebuild despite opposition and doubt. What did you learn about showing initiative in this God-given example?

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One of the New Testament examples was revealed in Acts chapter 12. When Peter was imprisoned, constant prayers were offered to God on Peter’s behalf by the church. The church understood the power of prayer. As a result, an angel appeared saying “Arise quickly!” Peter followed by faith as he was instructed to not knowing if it was real. He trusted God. The angel departed and Peter said to himself, “Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and *from* all the *expectation* of the Jewish people.” The expectations of others can diminish your drive to show initiative. What did you learn from Peter’s example of showing initiative in the presence of opposition?

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Go beyond what’s required. Initiative requires creativity, focus, above average thinking and zeal for God. “For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.” Luke 12:48

† Psalm 119:11 “Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”

Day/ Week of	Daily Reading	Which Bible verse had the most impact?
Monday <input type="checkbox"/>	Matthew 16-18	
Tuesday <input type="checkbox"/>	Matthew 19-21	
Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/>	Matthew 22-24	
Thursday <input type="checkbox"/>	Matthew 25-28	
Friday <input type="checkbox"/>	Mark 1-3	
Saturday <input type="checkbox"/>	Mark 4-6	
Sunday <input type="checkbox"/>	Mark 7-9	

Submit questions to MCCquestions@yahoo.com

