

# *Passion for Leadership*

*SUMMERDALE CHURCH OF CHRIST (Summerdale, AL)*

*Sunday Evening Summer Series on August 14, 2016*

**Lesson by Ray Reynolds**

Introduction: We are living in uncertain times with a crooked generation. What has happened to our leaders? How do people view the leadership of our country? What about leadership in our homes? What about leadership in the church? Most of us have a few subjects that ignite passion within us (a hobby horse). This is one of mine: Leadership! Let's study together...

Discussion:

## ***I. GODLY LEADERS ARE ESTABLISHED IN BIBLICAL AUTHORITY***

Godly leaders know that Jesus is the Head of His church (**Matthew 16:13-19, Ephesians 1:22-23, 5:22-33, Colossians 1:18-24**).

Godly leaders recognize that Jesus has authority over His church (**Matthew 16:18, 28:20, Acts 2:41-47, 5:14, Acts 20:28, I Corinthians 3:11, Ephesians 5:23**).

Godly leaders respect the name & purposes of Christ's church:

- The church of the Lord (**Acts 20:28**)
- The churches of Christ (**Romans 16:16**)
- The church of God (**I Corinthians 1:2**)
- The temple of God (**I Corinthians 3:16**)
- The body of Christ (**Ephesians 1:22-23, Colossians 1:18, 24**)
- The church (**Ephesians 3:10**)
- The bride of Christ (**Ephesians 5:22-32, Revelation 3:12, 19:6-9, 21:2, 9**)
- The kingdom of Christ (**Colossians 1:13**)
- The house of God (**I Timothy 3:15**)
- The church of the firstborn (**Hebrews 12:23**)

Godly leaders remember that the church of Christ was not built on Paul, Apollos, Peter, John, or another human (**I Corinthians 1:12-13, Ephesians 2:20-22**).

Godly leaders are called, chosen, and authorized to minister to the church under the divine direction of Jesus Christ (**I Thessalonians 5:12-13, Hebrews 13:7, 17**).

## ***II. GODLY LEADERS ARE GROUNDED IN SPIRITUAL REALITY***

Godly leaders meet (and maintain) certain Scriptural criteria (**Acts 6:1-7, 20:28, Philippians 1:1, I Timothy 3:1-13, Titus 1:5-9, I Peter 5:1-4**).

- Social qualities
- Moral qualities
- Mental qualities
- Personal qualities
- Communal qualities
- Developmental qualities

Godly leaders must possess the seal of the Spirit and bear the image of Jesus Christ (**Acts 2:38-39, II Corinthians 1:22, 5:5, Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30, Titus 3:5**).

Godly leaders can help us navigate (and survive) this cruel and wicked world.

Godly leaders walk with God, communion with Christ, and are full of the Holy Spirit.

Godly leaders know God's Word and demonstrate it with a powerful faith in God.

### ***III. GODLY LEADERS ARE ROOTED IN PERSONAL INTEGRITY***

Godly leaders radiate sincerity, honesty, and credibility through kingdom living.

Godly leaders meet a high and holy standard (**Proverbs 10:9, 11:3, 19:1, 20:7, 28:6**).

- Integrity like Abraham (**Genesis 20:5-6**)
- Integrity like David (**I Kings 9:4, Psalm 7:8, 25:21, 26:1-11, 41:12, 78:72**)
- Integrity like Job (**Job 2:3, 9, 4:6, 27:1, 5, Job 31:6**)

Godly leaders follow a scriptural standard as a pattern (**I Timothy 4:12, Titus 2:7**).

Godly leaders bear a great responsibility and judgment (**James 3:1**).

Godly leaders require inward and outward character traits (**I Peter 5:1-4**).

Godly leaders look out for the people's best interests (**Numbers 27:16-17**)

### ***IV. GODLY LEADERS ARE FILLED WITH MORAL PURITY***

Godly leaders are still sinners in need of God's grace (**Romans 3:23, 6:23, John 3:16**).

Godly leaders seek the mind of Christ (**Romans 5:5-6, I Corinthians 1:10, 2:16, Philippians 2:5**).

Godly leaders are lovers and peacemakers (**Matthew 5:9, I Corinthians 13**).

Godly leaders pursue cleanliness and holiness (**Isaiah 52:11**).

Godly leaders be trustworthy examples (**Exodus 18:21**).

Godly leaders should represent God in their decisions (**II Chronicles 19:5-7**).

Godly leaders should sacrifice for others (**John 10:11, 15**).

Godly leaders give an account to God for their actions (**Hebrews 13:17**).

### ***V. GODLY LEADERS HAVE DEVELOPED PRACTICAL HUMILITY***

Godly leaders should pursue humility.

- God humbles us for our own good (**Deuteronomy 8:16**)
- God hears the prayers of the humble (**II Chronicles 7:14**)
- God saves those who are humble (**Psalm 18:27**)
- God preserves the lives of humble people (**Psalm 147:6**)
- God leads the humble to become wise (**Proverbs 11:2**)
- God cares for the humble (**Isaiah 66:2**)
- God will exalt the humble (**Luke 18:14**)
- God wants us to be humble in dealing with others (**Philippians 2:1-11**)
- God requires us to be humble in His presence (**James 4:10**)

Godly leaders should follow the humble pattern of Jesus (**Philippians 2:5-8**).

Godly leaders are servant-minded (**Matthew 20:28, Mark 10:45, Luke 19:10**).

Conclusion: The Lord's church needs great leaders to effectively maintain its mission on earth. God is looking for leaders who will recognize the authority of Jesus Christ, are grounded in spiritual reality, rooted in personal integrity, filled with moral purity and continue to develop practical humility. We need leaders who will lead us with vision, boldness, courage, conviction, fervency, fire, zeal, and passion! We need leaders who will unapologetically take the message of the gospel into this world full of lost and hurting people. We need leaders who will boldly tell of the work of Christ (past, present, and future). We need leaders that are willing to make an eternal difference, faithfully follow the Lord, lovingly guide His church, and show compassion to mankind. Will you be a godly leader? Will you follow godly leaders? Will you help to raise up a generation of godly leaders? Let's get passionate about Christian leadership!

**MORE RESOURCES AVAILABLE:**

*[www.gulfshoreschurchofchrist.org](http://www.gulfshoreschurchofchrist.org)*