

**Reading:** Ephesians 4:11-15

**Topic:** Becoming Mature In Our  
Ministry & Leadership

**INTRODUCTION:** It is possible for people with leadership \_\_\_\_\_ to have many of the talents and qualifications to be in \_\_\_\_\_ and be a leader, but yet lack maturity which renders them ineffective.

## I. LEARN HOW TO FOLLOW:

### A. *Good Leader = Good Follower:*

1. Jesus called twelve \_\_\_\_\_ to be the founders and \_\_\_\_\_ of His Church, but when He called them He requested of them that they \_\_\_\_\_ Him first. Mt. 4:19
2. These ministers and leaders to be had the \_\_\_\_\_ to lead, but before they could become effective, it was necessary for them to learn how to submit themselves to the one \_\_\_\_\_ them. Jn. 13:16

### B. *No Following – No Leading:*

1. There are people who have God given \_\_\_\_\_ to be in ministry and leadership, but because they do not learn how to submit and \_\_\_\_\_ instructions from those God has placed over them, they fail.
2. Not being able to \_\_\_\_\_ another leader is a sign of immaturity and selfishness and unless this is corrected in an individual, they will never become an \_\_\_\_\_ minister and leader. 3 Jn. 1:9

## II. CARE ABOUT THE SMALL THINGS:

### A. *Faithfulness In Little:*

1. Jesus taught His followers that He was preparing for leadership and \_\_\_\_\_ that if one planned to a great \_\_\_\_\_ one day, they would first have to learn the lesson of being faithful in little things. Lk. 16:10
2. The twelve got into discussions over who was going to be the \_\_\_\_\_ one in the new Kingdom of Jesus and Jesus informed them more than once that if they didn't learn the \_\_\_\_\_ of doing the \_\_\_\_\_ things, they would never be faithful in a great position. Mk. 9:33-37

### B. *Mature Leaders Pay Attention To Little Things:*

1. A great leader and minister will \_\_\_\_\_ about the little things even when they are given great responsibility and authority as they develop and \_\_\_\_\_ in ministry.
2. In the Parable of the Talents, Jesus taught about one individual who was give one small \_\_\_\_\_ to be responsible for, but he was not even faithful in one small \_\_\_\_\_ and thus ended up wasting his time and facing judgment for not being faithful in the little things. Mt. 25:28-30

## III. GENUINELY CARE ABOUT PEOPLE:

### A. *People – Not Position:*

1. An immature leader or \_\_\_\_\_ may care more about their own position and self-image than they care about the \_\_\_\_\_ that they are supposed to be ministering to. Lk. 20:46
2. This kind of immature leadership will end up \_\_\_\_\_ people instead of helping them to receive and

will try to exercise power and control instead of helping people grow in their \_\_\_\_\_ with God. Mt. 20: 25,26

**B. Care – Really Care:**

1. A mature leader and minister will have a genuine care and \_\_\_\_\_ for the people that God places in their circle and will want to seek to \_\_\_\_\_ them rather than try to impress them. 2 Cor. 12:15
2. A mature individual will care more about \_\_\_\_\_ than about \_\_\_\_\_ and will seek to help people move forward and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord ahead of getting self-promotion. Phil. 4:1

**IV. RECOGNIZE THAT YOU CAN'T MAKE IT ALONE:**

**A. Not Self Made:**

1. Some immature individuals proclaim that they are self-made \_\_\_\_\_ but as one wise man noted, "if you see a turtle sitting on a fence post please realize that it didn't get \_\_\_\_\_ by itself."
2. People who declare themselves to be self-made usually are egoists who don't recognize that \_\_\_\_\_ a mother, they wouldn't have been \_\_\_\_\_ and raised, and without the \_\_\_\_\_ and input of other people, they wouldn't have or know anything. 1 Cor. 4:7

**B. Recognition Of Others:**

1. A mature leader and \_\_\_\_\_ will understand that he/she has roots that they got from the leadership of others and that many teachers and elders have given \_\_\_\_\_ into what they have now become today. Eph. 4:1,2
2. A mature leader and \_\_\_\_\_ values the input and experience of elders and teachers and no matter how long they are leading, they still want to learn \_\_\_\_\_ from others. Phil. 3:12-14

**CONCLUSION:** Though our physical \_\_\_\_\_ reaches maturity in early adulthood, our spiritual maturity is an ever ongoing \_\_\_\_\_ that will continue until Jesus comes and as leaders we must seek to continually learn and improve to be more effective \_\_\_\_\_ in the work of God.