



I N T R O D U C T I O N

Introduction

Why Church Leadership Matters

Leadership in the church is not just about holding a position it is about serving people, protecting truth, and guiding the body of Christ with humility and strength. When we feel called to lead, it is important to understand why leadership matters and how it impacts every part of the church. Scripture gives us many purposes for having good spiritual leadership: whether we are the spiritual leader or we are being led by a mentor. Here are seven leadership purposes we will learn about

1 Guarding the Truth

Church leaders protect sound doctrine, helping keep the church grounded in truth and aligned with God's Word. A leader will study the word and be ready to speak truth if truth is not being told. We will be able to know when something sounds off and will be able to search for truth when we are not sure. We will keep our teams walking in the truth even when it is not popular opinion.

What commands are given in 2 Timothy 4:2-4?

2 Unity and Stability

Leaders provide steady, biblical responses that protect the health of the body. Knowing how to lead through conflict is an important part of being a leader. Where people are, there will be conflict close at hand. We are broken people, living in a broken world, trying to live for Christ. It is messy but if we are grounded in truth we can work through our conflict in a godly manner.

What will help us to live in unity and stability according to Ephesians 4:1-3, 13-16?

3 Spiritual Guidance

Leaders help people grow spiritually by teaching, mentoring, and modeling a Christ-like life. Without strong, Godly leadership, people can drift or be led astray. We need leaders in the church to help grow disciples. Discipleship begins with spiritually grounded leaders who take younger believers under their wings and help them build a strong foundation growing in the ways of the Lord.

According to Hebrews 13:7, what are we to consider as we grow?

4 Care for People

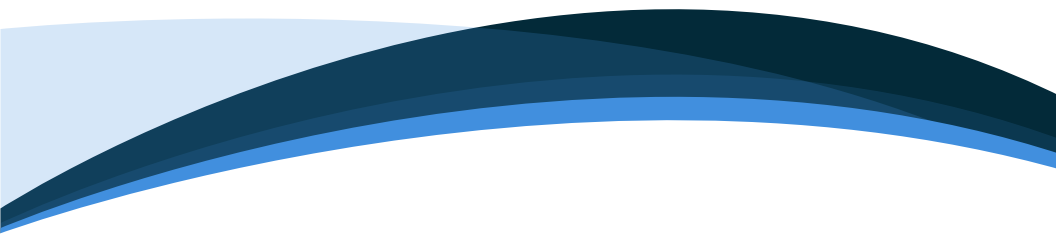
Leadership is about more than just teaching. It is about shepherding. Leaders care deeply for individuals, walking with them through both celebration and suffering. It is about serving together, not just handing out tasks. We get to walk together on this journey, learning about one another, caring for one another above our own passions and desires.

Write out Philippians 2:3-4

5 Vision and Direction

Churches need clear, Spirit-led direction. Leaders help the body understand God's calling for the church and guide them toward that vision. The vision for the church often starts with the lead pastor. The leaders within the church help develop ministry specific mission that leans in towards the overall vision.

What do we learn from Proverbs 29:18?



6 **Multiplying Disciples**

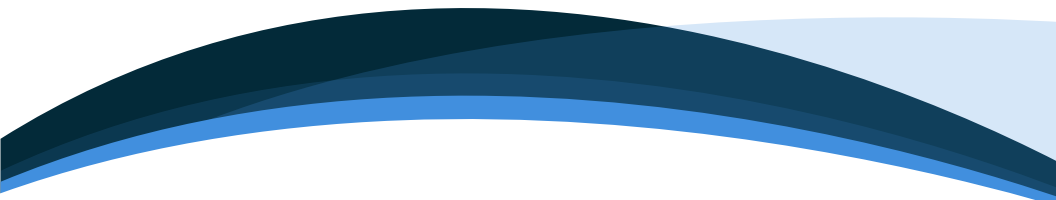
Healthy leaders build others up. Their goal is not to just lead but to empower others to discover their gifts and step into their own calling. Godly leaders want to grow godly men and women who want to use their own gifts to further the kingdom. A healthy leader is growing disciples that will outshine the leader himself.

What was the church given to equip the people in Ephesians 4:11-13?

7 **Witness to the World**

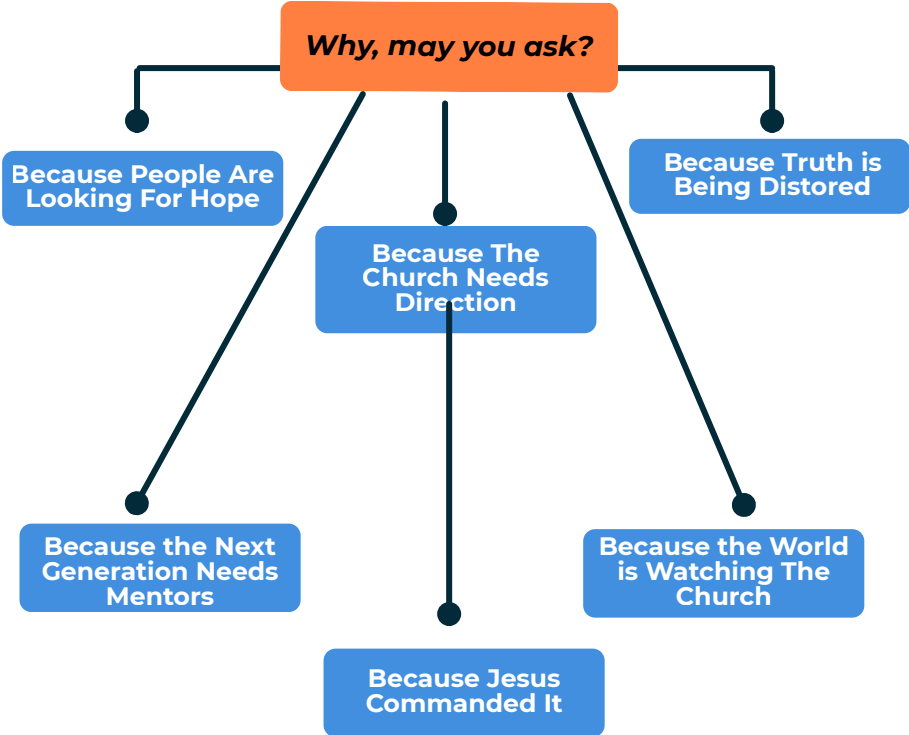
The way we lead reflects Jesus to the world. Loving, humble, Spirit-led leadership becomes a powerful testimony of Christ's transforming work. Godly leaders are not perfect; we are a work in progress. We are people willing to let go of the ways of the world, follow God, and do our best to live a life that is set apart for Christ.

What calling are we given in Matthew 28:18-20?



Is There a Need for Godly Leadership Today?

We live in a time of uncertainty, division, and spiritual confusion. God is still calling people to rise, not with ego or ambition, but with humble, Christ-like leadership that reflects His heart. The need is real, and the call is now. The world is where most of us learn to be leaders, but God is calling for a different kind of leadership. He is asking more from us.



Because People Are Looking For Hope

In a world filled with fear, anxiety, and brokenness, people are desperate for hope. Godly leaders point others not to themselves, but to Jesus, who is the only true hope. We will help others see through lived experiences what Christ has done and how He is there to help us all through.

Romans 5:3-5

Because the Church Needs Direction

Churches everywhere face cultural pressure, internal tension, and spiritual fatigue. God raises up leaders to help churches stay grounded in truth and focused on vision. He raises up people who are willing to direct others, willing to fight alongside them, willing to encourage and strengthen the body. He gives us Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Shepherds and Teachers to equip the body for the work ahead.

Ephesians 4:11-16

Because Truth Is Being Distorted

We are living in a time when truth is often treated as relative or optional. Godly leaders stand firm in the Word of God, helping others discern what is true and what is not. As a godly leader we should handle the truth so much that anything contrary to it will stand out and draw the red flags in our hearts. We will speak up when things are not looking right and will not stand for our teams to lean on anything false.

2 Timothy 4:3-4

Because The Next Generation Needs Mentors

Young believers and emerging leaders are hungry for guidance, authenticity, and spiritual mothers and fathers. Godly leadership is not optional, it is generational. A leader will draw the younger generations in, not make them feel left out or unwanted. We should be able to disciple them through the understanding of the word and what it is to serve together. A godly leader may even feel more like a mother or father than just the person in charge.

Philippians 4:9

Because The World Is Watching The Church

The church is called to be a light. But when leadership fails through pride, abuse, or compromise - our witness is damaged. Godly leadership aims to protect the reputation of Christ's church.

We are judged because of a few people out in the public's eye. Having more godly leadership that will be training others to walk in the ways of the Lord can help the world know we are not all the same.

Matthew 5:14-16

Because Jesus Commanded

Jesus did not just ask people to follow Him; He trained leaders to carry His mission forward. The Great Commission is a leadership call to go, teach, and disciple. He multiplied what He did so that He could continue the work through the ages, through us. He desires to, and chooses to use us. He does not need us to do the work; He could do the work on His own.

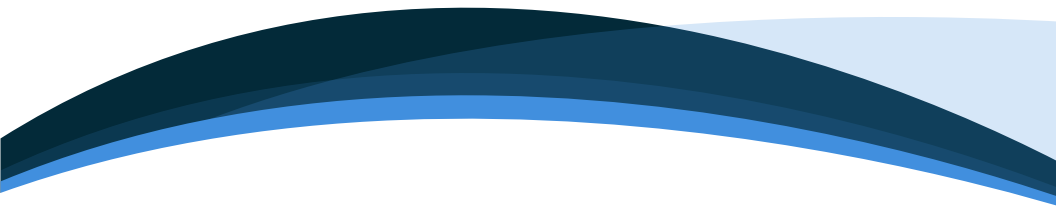
Matthew 28:18-20

What is the Difference Between Spiritual Leadership and Secular Leadership

Leadership is influence, but not all leadership is the same. While secular leadership alone often focuses on success, control, or image, spiritual leadership flows from surrender to God and a heart that seeks to serve others before self. Understanding this difference shapes how we lead in the church and how we reflect Christ to the world. As a believer, we will use characteristics from both lists to be an effective leader.

Area	Secular Leadership	Spiritual Leadership
Source of Authority	Skills, charisma, position	God's calling, character, and spiritual maturity
Goal	Success, profit, growth, recognition	Obedience to God, transformation, discipleship
Power Structure	Top-down: power and control	Servant-first: humility and service
Style	Assertive, strategic, self-promoting	Gentle, prayerful, Spirit-led
Legacy	Reputation and results	Faithfulness and fruitfulness

“Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.” Matthew 20:26-28





Spiritual Leadership Is:

- **Led by the Holy Spirit:**

Decisions come from time in prayer, reading the scriptures, and from a discernment process. It is not just logic or metrics that guides us. It is a supernatural leading.

[Acts 1:4-8; 2 Timothy 1:6-7](#)

- **Rooted in Humility:**

A spiritual leader does not push themselves forward but trusts God to open doors and is used for His purposes. We may sense our calling and because of this we should be spending time with the Lord growing our gifts. We do not assert ourselves into position, we patiently await God's perfect timing.

[James 3:1-2; Matthew 20:25-28](#)

- **Focused on Discipleship**

Rather than building a brand or climbing a ladder, a spiritual leader invests in others and multiplies maturity. Our heart is to draw more people into at least the same relationship with Christ as we have. We want to see others build their faith on the foundation of Christ.

[2 Corinthians 10:17-18; John 8:31-32](#)

- **Measured by Fruit, Not Fame**

Our success is defined by our faithfulness to God, how we help others, spiritual growth and lasting impact we have on people. It is not about popularity or visibility. We are not to do anything to be seen by others. It is all a service we do unto the Lord.

[Matthew 6:1-4; Galatians 1:10](#)





● Reflection Questions:

Why Church Leadership Matters:

Which of the seven leadership purposes resonates most with you right now? Why?

What are some ways you have seen healthy and unhealthy leadership impact a church?

Is There a Need for Godly Leadership Today?

Can you think of any other need for godly leadership outside what was seen here? If so, explain

In this time of uncertainty, division, and spiritual confusion, how do you see yourself filling the void of godly leadership within your sphere of influence?

What Is the Difference Between Spiritual Leadership and Secular Leadership?

Which secular traits of leadership would you say are bad for the church?

Which secular traits of leadership are good for the church? Think about traits you did not see listed here as well.

● Prayer & Journaling:

Lord, I thank you for this opportunity to learn how to grow in my leadership skills. An area I would love to grow in....

