

Reading: 2 Peter 1:1-10

Topic: Strengthening Your
Leading Ability

INTRODUCTION: People who are leaders and have leadership _____ must continually work at becoming a _____ and more effective leader through intentional effort.

I. ATTITUDE:

A. It's A Choice:

1. Whether we want to acknowledge it or not, attitude is a _____, and we chose either to have a bad attitude or a _____ attitude every day. I Thess. 5:16,
2. If we are prayed up and daily walking with _____, it will be much easier to have a _____ attitude than if we are prayerless and carnal. Job 1:20-22
3. Someone has stated "I don't always have control over what happens _____ me, but I can have control over what happens _____ me. Phil. 4:4

B. Bad Attitudes That Affect Ourselves & Others:

1. **Negativity** – God gave _____ to all of us, but again, it's up to each individual to _____ to be positive or _____ concerning the circumstances of our lives. Jn. 11:14-16
2. Negativity will delay and even destroy some of the _____ things and the victories that God has prepared for our lives. Heb. 3:19
3. **Critical spirit** – Unfortunately, there are some people who believe their _____ is the _____ of criticism and they spend their _____ and conversation constantly criticizing others. Jude 1:8
4. Constant destructive criticism is harmful to the _____ of God and to individuals, understanding that if one wants to find _____, there will be always _____ to find.

II. LEARNING FROM MISTAKES & FAILURES:

A. Everyone Makes Mistakes:

1. Because we are human, we are prone to make some mistakes in our _____, but though we do make mistakes, it is never the will of God for us to keep making the _____ ones over and over. Jn. 8:11
2. All great people who are now successful have had some real _____ in their past, and when you study their backgrounds, they _____ from their failures and built upon the learning experience.

B. Learning From Failure:

1. We all know about Thomas Edison and the invention of the _____, but not everyone knows that he tried over ten thousand experiments before he found the _____ that he was looking for. After ten thousand tries, when someone asked him if he was discouraged over his failures, Edison replied, "I have not failed, but I have discovered ten thousand things that will not _____."
2. Someone has said, "Failure isn't the worst thing that can happen to _____ just so long as you don't make it a habit."
3. Peter learned from his _____, and turned things around to become the _____ on the Day of Pentecost. I Pt. 5:1
4. Judas did not learn from his _____ and he ended up committing suicide. Mt. 27:3-5

III. CONTINUING TO GROW:

A. Room For Improvement:

1. No matter how much we _____, and no matter how much experience we have had, we still need to continue to _____ and learn in order to lead others. Hos. 6:3
2. There will never be a place that we _____ at in this life where we will be able to say, "I have arrived and I _____ everything, and there's nothing more to learn." Ph. 3:12-14
3. When you are no longer teachable, you will cease to _____.

B. Taking Steps To Grow:

1. There are things that you can choose to do to help yourself to _____:
 - a. listen to your elders – men and women of experience – they have acquired _____ that you can learn from. Jer. 5:5
 - b. read – the Bible of course, but also some good _____ and articles that have _____ in them that will help you to advance and grow. 2 Tim. 4:13
 - c. volunteer – don't look for a podium to display your _____ - just offer yourself to help in any capacity that _____ is needed in. That will give you more learning opportunity and experience to help you _____ even more. Rom. 5:4

CONCLUSION: When God calls us to _____ Him and to learn of Him, it will lead to us eventually leading others, and we must be prepared for that responsibility, and be prepared to _____ continually in order to remain effective as spiritual leaders. Mt. 11:29