



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

## "Leadership AWOL"

(Attention With Out Love)

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

Although basic training can be very enlightening to your intellect, boot camp often poses more of a challenge to your endurance. You've completed basic training, survived boot camp and now you're successfully leading others to achieve greatness.. However, there is still something that is hindering *your* Spiritual growth. Others are growing because you make every attempt to identify your success with the success of those around you. You believe you're a great leader because people have confirmed it with words of affirmation and appreciation. Still, something is holding you back. You wrote the vision and others are running with it. Why the sense emptiness? Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us (Heb. 12:1). Some of the weight that you're carrying is the inability to forgive. It's not visible so your daily tasks pacify your flesh and attempt to medicate your Spirit. We can experience a natural high that is actually a Spiritual low. It's in those low places that you draw the false reality that you are not as great as who you portray. You are great! You are created in the image of your Heavenly Father (Gen. 1:27)! Do not remain bound by the inability to forgive yourself from past mistakes. We have not sincerely been able to forgive ourselves for what we have done or what may have been done to us. What did I do? What did I not do? What could I have done? As leaders, we teach forgiveness by demonstrating forgiveness towards others. Forgiving ourselves is a little more complicated because of our hidden sin. You don't have to hold on it. You confront it with the truth, let it go and move towards total healing. Total healing can only come from God.

If you don't totally heal, you'll experience Leadership AWOL (attention without love). We cannot afford to abort our Kingdom assignments because we go AWOL. We're attentive to it but not in love with it. Whatever it is..... Jesus said "you shall love the LORD your God with **all** your heart, with **all** your soul, with **all** your mind, and with **all** your strength." (Mk. 12:30). Only in Him is the ability to truly love yourself and others. That is the first commandment. "And the second, like *it*, is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these" (Mk. 12:31). We will never fulfill the second greatest commandment if we don't master the first one. Here lies part of the challenge. We actually love our neighbors as we love ourselves – with lots of attention but not real love. Break the cycle. Seek first the kingdom of God **and** His righteousness, **and** all these things shall be added to you (Mt. 6:33). In His presence is where you'll learn to give Him your ALL. Giving Him your all is not intended to deprive you of other people or things. Giving Him your all teaches you how to love and appreciate other people and things.

† 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.”

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us (Eph. 3:20). Understanding scripture only in part can be very dangerous. Please note that the scripture continues to say “according to the power that works in us.” The heart matters! When you love in part, you can only gain an understanding in part. Hide the word in your heart so that you may not sin against Him (Ps. 119:11). What's in your heart that keeps you bound by sin? For 45 weeks you've been studying the word of God daily. Every day you should be coming less and less attractive to the temptations that cause you to sin. The inability to forgive causes you to sin against God not the person. We have all sinned (Rom. 3:23) but turn against those whom we think is *really* sinning (Mt. 7:1-5). When there's division amongst God's people, there's a disconnect from God's presence. Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand (Mt. 12:25). How do we expect to stand against the wiles of the devil if we haven't learned to stand together (Eph. 6:11)? Soldiers understand that they must be sober and vigilant because the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour (1Pet. 5:8-11).

Make a decision to stay the course. Quiet time is critical because it allows you to look inward. Sit quietly and just listen to your heart. When negative thoughts of defeat try to creep in, go deeper. Close your eyes, breathe softly and appreciate who God created you to be. God created you to do something great. During that quiet time, visualize yourself fulfilling the mandate on your life. It's good to spend adequate time writing a vision for what we want to do. Challenge yourself to develop a vision for the inner you by asking God to reveal who He designed you to be beyond what you do. When you have a personal relationship with God, you can't worry about personal opinion. Does your boot camp strategic plan say “well done!”? If it does not; continue to revise it until it does.

† 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"/>	Acts 13-15	
Tuesday <input type="checkbox"/>	Acts 16-18	
Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/>	Acts 19-21	
Thursday <input type="checkbox"/>	Acts 22-24	
Friday <input type="checkbox"/>	Acts 25-28	
Saturday <input type="checkbox"/>	Romans 1-3	
Sunday <input type="checkbox"/>	Romans 4-6	

Submit questions to MCCquestions@yahoo.com

