

Reading: Joshua 1:1-9

Topic: Developing Attributes That Make Strong Leaders #1

INTRODUCTION: Everyone will eventually become a _____ of someone else, either individually one-on-one, or leading a _____ of individuals, and thus in order to be an effective and strong leader, we must develop qualities that will make us influential and an example to those who we are entrusted to lead.

I. KINDNESS:

A. Basic Needed Quality:

1. One of the instructions of the Word of God is a simple directive to just be _____ to one another, and in the world that we are living in today, _____ is greatly lacking. Eph. 4:32
2. The Word of God tells us that among the many qualities of the Almighty God there is the quality of His _____, not just to His own _____, but even to the ungodly. Lk. 6:35
3. In the shortest chapter of the Bible, the quality of the _____ of the Almighty God is mentioned and it referred to as _____. Ps. 117:1,2

B. The Contrast of Leaders:

1. King David had been hated and hunted for years by King Saul, but after the _____ of Saul and his sons, instead of taking revenge on Saul's descendants, David _____ kindness to them. 2 Sam. 9:1-3
2. When the grandson of King David succeeded Solomon as the King of Israel, the _____ gave the new young king some words of advice – be _____ to the people and you will be successful. 2 Chr. 10:6,7
3. Unfortunately, the new king refused to listen to the counsel of the _____, and he became very unkind and rough with the people which led to a _____ and the breakup of the country. 2 Chr. 10:13
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C. Simple Kindness:

1. Kindness is one of the most overlooked qualities of leadership, and yet it is so valuable and effective:
 - a. Kindness brings _____ into tense situations. Gen. 50:27
 - b. Kindness develops _____ between a leader and people. Rom. 12:10
 - c. Kindness softens hearts and _____, thus easing conflicts. Pr. 15:1
2. If only leaders and workers would understand the _____ of kindness and use this simple quality in the process of dealing with _____, the work of God and life itself would be so much better.

II. HUMILITY:

A. The Opposite of Pride:

1. The Word of God is full of warnings about the destructive power of _____, and yet unfortunately many people and _____ fall prey to this negative trait of Satan. Prov. 16:18
2. The lack of humility has led to the downfall of many _____ and influential people, not just in society but also in the _____ of God. Prov. 29:23
3. King Nebuchadnezzar of the great Babylon had become the most _____ leader on the earth at that time, but his heart was lifted up in _____ which led to his own downfall. Dan. 5:20
5. A proud leader will often become dictatorial and abusive with _____, not recognizing that he/she has become obsessed with _____.

B. The Quality of Christ:

1. Jesus called twelve men to be the founders of His church, but their carnal _____ were fixated on

becoming someone _____ in the new kingdom. Mk. 9:33-35

2. Jesus had to teach them repeatedly that one of the greatest attributes of a _____ in His kingdom was _____, not striving to be the greatest. Mt. 18:1-4
3. The final lesson from Jesus on _____ came at the last supper when Jesus did the lowest task of a servant – washing the dirty feet of His disciples. Jn. 13:4,5; 15-17

C. Authority & Humility:

1. Leading automatically puts one in a certain _____ of authority, but authority can either be used to _____ people or to abuse them. Mt. 20:25
2. What determines the successful use of authority is the _____ of the leader – if the leader has the power hungry _____, he/she will lead with the wrong spirit, and it will not go well. Pr. 13:10
3. A truly humble leader understands that _____ is given to them to minister and _____ people not to lord it over them and try to control their every move. 2 Cor. 10:8
4. The Word of God speaks powerfully about the benefits and _____ of humility, in contrast with God's displeasure with the _____ who become lifted up in themselves. 1 Pt. 5:5
5. God regards the contrite and _____ people as being in a high and _____ place. Is. 57:15

CONCLUSION: These two qualities of _____ and _____ will help any leader be more effective in working with people as well as bringing the blessing and approval of God.