

The Lord's Plan For



FORSYTH CHURCH OF CHRIST (FORSYTH, MO)

Sunday Morning Message on June 1, 2014 by Ray Reynolds

Introduction: I heard a church leader once say he occasionally looked back to see if there were people behind him. The problem is that some are following, while others are chasing! Someone has to take the lead. In the church, that means we need spiritual people who won't back down. It is my opinion that the church is starving for good spiritual leadership. Why is that? Unfortunately, the church often follows the pattern of the world. What kind of leadership do we see in the world today? Not good. Right? This morning we are going to recognize five concepts of leadership in **Mark 10:35-45**. Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. The Lord's Plan for Leadership Includes Availability (Mark 10:35-36)

Culture says: "Leaders are the capable ones."

Jesus reveals: "Leaders are available ones, responding to my call."

Acts 12:2, Luke 9:54, I Kings 17, John 4, Matthew 20:20

II. The Lord's Plan for Leadership Includes Attentiveness (Mark 10:37-38)

Culture says: "Leaders are the bold and brash ones."

Jesus reveals: "Leaders are attentive ones, listening to people."

James 1:9, John 10:1-18, Matthew 13:13-15, Matthew 23

III. The Lord's Plan for Leadership Includes Advancement (Mark 10:39-41)

Culture says: "Leaders are bosses advancing themselves and their own ambitions."

Jesus reveals: "Leaders are servants, advancing the people of God."

Mark 10:32-34, Psalm 75:8, Isaiah 51:17-22, Jeremiah 25:15, Ezekiel 23:31-34, Psalm 42:7, 69:2,15, 124:4, Isaiah 43:2, Matthew 10:1-4

IV. The Lord's Plan for Leadership Includes Authority (Mark 10:42-44)

Culture says: "Leaders must be followed."

Jesus reveals: "Leaders are followers who model their lives after the Lord."

I Timothy 3:1-13, Titus 1:5-9, Acts 20:17-35, I Peter 5:1-4, Romans 12:3-13, I Corinthians 12:1-31, Ephesians 4:11-16, Matthew 20:25, I Peter 5:3

V. The Lord's Plan for Leadership Includes Alignment (Mark 10:45)

Culture says: "Leaders align themselves with the powerful to get ahead."

Jesus reveals: "Leaders align themselves with the Lord so they can bear fruit."

Luke 4:18-21, Luke 5:10, Luke 19:10, Acts 1:1, Matthew 26:36-46

Conclusion: In this story, the disciples were engaging in a "turf-war" and Jesus handles it brilliantly. We are the body of Christ, the kingdom of God, those delegated to continue the Lord's work. Therefore, we need to lead like Him and put the needs of others above ourselves. Do you need to submit to the leadership of our Lord? Will confess His holy name? Will you be immersed in His precious blood? Will you surrender to His glorious will?