

The Top 5 Lessons Learned as the CEO of a Christian Organisation

Much has been written on Leadership in the Twenty First Century. Calling on her experience of leading a major Christian Organisation in the UK through a periods of change Nola Leach will examine the challenges of leadership both personally and organisationally and how these challenges affect the growth and development of an organisation. She will look honestly at the difficulties and personal costs entailed in leadership and ask the question what are the distinctive marks of Christian Leadership?

Nola Leach is the Chief Executive Officer of CARE,(Christian Action Research and Education) one of Europe's leading Christian Charities which provides resources and helps bring Christian insight and experience to matters of public policy and practical caring initiatives. CARE undertakes a variety of social caring and educational programmes as well as research. It is represented in the UK Parliaments and Assemblies, at the EU in Brussels and at the UN at Geneva and New York. As Head of the Public Affairs team Nola leads campaigns on topics such as human trafficking, internet pornography and the value of life from its beginning to its natural end. Nola is in increasing demand as a writer public speaker and broadcaster.

I. Introduction

A. Asking the correct questions.

- Different Leadership Models

B. The correct context

C. What is distinctive about Christian leadership?

- Called by God
- Jn 15:16 “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit”
- 1Cor 1:27 “But God chose the foolish things of this world to shame the wise”

C. What does a healthy Christian organisation look like?

- i. Firm roots
- ii. A common goal
- iii. A motivated staff
- iv. Always developing
- v. Undergirded by prayer

II. Leaders must have a Vision

A. Prov. 29:18 “Where there is no vision the people perish”

B. Let God be your Guide

C. See the Big Picture

Phil.3:14 *"I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me"*

III. Leaders must Understand the Times

- A. 1 Chron 12:32 Men of Issachar who understood the times
- B. The challenges of Change
 - i. Loneliness
 - ii. Courage
 - iii. Communication
 - iv. The Human Consequences
 - v. Energy

IV. Leaders must Build a Team

- A. Ensuring Followers
- B. Empowering others
- C. Avoiding the danger of Second Best

V. Leaders must be Honest

- A. With Themselves
Be yourself
- B. With staff
Admit mistakes – Good leaders have small egos
- C. With the world
The importance of God's values

VI. Leaders must be Christ-like – The perfect Leader

- A. Jesus the Visionary
- B. Jesus the Coach

C. Jesus the Radical

D. Jesus the Team Builder

E. Jesus the Servant Leader

Suggested Reading:

J. M Collins *From Good to Great* Random House; *Now Discover your Strengths* Marcus Buckingham & Donald O.Clifton, Simon & Schuster; *Leadership Above the Line*; Dr Sarah Sumner; (Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Illinois, 2006)