



MESSAGE

Lead Something

A leader is a dealer in hope. —Napoleon Bonaparte

REFLECTION

Seems quite daunting, doesn't it? What does it mean to envision people? How do you enthuse people who don't seem enthusiastic? Equip people with what to do what? Enable them to succeed... how are we expected to succeed at this mammoth task given that we are fallen, broken, insecure, unconfident, ill prepared, sinful, hurting, tired, unequipped, scared (have I mentioned you yet?) people?

The answer is not by our strength but by God's grace, guidance, wisdom, passion and strength. But God's goodness will only meet us half way in the stakes of leadership! If you don't commit to learn, grow, discipline yourself, build character, grow in love, take risks, chase visions, communicate passion, etc., then God has little to work with!

Leadership is about movement! If you think you're leading something and it's going nowhere, then you're kind of 'just standing in front of it!' I remember the first leadership conference I went to. Sitting there listening to Bill Hybels speak on how to increase the effectiveness of your leadership. His number one point was "Lead something, Anything, but lead it." If you aren't leading something you can't develop your leadership! It's as simple as that.

Jack Groppe (a Sports Performance Enhancer) comparing Christian Ministry with professional Sport said that Professional Sportsman spend their weeks training for only two hours of game time, however in Christian Ministry you are always in the game! You have to be in the game to see how it works, to learn the skills, to develop strategies and to strengthen skills. Enjoy the game!

CHALLENGE

- If you're not leading something and want to learn to lead, find something to lead!
- If you are leading something begin asking the question of yourself, how can I lead more effectively in this position?

What is Leadership? It's an elusive term! One that is hard to tie down. So where are we to start? Let me share some thoughts on what the great leadership minds of previous years have defined Leadership as. Warren Bennis and Burt Nanus, who are the leading authority (forgive the pun) on leadership in the business world say "Leadership is doing the right things." Vance Packard who is half of Hewlett and Packard says "Leadership is getting others to want to do something that you are convinced should be done." The great English theologian, preacher and Church leader J. Oswald Sanders reflects that "Leadership is Influence". Personally I tend to work off this definition when it comes to Christian Leadership: A leader is someone who wants to, and is able to envision, enthuse, equip and enable others to know God's will, mind, character and heart in the context of their life and the life of the Church.

ROM 12:6-8 **We have different gifts, according to the grace given us... If a person's gift is leadership, let them lead diligently.**