

Session 3 – Character of a Leaders

What impact does a person's character have on their leadership?

Click the picture to watch the video (if the link doesn't work go to <https://youtu.be/vShcQBehcmY>)



Read 1 Timothy 3:1-5

1. A leader should seek to live a life that is above reproach... and with a good reputation.

'character, not competency determines capacity.' Carey Nieuwhof

- Good leaders seek to live a life above reproach.
- Christian leaders should seek to live a life that is built around Jesus' teachings.

2. A leader should be faithful.

- Christian leaders are called to reflect the faithfulness of God.
- If we are unfaithful in the private areas of our lives, it will only be a matter of time before we will become unfaithful to God and those we lead.

3. A leader should be disciplined

- Being disciplined is an important part of any leader's character.
- If you lack discipline in your private world, it will manifest themselves in your leadership, simply because you won't have the discipline to stop it.
- A leader who is not disciplined will never fulfil their potential or help those they are leading fulfil theirs.

4. A leader starts leading at home.

- Leaders need to care about those who they are leading, especially in church leadership. If we don't have the capacity to care and lead our family, we will not have the capacity to lead others.

5. A leader will seek to develop their character, not ignore their character-weaknesses.

²¹ I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong.

²² I love God's law with all my heart. ²³ But there is another power^[e] within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. ²⁴ Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? ²⁵ Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin.

Romans 7:21-25

- Having character flaws is part of being a human.
- Problems arise if we ignore our character weaknesses.
- As Christians we are not in this alone and we have Jesus to help us bring about these changes in our lives.

Follow-up Questions

1. Do you think a person's character matters in leadership?
2. Which of the character traits that Paul talks about in 1 Timothy 3:1-5 do you consider to be less important for a leader? Why?
3. Which of the points shared would you struggle to implement into your life?
4. Why do some people find it hard to develop their character and not ignore their character-weaknesses?
5. What character-weaknesses do you need to work on with Jesus' help?