

Partners In Courage, March 2015

# How The Seven Pillars of Leadership Apply to YOU.

Sermon by D. Wes Daughenbaugh

INTRODUCTION: (This is a two-part message, to be continued next month.)

We should all be interested in the subject of leadership. We should all have a basic understanding of what makes a good leader.

1. If we understand the seven main pillars of leadership we can more *effectively pray* that God will *raise up* leaders who are strong in these seven areas.

2. If we understand the seven main pillars of leadership we can more *effectively choose* the correct leaders *when we vote*.

3. If we understand the seven main pillars of leadership we can *effectively follow* the very best leaders.

4. If we understand the seven main pillars of leadership we can *effectively avoid* following the kind of leaders Jesus spoke of when He said, “**Leave them; they are blind guides. If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit**” (Matthew 15:14).

5. If we understand the seven main pillars of leadership we can *effectively oppose* leaders that would plunge our lives and our nation into destruction.

6. If we understand the seven main pillars of leadership we can *effectively grow* into men and women who lead people to Jesus, who lead others into paths of righteousness, and who become “responsible people bearing responsibility.” (God told Rev. Colton Wickramaratne that He would send him around the world and that he would be meeting “responsible people bearing responsibility.” That’s leadership.

7. If we understand the seven main pillars of leadership we can *effectively and continuously improve* in our own leadership.

## WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO BECOME A LEADER?

Daniel 12:3 **Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.** When you read this, does your heart say, “I’d like to be one of those, somehow, by God’s grace.” If not, why not? God’s wisdom is available to all. If we walk in God’s wisdom we will lead many to righteousness, whether or not we have any title or official position of leadership.

Proverbs 10:17 **Whoever heeds discipline shows the way to life, but whoever ignores correction leads others astray.**

\*\*\*\* According to this verse, you are either showing the way to life or leading others astray. You are already involved in leadership, and you cannot avoid it. You can say, “I have no interest in leadership or in learning the seven pillars of leadership. I just want to do my own thing, seek pleasure and riches, and live free from any responsibility for the care and well being of others.” Okay, that’s of course, your choice. But then you *will* be a leader. You will just be leading others astray.

I hope that all of you would like to lead many to righteousness and that every one of you would like to avoid leading others astray.

## FIRST, UNDERSTAND THAT VALUES ARE MADE UP OF VIRTUES.

Those who follow Christ are becoming like Christ. There are far more than seven virtues in His character. A collection of certain virtues working together produces values. You can never have too many virtues. An

example would be the value of preparedness. Living in preparedness is the fruit of several virtues: Prudence, a form of wisdom that sees what's coming in time to do something about it. Alertness is the virtue that sees what is happening right now. Knowledge is the virtue that knows what to do and how to do it. Self-discipline is the virtue that actually does what is needed, applying the knowledge in spite of any discomfort. Perseverance is the virtue that *keeps on* looking ahead, keeps it's eyes open to see what's happening, *keeps on* learning how and what to do, and *keeps on* applying the discipline.

So keep in mind that when I give you seven pillars of leadership, these “pillars” are made up of virtues. There may be a great many virtues involved in any one of the seven areas. I don't want to oversimplify leadership as only having seven aspects. Every virtue in the character of God is precious. However, each virtue will work in one or more of these seven areas.

Proverbs 9:1 **Wisdom has built her house; she has set up its seven pillars.**

## The Seven Pillars Of Leadership

1. Vision
2. Communication
3. People Skills
4. Character
5. Competence
6. Boldness
7. A Serving Heart.

There are hundreds of books on leadership with hundreds of explanation of what makes up good leaders. This list of seven is from the book LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE by Pat Williams. I like the book because it does not “secularize” leadership, making it a technique. It shows that Jesus was and is the perfect leader, balanced in all seven areas. I recommend that you buy, read, absorb and practice the truths in this book.

### 1. VISION

“Jesus exhibited all Seven Sides of Leadership in perfect balance. He was a leader of Vision—His vision was ‘the kingdom of heaven.’” (Page 14)

Hebrews 12:1-2 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. **For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Jesus had a vision of a great family of God, made up from every tribe, tongue, nation and race all loving God, loving each other, and built together into the church, the bride of Christ. It's a good thing to get caught up in HIS vision.

My first “vision” was to get Eugene and Springfield Oregon into a busing network so that we could sign up kids for Sunday School and church on any street or alley in a metro area of around 165,000 and get them transported to church ON TIME each Sunday. This vision was fulfilled. In late 1972 I began directing a choir at a church in Goshen, Oregon and was so happy to have something to do, which would bring glory to God. But after two weeks I felt uneasy. I prayed, asking God just what my ministry was supposed to be. I asked if I should study music theory to be a great music director. God spoke to me and said, “Your ministry here is primarily to be a soul winner.”

In another prayer meeting I asked, “How many souls can I believe you for?”

God spoke again, “As many as the stars of the heavens.”

That was a shocker. I went out and tried to witness to people one night, and it seemed forced. It was a failed effort. So I prayed, “Lord, how am I going to win as many as the stars of the heavens when I'm having so much trouble winning even one person?”

God spoke again, “Start with little children. They are the good ground of Matthew 13.” God showed me that all little children are like good ground but that they will not stay that way. If the good seed of God's word is not sown into their lives, weeds will grow and they will become hardened.

From late 1972 to August 1 of 1979 I worked that vision passionately. Having achieved that, I wanted to get the whole United States into a bussing network. So I traveled for 18 months, holding revivals and starting bus ministries. I had partial success in that I trained 400 people how to sign up children to ride

busses and together we signed up about 1,800 children while I was with them. The next year the Assemblies of God showed a nationwide jump in Sunday School attendance of 10,000. The trend had been declining, and no one knew why it unexpectedly increased. I've always believed my efforts were a major part of that increase.

But the vision of a national busing network was not fulfilled. It was too hard to travel with my wife and baby. So I pioneered a church in Omaha, NE. *The vision changed*. I wanted to build a model church that was winning a city. I envisioned people coming in to learn and be trained and going back out to affect the nation.

That vision was only partially fulfilled. A church was built, and I discovered how very difficult a job it is to pastor a healthy growing church of several hundred. During those years I developed a caring heart for pastors.

Over the years my "vision" began to be refined in such a way that I could say to any individual, "My vision is YOU. I want to help you grow into a Christ-like person." Paul put it this way, **"Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus,"** (Colossians 1:28).

I like this vision. It is endless, but not futile. Instead of looking over people's head to say, "I have a vision of building a big new building on a large campus" my vision is—YOU! I want to build YOU.

\*\*\*\* When we are *going to* a vision we can *get through* anything. Jesus could get through the cross experience because of what He was leading to. I've found that I NEED to have a vision so that I'm always excited about going TO something. Because I'm going TO something I end up leading others to go there with me. And as a natural byproduct, I get through the difficulties of life successfully.

\*\*\*\* In 1983 I lead a lady to Christ and afterward I said, "This gospel is so beautiful I want to tell the whole world." I wrote a booklet called HOW TO RECEIVE THE LIFE OF GOD. It was published in 17 languages and at least 273,000 copies are in print that I know of. There may be more because it was translated into several more languages but I never raised the money for printing. I don't know if the groups that used it in 17 languages ever raised the money to reprint it.

But recently a pastor asked me to send him a hundred copies and requested that the cover be updated. I did that and revised some of the copy inside the book so that I'm very enthused about the booklet again. The new version is being printed now. It has a BEAUTIFUL new cover.

\*\*\*\* I believe we are living, like Jeremiah, in the time of the fall of a great nation. God has told me that the WORD for America is DISRUPTION. (He said it's a better word than DESTRUCTION. He told me that we should use the times of DISRUPTION as "JOYFUL OPPORTUNITIES TO WIN SOULS." He wants us to prepare physically for disruption in food and energy supplies. He said to avoid giving Him disruption in obedience and fellowship. (See Revelations 20:11, Hebrews 13:25 and 1 Thes. 5: 16-18).

\*\*\*\* I WOULD LIKE YOU TO BE PART OF MY VISION. I believe we must pray and witness as never before. Most Christians have never won a soul. But what if you were to give out one booklet a day? You'd be spending about \$40 a month witnessing. But it's very doable. If your friendship or friendliness opens people's hearts the booklet will open their minds. They'll understand why Jesus is the only way to eternal life.

\*\*\*\* I'm envisioning churches printing 1,000 of these booklets at a time, putting their address and contact information on the blank inside back cover. I would not make any profit on that, but would rejoice to see more copies get out to win the lost.

\*\*\*\* I'm also finding strength in a vision to write a book called "BLESSED OR OPPRESSED: What you want can have you. What you don't want can't keep you." I envision that it will help multitudes live free of spiritual oppression and be given over to the Holy Spirit. It will help people know how to deliver others without getting the focus on the devil. I will need LOTS of prayer because this will be a very difficult subject to keep in balance, made brief, and fully illustrated. Plus it's emotionally painful.

I NEED YOUR PRAYERS because my greatest failures in all of my 41 plus years of ministry occurred in this area of deliverance. I learned a lot the hard way. From time to time I'm able to counsel ministries that I see are getting off track and making similar errors. There is so much to say and it would need to be condensed. I can "see" people using it to get free and helping others to get free. I can "see" it bringing balance and an increased hunger for the Holy Spirit.

Having a "VISION" gives us strength. We can be a part of each other's vision. I no longer just concentrate on my own vision. God has raised up wonderful brothers and sisters with beautiful visions and I'm happy to be a part of their vision. I'd be delighted to have you tell me YOUR VISION so that I could pray for you and encourage you. *WHAT IS YOUR VISION? God has one for you and it will give you strength to get through anything that's terrible because you'll be going to something that's wonderful.*

In his book *BE ALL YOU CAN BE*, John Maxell writes, "The poorest person in the world is not the person who doesn't have a nickel. The poorest person in the world is the one who doesn't have a vision. If you don't have a dream—a goal and a purpose in life—you're never going to become what you could become. Successful people are motivated by a dream beyond them. They have a dream that is bigger than themselves; they have something that constantly keeps them going. It's out of their reach, and yet they believe that if they work hard enough, they will someday hold that dream in their hands... Unsuccessful people are only motivated by today. They are not tomorrow thinkers."

## 2. COMMUNICATION

A vision has to be communicated. God has special anointings to help us. In 1973 a friend of mine was enveloped in a white cloud of God's glory and God spoke to him, giving him individual messages for everyone on our evangelism team. Part of what God said to me through his message was, "I saw you teaching congregations as if you'd draw a picture on a blackboard. You'll know what to say and how to say it to any audience." This has come to pass. I have several sermons where we put up the drawings that illustrate my books. People "see" the truth as well as hear it. As I yield to the Holy Spirit He gives me ability to communicate truth. The feed back I often get is that "Wes makes profound truth simple to understand, easy to remember and easy to apply." That ability is from the Lord.

\*\*\*\* To give light a lamp has to be plugged in. My natural abilities would be like an unplugged lamp, incapable of shining any light on a subject, if I do not **DEPEND** upon the Lord. That's why I always pray, "Take me over. Speak through me." And to make sure I have something worth saying, I'm always praying, "Speak **TO** me, Lord."

**Exodus 4:10-12 And Moses said to the Lord, "Pardon your servant, Lord. Lord, I have never been eloquent in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue." The Lord said to him, "Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say."**

Jesus said, <sup>1</sup> **"But before all this, they will seize you and persecute you. They will hand you over to synagogues and put you in prison, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. <sup>13</sup> And so you will bear testimony to me. <sup>14</sup> But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. <sup>15</sup> For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict"** (Luke 21:12-15 NIV)

**Habakkuk 2:2 Then the Lord replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it."**

**1 Peter 3:15-16 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.**

The most powerful communication of all comes from hearts given over to the Holy Spirit. We can prepare to give an answer, as Peter said. We can write down the vision, taking time to refine and perfect it. But most of all, we should ask God to give us the flow of words necessary.

Notice that Peter says good communication is not just the ability to say the right words. It must be done with gentleness and respect. That's an example of virtues working together to make a value.

**Proverbs 25:15 Through patience a ruler can be persuaded, and a gentle tongue can break a bone.**

**Colossians 4:6 Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.**

\*\*\*\* Effective communication involves a lot of different virtues and in these verses we see a few: graciousness, patience, gentleness and respect.

John Maxwell is often quoted as saying, "No body cares how much you know until they know how much you care." That leads us into the next "pillar of leadership," PEOPLE SKILLS.

### 3. PEOPLE SKILLS

Evan M. Berman wrote, "You can always find people with hard skills, but success or failure often depends on the softer people skills. These are more difficult to find."

Pat Williams, in LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE has a "Checklist of People Skills."

I want to quote from that.

"People skills are sometimes called 'soft skills,' as opposed to such 'hard skills' as technical expertise. People skills have to do with maintaining positive, cooperative relationships with superiors, subordinates, and the public. Good people skills are essential to good leadership. People skills include (but are not limited to):

Self-control. In times of pressure and frustration, leaders with good people skills control their emotions, especially anger. They fix problems, not blame.

Even-handedness. Leaders avoid office politics, factions, and turf wars. They deal with difficult people in a constructive way.

Kindness. Leaders with people skills have compassion and empathy for the feelings of others.

Listening skills. Great leaders care enough to listen and learn.

Tolerance and acceptance. Leaders need to accept different opinions and personality types.

Ability to coach and mentor. Leaders with people skills are committed to their followers' growth as leaders.

Unselfishness. Leaders sacrifice their interests for others.

Love. The ability to love others is the most important people skill of all. Every people skill is an extension of our commitment to love others." (Page 18)

That's well said!

God wants all of His children to EXCELL in people skills.

**James 1:19-20 "My dear brothers and sisters, take not of this: Everyone should be quick to listen slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires."**

**1 Peter 1:8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.**

**Colossians 3:12-14 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.**

\*\*\*\* We are to be clothed in the kind of virtues that make up the value of "people skills." I've often referred to this as "having a sweet spirit." We must VALUE and desire to always manifest a Christ-like attitude. When we blow it, become angry, lose our temper or feel ourselves becoming bitter and sorry for our selves we must call out to God for His counsel and help. He will give us "thoughts" that take captive mad, bad and sad thoughts.

\*\*\*\* MANY OF YOU DON'T THINK OF YOURSELVES AS LEADERS and you never even consider that you could be a leader. Yet you LIKE the idea of being kind. You like the idea of controlling your temper and being a good listener. You like the idea of being forgiving, humble, gentle, compassionate

and loving. My advice is this: **DON'T SEEK LEADERSHIP. SEEK THE VIRTUES OF CHRIST.** If you do, you will find yourself influencing others in a very positive way. John Maxwell's most simplified definition of leadership is this: "Leadership is influence." You may never have a title or serve in a position of authority, but if you have these VIRTUES fleshed out in your life you will find that they automatically move you into being a STAR in the Kingdom of God. Remember the first scripture in this message? Daniel 12:3 **Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.** It's wise to practice God's word.

In my early 20's got taught me to find and memorize "sweet spirit verses" like the three just quoted. When it comes to "leadership" I just fall at the feet of Jesus. I pray that somehow He will use me to lead others—lead many to righteousness. I don't have to have a leader's title or a position of authority. But I **MUST HAVE** Christ-like virtues. I cannot and will not go without these. They are my quest. If we pursue these virtues we will end up having the **VALUE** of leadership—the combined fruit of many virtues.

#### 4. CHARACTER

Almost every book on leadership will teach you that "integrity" is a must and if it is lost, leadership is lost. People will not follow someone they do not trust. Pat Williams calls this pillar of leadership "CHARACTER." We can differentiate it from people skills by saying that it's about avoiding pretenses. It's about being in private what you are in public. It's about honesty and truthfulness and trustworthiness.

Jesus scorned the hypocritical "leaders" of his day. **"The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. So you must obey them and do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. They tie up heavy loads and put them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.**

**"Everything they do is done for men to see; They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; they love to be greeted in the marketplaces and to have men call them 'Rabbi'"** (Matthew 23:2-5).

The people Jesus scorned were those who gloried in leadership titles and leadership positions but who did not glory in integrity, or in the virtues that make up godly character.

\*\*\*\* Character begins with a right MOTIVE. The desire to glorify God should be the WHY in whatever we do and in whatever we don't do. If that is consistent in big things and small things, in public things and in private things, in life things and in death things—THEN WE ARE PEOPLE OF REAL CHARACTER AND INTEGRITY. We won't say one thing and do another. We won't have one standard for others and allow a much lower standard for our own behavior.

The Holy Spirit is the SPIRIT OF TRUTH. Jesus said the Holy Spirit would lead us into all truth, remind us of everything Jesus said, convict us of sin, and teach us all things. (See John 14-16)

\*\*\*\* We should ASK the Holy Spirit to counsel us and lead us into all integrity. For instance, I use this illustration whenever I preach about the Holy Spirit baptism:

The Holy Spirit will say, "Honey, if you have an open five-gallon can of water and a burning ember from a forest fire falls into it, what will happen?"

You'd say, "It would go out, Holy Spirit."

"That's right. Now if you have an open five-gallon can of gasoline and a burning ember falls into it, what will happen?"

"It will blow up, Holy Spirit."

"That's right. Now a burning ember of offense blew into you and you exploded. What does that mean?"

"That means I was full of gas, doesn't it?"

\*\*\*\* When we say SHE MADE ME SO MAD or HE MADE ME SO MAD we are moving away from integrity and Christ-like character. We should say, "I blew up at that offensive remark. I guess I'm not full enough of living water! There must be some gasoline of pride and impatience inside of me. Cleanse me, Holy Spirit." That kind of interaction with the Holy Spirit builds Christ-like character.

AGAIN, many of you reading or listening to this never imagine that you might be used of God in leadership. That seems way beyond you, and it's not even a desire in your heart. But when you hear about being led into all truth, YOU LIKE the idea of letting the Holy Spirit give you the REAL REASON that you got so angry. *This is leadership training at its finest!* If you have the kind of integrity that makes no excuses for bad behavior you have a major pillar of leadership being built into your life!

\*\*\*\* In August 2010, Mark Hurd was forced to resign as CEO of Hewlett-Packard. He had falsified expense reports in regard to a contractor named Jodie Fisher, a former soft-core porn movie actress. She was hired by Hewlett-Packard and paid up to \$5,000 per meeting to meet with Fortune 500 CEOs.

Ben Horowitz, a former HP software executive says, "If a CEO of a public company falsifies a financial statement he must be fired. This is nonnegotiable."

Jesus said, "**Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?**" (Luke 16:10-12)

\*\*\*\* The other day I received an envelop in the mail. There was a blank sheet of paper inside, and enclosed was a \$20 bill. There was no return address, no name of the giver. I thought, "Well, I could put this into our "date jar." Then I looked at the addressed envelope. It was addressed to GOSPEL NET MINISTRIES. So I deposited it in Gospel Net Ministries' general fund.' No one would have ever known if I had used that \$20 for personal use. There was no way to send a tax receipt for the gift because the giver was anonymous. But the intention of the giver was to give \$20 to the ministry, not to me personally. That was a small thing, a secret thing. Integrity or character also stays true in big and public things.

\*\*\*\* Bill Lear founded Lear Jet Corporation in 1963. When two of the jets crashed Bill Lear ordered the grounding of the other fifty-five planes that had been sold—a move that cost him many prospective buyers. But Lear was committed to doing the fight thing at any cost. Not willing to risk the life of a test pilot, he flew one of his own Lear Jets simulating the conditions under which the planes had crashed. He nearly met the fate of the previous pilots—but he succeeded in isolating and correcting the design flaw. He had the correction in all fifty-five planes at his own expense. Dave Kraft, who wrote the book *Leaders Who Last*, said of Bill Lear, "It took him two years to rebuild the business. He lost money and risked his own life, but he never compromised his character." (Page 19, *Leadership Excellence*)

\*\*\*\* Again, while most of you would never imagine you could be used of God in leadership, most of you would quickly embrace the idea of being totally honest and trustworthy with money. *The way I see it, the entire Bible is a leadership-training book!* Disciples who follow Christ and obey Him become leaders, people of influence, who LEAD MANY TO RIGHTEOUSNESS. So embrace the virtues that make up the value of character or we could say, integrity.

## 5. COMPETENCE

In the Parable of the Ten Minas Jesus told of a servant who was given one mina to invest on behalf of his master. In the master's absence, this servant multiplied the mina ten-fold. His master said, "**Well done, my good servant. Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities**" (Luke 19:17). This is an example of character AND competence. The man promoted to oversee ten cities in the Master's Kingdom had proved to be competent in management, and so was promoted.

When we elect a president, we ought to look at their track record, not just their rhetoric. Usually governors make the best presidents because they've had experience more closely related to running the executive branch of Federal government, having done it at the state level. In 2008 and again in 2012 America elected a president with NO *executive* experience in running either a business or a state government. The majority of voters trusted his rhetoric—his promises, rather than looking at a proven track record.

If God permits the United States to have another presidential election, we should choose a leader whose competence can be seen in a track record. Has he or she lowered taxes or balanced a budget? Has test scores of students in public schools improved? Did business pick up because of his or her policies?

When I think of competence I remember what people said about Jesus, The people were overwhelmed with amazement. **“He has done everything well,” they said. “He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak”** (Mark 7:37).

I think of what the Bible says about King David, **“And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them”** (Psalm 78:72). David was a skilled musical leading the nation in praise and worship. His hands were trained in battle and he was skillful with the sling, bow and arrow, and sword. Notice: (people skills (shepherding), character (integrity) and competency (skillful hands).

\*\*\*\* David was also an organizational genius. He could “muster the troops” and put the right people in charge of each division. He properly delegated authority so that each part of his kingdom had someone in charge. Once I was reading the Bible and saw all the people King David had put in charge of various things. **“Obil the Ishmaelite was in charge of the camels. Jehdeiah the Meronothite was in charge of the donkeys”** (1 Chronicles 27:30). I spoke out loud, “Dear Lord, why do I need to know who was in charge of David’s donkeys?” God spoke back immediately, *“You don’t. You need to know who’s in charge in your own ministry.”* Then He began to ask me who was in charge of various things, and I DIDN’T KNOW! I was not competent in organization and delegation.

\*\*\*\* You can’t be competent in everything, but if you are competent in some area it will help you lead. Sports heroes may be competent in basketball, and because of their great competency in sports they influence people when they speak.

\*\*\*\* There are two areas that I’d like to be very competent in—order and organization. Order puts first things first as in “first seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness or “first clean the inside of the cup and dish.” Organization is puts every THING in its place, gives every activity in its appropriate time and assigns every person an appropriate responsibility.

\*\*\*\* God taught me, **“ORDER MOVES THE BORDER.”** Where order comes to a standoff with disorder—that’s a boundary that limits the size of what you could have, do or be. Draw a square on the ground. It’s one-dimensional. The size of your square represents the order in your life. Now if you make that a cube—so that the height can be measured, the vertical part represents organization. Where organization and disorganization come to a standoff that creates the vertical boundary of your life.

Some people have a big square on the bottom because they put God first. But vertically, their box is only one inch tall, because they are so disorganized. Others have a lot of organization in their lives, but are disordered when it comes to putting God first. They are like an extremely tall sky scrapper—standing on a very small base. Such lives have influence and visibility—but because of a lack of “order” on the bottom the whole thing can tip over because of too much height on too small of a base. That’s the picture of organization without spiritual “order.”

When you have a lot of godly character and you do first things first, putting God first and first cleaning the inside of your heart and mind before trying to clean up problems—you have a big square on the bottom, a big base upon which to build your life’s work. You have a wonderful foundation. But to make a big difference in the world, you will need the **COMPETENCY OF ORGANIZATION** so that something rises on the foundation that can be seen far and wide.

The famous basketball coach, John Wooden said, “If you don’t have time to do it right, when will you have time to do it over?” Competency is **DOING IT RIGHT**. The final two pillars of leadership are **BOLDNESS** and **A SERVING HEART**. I’ll cover those with more examples of the first five pillars in Part 2 of this message.

**CONCLUSION:** God’s word treats all of you as if you are “leaders in training.” The teachings God gives to every disciple are the things “leaders” need to hear and embrace. How desperately the world needs wise people to shine like stars as they *lead* many to righteousness. So embrace the virtues of Christ, the very building blocks of great leadership. Mother Teresa is quoted as saying, **“We cannot do anything great. We can only do small things with great love.”** With that philosophy she became a great leader. So can you.

**I LOVE YOU. GOD BLESS YOU.**