



# Avoiding the Mud-puddles of Leadership

Part 6 - Reproducing Life

Episode 52

## What do I mean by leadership?

- Within the Gateway context, leadership is - “developing culture and people through relationship, with integrity”.
- John Maxwell calls leadership as “influence”.
- Jim Collins, “leadership only exists if people follow when they would otherwise have the freedom to not follow.”

"The primary responsibility of a leader is to develop additional leaders so as not to be continually overwhelmed as the ministry grows."

*Mistakes Leaders Make* p. 89

*2 Chronicles 29:3, “In the first month of the first year of his reign, he opened the doors of the temple of the Lord and **repaired them.**” NIV*

*Numbers 11:16-17, “The Lord said to Moses: “Bring me seventy of Israel’s elders who are known to you as leaders and officials among the people. Have them come to the tent of meeting, that they may stand there with you. 17 I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the power of the Spirit that is on you and put it on them. They will share the burden of the people with you so that you will not have to carry it alone.” NIV*

In leadership, people are our business, people are our pleasure. Therefore, we need emotional management and priority management.

## Four Causes for Leadership that Hurts

1. Pride — Baptism of humility
2. Selfish — Baptism of love
3. Innocent Ignorance — Baptism of feedback and collaboration
4. Undealt with pain or trauma — Baptism of healing

## Three Symptoms of Leadership that Hurts

1. Deficient People Skills
  1. Not listening.
  2. Gossiping or Slandering.
  3. People avoid you.
  4. You don’t give, nor are you given, the benefit of the doubt.
  5. Deficient People Skills.
2. Blurry Vision
  1. Being judgemental.

2. Seeing failures more than successes.
3. Not following through.
4. Making constant assumptions and speculations.
3. Weak Leadership
  1. Low commitment in team members.
  2. High turnover in volunteers.
  3. You are not developing sonship leaders, but simply managing servants.

### **What can I do to get healthier?**

1. Find another healthy leader you can meet with and learn.
2. Spend quality, uninterrupted time with Jesus.
3. See a therapist or counselor.
4. Take care of yourself physically.
5. Have delightful hobbies
6. Learn about yourself and develop a plan to grow.
7. Delegate effectively so you can focus on priorities.

## **Show Notes Bonus**

### **The 10 Commandments of Christian Leadership Development**

<https://ericgeiger.com/2015/05/the-10-commandments-of-christian-leadership-development/>

When it comes to developing as a leader...specifically as a Christian leader, here are ten imperatives for development. Though not an exhaustive or infallible list, these challenges will help develop you as a leader.

1. **Follow first.** Follow Jesus above all. Jesus is the One who transforms our character. If your love for Him grows cold, your character will suffer, as will those you serve. Without Jesus, your leadership may be transactional, but it will not be transformational.
2. **Lead yourself.** The most difficult person to lead is yourself, but if you cannot lead yourself, how can you lead others? A lack of discipline in one area of your life will spill over to other areas.
3. **Set up chairs.** If you cannot set up chairs, you cannot be a leader. Christian leadership is about serving. If you are above setting up chairs and other tasks, you cannot and should not be a leader.
4. **Embrace pain.** Pain is inevitable and instructional. Because we live in a fallen world with broken people, there is great pain in leadership. Embrace the pain, and the Lord will use it to develop you.
5. **Submit to everyone.** Respect the leaders the Lord has placed over you, but also submit to those you have been asked to lead. Adjust to others as a servant. As you do, you will learn and grow from those you willingly place yourself under.

6. **Find a mentor.** Great leadership is often more caught than taught. Surround yourself with people whose lives challenge and encourage you.
7. **Read a lot.** John Wesley famously challenged Christian leaders to “read or get out of the ministry.” By reading, you surround yourself with great minds and great thinking. Read to develop yourself spiritually and mentally.
8. **Seek feedback.** Feedback helps you evaluate and adjust your own leadership. Continually ask for feedback from wise people who love you and the organization you are leading.
9. **Learn to lead by leading.** Quit waiting for the bigger assignment to prepare and develop; lead well in your current context and learn as you lead. Experience is the best leadership teacher you will have.
10. **Go home.** If you excel at work but fail to love and lead your family well, you put both in jeopardy. If you cannot manage your own house well, how can you lead others?