

## Leading a Local Church

Local church pastors have enormous demands on them. Everyone expects pastors to solve their problems, to look perfectly, and to always be available. How do you lead effectively in this environment? How do you adapt your leadership as the church experiences change and growth? This workshop will consider the role of the local church pastor and share some insights on bringing vision, strategy and structure to the life of the church while also developing relationships with people in and around the church.

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### 1. The Role of the Local Church Leader

#### a. Biblical Terminology

Elder – Seniority and Authority (1 Timothy 5v17; Titus 1v5-6; 1 Peter 5v1)

Overseer – Authority & Management (1 Timothy 3v1-7; Titus 1v6)

Pastor – Work (Ephesians 4v11; 1 Peter 5v2)

#### b. Biblical Imagery

Shepherd (1 Peter 5v1)

Steward/Household Manager (1 Timothy 3v4-5, 15)

Farmer (1 Corinthians 5v6)

Builder (1 Corinthians 5v10-15)

Soldier (2 Timothy 2v3-4)

Athlete (2 Timothy 2v5)

Priest (Romans 15v16)

King/Prince (Ezekiel 34)

### 2. The Responsibilities of the Local Church Leader

#### a. Tasks of the Shepherd (Ezekiel 34v1-6; John 21v15-23; 1 Peter 5v1-4)

Lead the sheep

Feed the sheep

Protect the sheep

Find the sheep

Heal the sheep

Carry the sheep

b. Trusting the Chief Shepherd

Jesus is the “Good Shepherd” of the sheep (John 10v11-18; 1 Peter 5v4)

You are an under-shepherd (1 Peter 5v1-4)

Jesus is the Head of the Church (Ephesians 5v22-24)

**3. Models of Local Church Leadership**

a. The Chaplain – He meets the needs and demands of the congregation

b. The Champion – He does the work of ministry on behalf of the congregation

c. The Coach – He mentors the congregation to do the work of gospel

**4. Setting Vision Direction & Strategy**

a. The leaders must know

where to go

how to get there

what will be needed to get there safely

what obstacles might be faced

when to change direction

b. The leader must communicate

a vision to the congregation

the objectives for the congregation

confidence that they can be attained

willingness to adjust as necessary

**5. Growing in Leadership Skill**

a. Where we learn

Learning from the Word of God

Learning from the Wisdom of others

Learning from the Example of others

Learning from personal Experience

b. How we learn

Reflection

Analysis

Review

Critique

Repentance

## 6. Leading the Church through Growth

- a. Prioritization
  - Word of God and Prayer – Acts 6v2
  - Evangelism – 2 Timothy 4v1-5
- b. Pluralization
  - Acts 14v23
- c. Delegation
  - Exodus 18v1-27 & Acts 6v1-7
- d. Multiplication
  - Ephesians 4v11-13
  - Acts 16v1-5 & 2 Timothy 3v10-16
  - 2 Timothy 2v2
  - Mark 3v13-19; 6v6-13; Luke 10v1-24; Matthew 28v16-20; Acts 1v8

### ***Suggested Readings:***

Jensen & Payne, *The Trellis and the Vine* (Matthias Media)  
Dr. Ray Evans, *Ready Steady Grow* (IVP)  
Matthew Perman, *What's best next* (Zondervan)  
Steve Tibbert, *Good to Grow* (Authentic Media)  
Jim Collins, *From Good to Great* (Random House Business)  
Greg McKeown. *Essentialism* (Virgin Books)