



POWER LUNCH

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Bringing Worship to the Workplace

Spirituality and Leadership

By Richard Brown

When we study the bible on the subject of Spirituality and Leadership, King David stands out shoulders above all the people of his time. And yet even today, we can learn much wisdom and practical principles from King David's great spiritual leadership throughout his life. One of the first things we see in his life is that David made a lot of mistakes as he traveled down the road of life, just like we have, but he never repeated the same sin twice once he had repented. We see his spirituality began as a young man with his love for God and the close relationship and the commitment he had with his Father God. He loves God from the bottom of his heart, willing to give his life in the name of the Lord, as demonstrated when he went out to face Goliath.

Today, we need to make sure that our love for God comes first in our lives. To love Him is to serve Him and we can never beat God in His infinite level of love and service to us, for God so loved the world that He gave that which was most precious to Him, His Son. If we would just give him our first fruit, one tenth of everything in our lives back to God. That is one tenth out of the hundred percent He has given to us; there would be nothing God would withhold from us. If we gave Him ten percent of our time in prayer (talking to God), in studying his Word, and in serving His people; a tenth of our increase is not a lot to ask. God lets us have ninety percent of what He has given us to do what we want to do with it. One tenth of twenty four hours in a day is two hours and twenty four minutes, is that too much time to give back to God. When we give God our first fruit He will open the windows of heaven in our lives with blessing we will not be able to handle, so much we would have to give some of our blessing away.

Not only do we see a great spiritual man of God in King David, but we see great leadership. We see how under his leadership he leads a group of weak people to become the mighty men of valor. Being the great spiritual leader that David was he left behind great

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An Excerpt from John C. Maxwell's The 360-Degree Leader

These are classic pictures of leadership: William Wallace leading the charge of his warriors against the army that would oppress his people and him. Winston Churchill defying the Nazi threat as much of Europe collapsed. Mahatma Gandhi leading the two-hundred mile march to the sea to protest the Salt Act. Mary Kay Ash going off on her own to create a world-class organization. Martin Luther King Jr. standing before the Lincoln Memorial challenging the nation with his dream of reconciliation.

Each of these people was a great leader and impacted hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of people. Yet these pictures can also be misleading. The reality is that 99 percent of all leadership occurs not from the top but from the middle of an organization. Usually, an organization has only one person who is the leader. So what do you do if you are not that one person?

I've taught leadership for nearly thirty years. And in just about every conference I've taught, someone has come up to me and said something such as, "I like what you teach about leadership, but I can't apply it. I'm not the main leader. And the person I work under is, at best, average." Is that where you live? Are you working somewhere in the middle of your organization? You may not be a follower at the lowest level of the organization, but you're not the top dog either—yet you still want to lead, to make things happen, to make a contribution.

You do not have to be held hostage to your circumstances or position. You do not have to be the CEO to lead effectively. And you can learn to make an impact through your

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Founder
& DC Facilitator



Rev. Matthew L. Watley

Scripture of The Month
Matthew 23:11-12 (NIV)

"The greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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An Excerpt from John C. Maxwell's The 360-Degree Leader

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lessons on how to be a great spiritual leader. He wrote these lessons in the book of Psalms and he passed them onto his son King Solomon who became the wisest and richest King that ever lived and he passed his lessons on in his book, the book of Proverbs. What lessons do we pass on to the generations to come?

Let us take a look at Psalm One today, one of the many lessons or road maps that King David left for us to follow. He starts out with a warning of what to look out for. Happy is the man or woman who does not listen (walk) to the instructions of ungodly people, they will give us bad advice every time. Find spiritual leaders that will give you good council. Don't associate (stand) ourselves with people who have a sinful nature, for it won't be long before we find ourselves with that same sinful nature operating within us. After we have walked with evil people, and stood with evil people, next we find ourselves sitting down with them and find ourselves to be just like them.

David goes on to explain what good people are like, great spiritual leaders, they enjoy reading, studying and applying the word of God to their lives in a positive way, both in the day time and the night time. He tells us what these people look like, strong and healthy like a tree planted by rivers of water, steadfast, unmovable, and always abounding in the works of the Lord and being nourished by the word of God. As we grow in God, and develop a God-like lifestyle, there are spiritual offspring (fruit) yielded in our lives. Other people come to know the Lord because of us and everything we put our hands to do becomes prosperous because we are doing what God has called for us to do. Then David goes on to teach us about the ungodly, those who are not spiritual and what will happen to them. So if we decide we don't want to become spiritual leaders because it is too hard for us to live a godly lifestyle, we ought to consider the alternative of not doing it which is to be cast into outer darkness and spend eternity in hell.

In today's society leadership and spirituality don't always go together. Today's leaders are sending us down the wrong path. I believe that the season for them is over, we can feel and see things changing all around us. From the big change in the White House, to the coming of spring, change is in the air. Let us be a part of this change and study to show ourselves approved and lead the way as spiritual leaders in our homes, our churches, our communities, our counties, country and around the world; God is doing a new thing and the season is now!

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leadership even if you report to someone who is not a good leader. What's the secret? You learn to develop your influence from wherever you are in the organization by becoming a 360-Degree Leader. You learn to lead up, lead across, and lead down.

Not everyone understands what it means to influence others in every direction—those you work for, the people who are on the same level with you, and those who work for you. Some people are good at leading the members of their own team, but they seem to alienate the leaders in other departments of the organization. Other individuals excel at building a great relationship with their boss, but they have no influence with anyone below them in the organization. A few people can get along with just about anybody, but they never seem to get any work done. On the other hand, some people are productive, but they can't get along with anybody. But 360-Degree Leaders are different. Only 360-Degree Leaders influence people at every level of the organization. By helping others, they help themselves.

At this point, you may be saying, "Leading in every direction—that's easier said than done!" That's true, but it's not impossible. In fact, becoming a 360-Degree Leader is within the reach of anyone who possesses average or better leadership skills and is willing to work at it. So even if you would rate yourself as only a five or six on a scale of one to ten, you can improve your leadership and develop influence with the people all around you in an organization—and you can do it from anywhere in the organization.

John C. Maxwell, known as America's expert on leadership, speaks in person to hundreds of thousands of people each year. He has communicated his leadership principles to Fortune 500 companies, the United States Military Academy at West Point, and sports organizations such as the NCAA, the NBA, and the NFL.

Power Lunch News

March Monthly Focus

Spirituality and Leadership

Announcements

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