



Leading for Tomorrow

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- How can we take all that we've learned and discern a way forward towards being hope-filled leaders for the future?
 - How do we approach the Scriptures?
 - Reading the Emmaus way

Luke 24:25-27 “Then he said to them, ‘Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! 26 Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’ 27 Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.”

Does the New Testament provide us with a vision of leadership? And if so, what is it?

Vision! Inspire! Growth!

- “Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.”
- “The key to successful leadership today is influence, not authority.”
- “We cannot become what we need by remaining what we are.”
- “Change is inevitable. Growth is optional.”
- “Life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it.”

New Testament evidence?

Romans 12:6-8 “We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; **7** if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; **8** if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.”

New Testament evidence?

1 Cor 3:21-23 “**21** So then, no more boasting about human leaders! All things are yours, **22** whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, **23** and you are of Christ, and Christ is of God.”

Leaders or Followers?

Matt 16:24 - “Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and **follow** me.’”

“I follow Jesus”

1 Cor 3:4-11

For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere human beings? **5** What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. **6** I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. **7** So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. **8** The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. **9** For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building. **10** By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. **11** For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

“I follow Jesus”

1 Cor 11:1 “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.”

With all of this in mind, what does a hopeful Christian leader for tomorrow look like?

Following Jesus

- “Deny yourself” (Matt 16:24)
- “Take up your cross” (Matt 16:24)
- Might involve “selling your possessions” (Matt 19:21)
- Drinking Christ’s cup of suffering (Matt 20)
- Leaving loved ones (Luke 14:26)

Matt 5:3-11

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

SO HOW do we become *hopeful* leaders for tomorrow?

Eschatological Hope

1 Thess 4:13-18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. **14** For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. **15** For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. **16** For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. **17** Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. **18** Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Eschatological Hope

Philippians 3:20-21 — But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. **21** He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

2 Cor 4:16 - 5:9

Present Hope

Matt 4:17 “From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near (is at hand).”

Matt 11:2-5 “When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.”