SNAPSHOT OF BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP

Danny Sherman

plsal.org



BEWARE OF PUTTING THE WRONG PERSON IN LEADERSHIP

WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON 3 ASPECTS OF BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP:

- FOUNDATION
- CHARACTER
- LIFESTYLE

1. FOUNDATION

SPENDS REGULAR TIME
ALONE WITH GOD.

THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE
IS A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP
WITH JESUS CHRIST.

John 15:4-5

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you.
Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself,
unless it remains in the vine, so neither can you
unless you remain in me.
I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who
remains in me—and I in him—bears much fruit,
because apart from me
you can accomplish nothing.

Biblical Studies Press. (2019). The NET Bible (Second Edition, Jn 15:4–5). Thomas Nelson.

μένω
used 118 times in 102 verses

proceed, continue, remain,
abide, persevere, stay

Those who persevere in Christ,
are genuine believers, and they will produce fruit.

The quality of this perseverance can vary.

Some maintain a closer communion
with God than others.

1 John 1:3

3 What we have seen and heard
we announce to you too,
so that you may have fellowship with us
(and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and
with his Son Jesus Christ).

Biblical Studies Press. (2019). The NET Bible (Second Edition, 1 Jn 1:3). Thomas Nelson.

κοινωνία
used 19 times in 17 verses

fellowship, close association, community, sharing,
participating together

Genuine believers share
a special bond that is founded on
an intimate, personal relationship with God.

Psalm 119:97

97 O how I love your law!
All day long I meditate on it.

Biblical Studies Press. (2019). The NET Bible (Second Edition, Ps 119:97). Thomas Nelson.

שִׂיחָה
3 times in 3 verses

contemplate, reflect, meditate on God
(who He is and what He has done)
and His Word

It is part of worshiping God.

A Biblical leader will spend much time
meditating on His Word.

If someone truly loves God,
they will also love His Word.

Psalm 119:145

145 I cried out with all my heart,
“Answer me, O LORD!
I will observe your statutes.”

Biblical Studies Press. (2019). The NET Bible (Second Edition, Ps 119:145). Thomas Nelson.

קרא
734 times in 687 verses

cry out, plead, ask, call

A Biblical leader cries out to God
with all his heart.
He has the desire to live
in unwavering obedience.

If someone is a church leader,
but he does not spend time
with God regularly,

that person is not a Biblical leader!

He is not setting
the example for others.

He is simply a person
who has been assigned

A POSITION

by other men.

2. CHARACTER

His personal character
should reflect the character of Christ.

1 John 2:6

The one who says he resides in God
ought himself to walk
just as Jesus walked.

Biblical Studies Press. (2019). The NET Bible (Second Edition, Ps 119:145). Thomas Nelson.

περιπατέω
95 times in 88 verses

walk, live, behave, conduct his life

A Biblical leader follows Christ
wherever He leads.
He surrenders his life to God without reserve
and allows Him to live through him.

1 Corinthians 11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (1 Co 11:1). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

μιμητής
6 times in 6 verses

imitate, observe and do the same

A Biblical leader carefully observes
the life of Christ
and strives to imitate His life
in his own life.

The majority of the qualities of a leader
have to do with
the kind of person he is:

HIS CHARACTER.

It is not based on DEGREES,
nor THE SIZE OF HIS BANK ACCOUNT,
nor FAMILY TIES,
nor THE INFLUENCE OF HIS FRIENDS.

A Biblical leader becomes
a leader in the church
because **HE HAS**
the qualities of a leader
and **LIVES** like a leader,
according to the teaching
of the Word of God.

Titus 1:5-9

*5 This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and **appoint elders** in every town as I directed you— 6 if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. 7 For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, 8 but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. 9 He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.*

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Tt 1:5–9). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

πρεσβύτερος
66 times in 66 verses

an older man, someone with maturity

An elder is someone who
has shown himself to be responsible.

He is a good example.

He is known in the congregation
as someone recognized by the Holy Spirit
as having spiritual authority.
(1 Thessalonians 5:12-13)

1 Timothy 3:1-13

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of ***overseer****, he desires a noble task. 2 Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4 He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, 5 for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil.*
7 Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.
8 Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain.

9 They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. 11 Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. 12 Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. 13 For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (1 Ti 3:1–13). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

ἐπισκοπή
4 times in 4 verses

someone who supervises, cares for, visits

It is used in the same sense as
πρεσβύτερος.

Acts 20:28

28 Pay careful attention to yourselves
and to all the flock,
in which the Holy Spirit
has made you overseers,
to care for the church of God,
which he obtained with his own blood.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Ac 20:28). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

ἐπίσκοπος
5 times 5 verses

supervisor, guardian, caretaker

This is another form of the word ἐπισκοπή.

God is the only one
who can put someone as an elder.

THE CONGREGATION RECOGNIZES THOSE THAT GOD HAS SELECTED.

It should not be because someone is
THE MOST POPULAR
nor THE MOST POWERFUL
nor THE OLDEST –
not even because he has
THE MOST INFLUENTIAL CONNECTIONS.

3. LIFESTYLE

A Biblical leader
shows everyone

HOW TO LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

A lifestyle of being busy
with good activities

IS NOT

the same as a lifestyle of
spending time with God.

Luke 10:38-42

38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village.
And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house.
39 And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's
feet and listened to his teaching. 40 But Martha was
distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and
said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to
serve alone? Tell her then to help me." 41 But the Lord
answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and
troubled about many things, 42 but one thing is necessary.
Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken
away from her."

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Lk 10:38–42). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

A BIBLICAL LEADER
SHARES HIS FAITH REGULARLY
AS A WAY OF LIFE.

Romans 1:16

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel,
for it is the power of God for salvation
to everyone who believes,
to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Ro 1:16). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

Matthew 4:19

19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Mt 4:19). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

A BIBLICAL LEADER
TAKES CARE OF NEW BELIEVERS
AND HELPS THEM TO BE
ESTABLISHED IN A PERSONAL
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

1 Thessalonians 2:7-12

7 But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother
taking care of her own children. 8 So, being affectionately
desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only
the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had
become very dear to us.
9 For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked
night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you,
while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. 10 You are
witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and
blameless was our conduct toward you believers. 11 For you
know how, like a father with his children, 12 we exhorted
each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to
walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own
kingdom and glory.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (1 Th 2:7–12). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

Colossians 2:6-7

6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord,
so walk in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and
established in the faith, just as you were taught,
abounding in thanksgiving.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Col 2:6–7). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

A BIBLICAL LEADER
INVESTS HIS LIFE IN FAITHFUL MEN
WHO CAN REPRODUCE
THEMSELVES SPIRITUALLY.

Matthew 28:19-20

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Mt 28:19–20). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

1 Thessalonians 1:6-8

6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord,
for you received the word in much affliction, with the
joy of the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became an
example to all the believers in Macedonia and in
Achaia. 8 For not only has the word of the Lord
sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia,
but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so
that we need not say anything.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (1 Th 1:5–8). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

A BIBLICAL LEADER
HELPS TO TRAIN UP
THE NEXT GENERATION
OF LEADERSHIP IN THE CHURCH.

Mark 3:14

14 And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Mk 3:14). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

2 Timothy 2:1-2

You then, my child, be strengthened
by the grace that is in Christ Jesus,
2 and what you have heard from me
in the presence of many witnesses
entrust to faithful men,
who will be able to teach others also.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (2 Ti 2:1–2). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

A wise leader trains up others
who can take his place
and continue the ministry effectively.
We are all going to die!

WHO ARE YOU TRAINING UP?

A BIBLICAL LEADER
GOES OUT PERSONALLY,
OR SENDS OUT CAPABLE PEOPLE,
TO ESTABLISH NEW WORKS
WHERE THERE IS NO ESTABLISHED
GOSPEL PRESENCE.

John 20:21

21 Jesus said to them again,
“Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me,
even so I am sending you.”

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Jn 20:21). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

Acts 13:1-3

Now there were in the church at Antioch
prophets and teachers,
Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger,
Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend
of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.
2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting,
the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and
Saul for the work to which I have called them.”
3 Then after fasting and praying they laid their
hands on them and sent them off.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Ac 13:1–3). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

The Bible speaks of a **PLURALITY** of leadership.

It does not recommend

A ***POLITICAL BOSS***,

nor an ***"ALL POWERFUL" PASTOR***.

Neither does it mention
an exclusive club
of ***know-it-alls***
that never take into account
the voice of the congregation.

The Bible does speak of

HUMBLE SERVANTS

who give their life
to build up others.

Mark 10:45

45 For even the Son of Man
came not to be served but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Mk 10:45). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

Philippians 2:3-8

3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Php 2:3–8). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

1 Peter 5:1-4

So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: 2 shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; 3 not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (1 Pe 5:1–4). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

1 John 3:16

16 By this we know love,
that he laid down his life for us,
and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (1 Jn 3:16). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

Do not thoughtlessly pursue
becoming a leader or a teacher,
because your judgment
will be more severe.

James 3:1

Not many of you should
become teachers, my brothers,
for you know that we who teach
will be judged with greater strictness.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Jas 3:1). (2025). Crossway Bibles.

It is a **SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY**,
and if someone accepts to serve,
he should do it with excellence,
not halfway or with laziness.

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