

Resilient Leadership in Church Planting: Leading Yourself to Finish the Race

The church rises and falls with the quality of its leaders. Do not take it for granted that you will finish in a good way. There are a lot of examples of leaders that stopped and also failed. Your development as a disciple and a leader will not come about by itself. You need to take leadership over your own life. It is not only because you are a model and the main builder of the culture in the new fellowship; it is also for your own health and development. The most important person you will have to lead is yourself. “Keep watch over yourselves, and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers” (Acts 20:28). Finishing the race depends upon how you lead yourself.

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1. Reconciled past

- a. Discover your crisis and your learned lessons in the past
- b. Approach your fears in a constructive manner
- c. Forgive others and yourself where needed

2. Optimism

- a. Learn to think constructively and dare to dream
- b. Practice gratefulness (and gracefulness) as a lifestyle
- c. Learn to be able to enjoy the little things in life

3. Problem solving competence

- a. Set year-goals for your profession, family, and hobbies
- b. Work on an effective and solution-minded approach to time
- c. Develop the competence of planning and working strategically

4. Working with your skills

- a. Discover your top 10 skills

- b. Choose your top 3 skills-pack (consisting of 2-3 complementary skills), and use them daily in practice
- c. Train for professionalism and mastery

5. Discipline

- a. Secure yourself 7-8 hours of sleep, allow yourself more short breaks
- b. Develop healthy eating habits, work towards your personal ideal weight
- c. Stop (possibly with counselling) any form of addiction

6. Self-confidence

- a. Define your values and priorities
- b. Implement a meaningful and measurable contribution in whatever work you do
- c. Discover and understand your passion in your work

7. Healthy Relationships

- a. Take some time for yourself and do so regularly
- b. Work on warm relationships with the people around you
- c. Practice expressing appreciation daily