
Leadership Principles from Revelation

Refresh Your Mind (Demonstrate Core Values)

To be an effective leader, you must keep your mind refreshed and renewed. Renewal of the mind is a supernatural work of the Spirit. For this to take place, the leader must regularly read God's Word. Read [Revelation 1:3](#). What does John give as a benefit of reading, hearing, and applying God's Word?

Check Your Motives (Demonstrate Core Values)

[Revelation 2-3](#) gives insight into how Jesus sees the motives behind our actions. He pierces through the activity and sees the **why** behind the what. Imagine that Jesus were to assess your leadership.

What would He say? What are your motives? Are they for self-promotion or God's glory? Are you friends with people to advance your career and be liked? Do you serve an audience of ONE or of many?

Hear the Truth from Others (Engage Others)

As a leader, it is vital that you surround yourself with people who are not simply "Yes" men or women. You need people who will speak truth into your life and you must be willing to receive that truth. Jesus gave an example of this truth giving in what He said to the Laodicean church in [Revelation 3:14-22](#). Although they "thought" they were doing well because they were financially stable, Jesus exposed their true state of hypocrisy.

- Do you have people in your life who are willing to stand up and speak the truth to you in love?
- Are you that kind of friend to other leaders?
- When people do share information with you that might be difficult to hear, how do you respond? Do you deny it? Do you blame others? Do you accept it and determine to get better?

Lead Out of the Overflow (Demonstrate Core Values)

As a spiritual leader, the temptation is to focus on everyone else's needs at the expense of your personal growth. God wants you to lead out of the overflow of what He is doing in your life ([Rev 10:8-11](#)). You can't lead where you haven't first been. People may do what you tell them to do, though over time, your followers will become who you are. Determine today to feed yourself daily on God's Word and lead out of the overflow of what He is speaking to you!

Dress for Success (Demonstrate Core Values)

Notice in [Revelation 15:6](#) how the angels are clothed. They wear pure white linen and golden bands. White linen is a symbol of holiness and purity ([Psa 51:7](#), [Isa 1:18](#), [Luke 9:29](#)). Gold purged of impurities is a symbol of righteousness ([Mal 3:3](#)).

How do you dress as a leader, spiritually? In your daily living, in what ways can you wrap yourself in white linen and gold? Are you hiding some area on your spiritual clothing that might be soiled or tattered? Make sure that you are dressed for success according to God's standard.

Instantly Obedient (Demonstrate Core Values)

Notice in [Revelation 16:1](#) that the angels wait for God's command before they proceed. Once God says, "Go," they obey immediately without objection. If this sounds easy, remember the hesitation of Moses and Jonah.

As a leader, do you respect God's timing by waiting for His command? Once you hear His command, do you obey without hesitation? Remember, delayed obedience is disobedience. Strive to develop an "instantly obedient" heart to God's promptings. Is there something that God has placed on your heart that you know He wants you to do now? Why are you waiting?

Redirect the Praise (Demonstrate Core Values)

How do you react when someone praises you? Consider how the angel reacted when John fell down to worship him in [Revelation 19:7-9](#). As a leader, take care to redirect all praises coming in your direction to the One who deserves them.

Godly Courage (Demonstrate Core Values)

Fear is a natural part of life; however, as leaders, we are commanded to possess the courage necessary to fulfill the mission and vision of God in our lives ([2Tim 1:7](#)). That is why [Revelation 21:8](#) is so convicting. The first type of people who experience the "second death" in the "lake of fire" are the cowardly. Ouch. God wants to replace our fears with godly courage – thus practicing the ultimate kind of faith! In what ways are you making yourself available to God so He can give you the godly courage you need as a leader?

Heed the Warnings (Demonstrate Core Values)

Revelation ends with a series of warnings ([Rev 22:12-21](#)). They remind us that:

- The words are true.
- There will be punishment for removing any of the words or adding to them.
- Judgment is coming.
- We should only worship God.

As a leader, it is an huge responsibility to present God's Word as He has written it. Your diligence in studying God's Word is important to your own well-being and the well-being of those under your care.