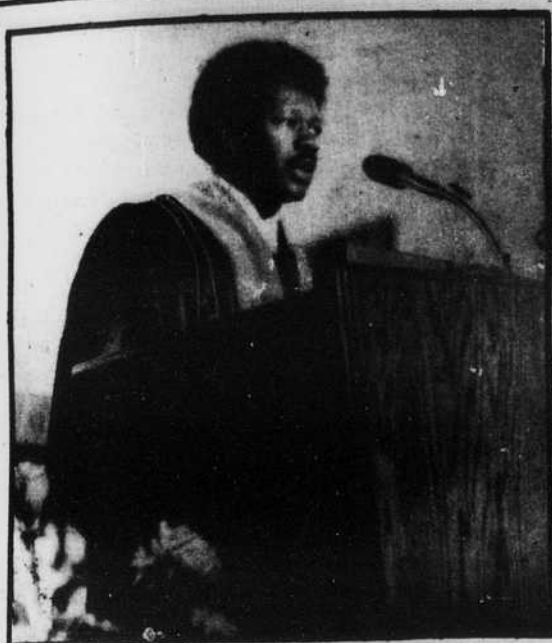


RELIGION



By: Rev. Sam Roberson

What Is Leadership?

Well, what is leadership? Everyone knows what it is. Or do they? No one seems really to be sure. We are able to define what managers do, but closest we seem able to come to a broadly acceptable definition of leadership is, it is what leaders do. Then, when we try to define leaders, about all the agreement we get is that leaders lead.

When God creates a leader, He gives him the capacity to make things happen. "There are three kinds of people in the world — those who don't know what's happening, those who watch what's happening, and those who make things happen." The one characteristic common to all leaders is the ability to make things happen.

Outstanding results cannot be forced out of people. They occur only when individuals collaborate under a leader's stimulation and inspiration in striving toward a worthy common goal. Action is the key, because the leader and manager types are not mutually exclusive. The leader usually is a good manager, but a good manager is not necessarily a good leader, because he may be weak in terms of motivating action in others.

Men of faith have always been men of action. It is an

impossibility for active men to serve in a passive role. This implies that such people are decisive in nature. Leadership action demands faith. The settling of and striving for goals is an act of faith.

We need to enlarge the definition of leadership to mean that professionals are also the best at what they do and get results. This means they are professionals because of their ability, not only to act, but to perform at a high efficiency level. Persons are where they are because of prescribed study and credentials. But more than that, they perform competently. If not, they soon lose their right to practice through competition.

If a leader is to act decisively to get results, he must follow certain principles (see Psalms 1). But here are some other points to consider to achieve the best results:

1. Determine your objectives: Determine the important end results you want to attain and when. State them in writing, accurately, briefly, and clearly.

2. Plan necessary activities: Decide what major activities must be performed in order to achieve your objectives: general objectives; specific objectives; long-range intermediate, and immediate. Question every proposed activity. Is it necessary? Is it important? Why?

3. Organize your program: Make a checklist of all important things to be done. Remember that urgent things are not necessarily important. Arrange them in order of priorities. Make a breakdown of each activity. Identify essential steps in sequence of importance. Question every step: What is its purpose? Why is it necessary? Where should it be done? When should it be done? Who should do it? How should it be done?

4. Prepare a timetable: Prepare a work schedule. Set a time limit for completion of each step in your program. Stick to your schedule — or reset it. Don't let time slip by without definite action. Follow through.

5. Establish control points.
6. Clarify responsibilities and accountability.
7. Maintain channels of communication.
8. Develop cooperation.
9. Resolve problems.
10. Give credit where credit is due.

Because leadership is an attitude as well as an action, it must be distinguished from management. Here are a list of distinctions.

1. Leadership is a quality; management is a science and an art.
2. Leadership provides vision; management supplies realistic perspectives.
3. Leadership deals with concepts; management relates to functions.
4. Leadership exercises faith; management has to do with facts.

5. Leadership seeks for effectiveness; management strives for efficiency.

6. Leadership is an influence for good among potential resources; management is the coordination of available resources organized for maximum accomplishment.

To summarize, the concept of leadership means one who guides activities of others and who himself acts and performs to bring those activities about. He is capable of performing acts which will guide a group in achieving objectives. He has the capacities of vision and faith, has the ability to be concerned and to comprehend, exercises action through effective and personal influence in the direction of an enterprise and the development of the potential into the practical and/or profitable means.

To accomplish this, a TRUE LEADER must have a strong drive to take the initiative to act — a kind of initial stirring that causes people and an organization to use their best abilities to accomplish a desired end.

Before Moses was chosen to lead the children of Israel, He spent sometime in Egypt!

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In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

St. John 1:1

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION: PART I —

BEING BROUGHT OUT TO BE BROUGHT IN

Rev. A. J. Thompson, Pastor
Victory Missionary Baptist Church

In the order of things, God foreknows us, sanctifies us, ordains us, SAVES us, fills us with the HOLY GHOST and sends us out.

CHRIST JESUS HIMSELF IS GOD'S SALVATION. The PLAN OF SALVATION is found in Genesis, Chapters 1 through 5. Salvation is a gift which comes with believing on Jesus Christ and being steadfast in the faith. We experience this glorious salvation that Jesus bought for us and the precious promises of the Gospel, when we partake of the Divine Nature. 2 Peter, Chapter 1. The Lord saves us from the world (sin), but leaves us in the world to demonstrate salvation to the world. We are saved for the forgiveness of sin, but we must go on being saved from the presence, power and influence of sin. Our demonstration of salvation to the world must be done in a way that makes the Godliness in our lives something that people can see. The business of "becoming" never ceases — the business of being "brought in" never ceases. Like the children of Israel, there is a "wilderness" in each of our lives. We continue to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Word. There are spiritual mileposts in each of our lives that we ought to be able to mark.

"BEING BROUGHT OUT TO BE BROUGHT IN"

(by Bianca, Especially For Sister McCoy)

*Being brought out
to be brought in:
To live a life
that's free from sin.*

*Changing habits
of yesteryears:
Breaking the bond
of countless fears.*

*Coming into
on one accord,
relationship
with Christ the Lord;
Learning the way,
truth and the life
as the Light shines:
God's Word the knife.*

*Draining the old
to fill with new;
Many are called
chosen are few.*

*As one: growing
from milk to meat;*

*Victory in
place of defeat.*

*Serving first one
then another;
Christ directed
and no other.*

*Not wilderness
but Canaan's test;
Yet, not our own;
instead God's rest.*

*Though turning from
still turning to;
a self-willed mind
brought into view.*

*Experiencing joy
in spite of foes;
Following where
ever Christ goes.*

*Being brought out
to be brought in:
Loving Father;
Jesus, a friend.*



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