

Six Marks of Lay Leadership

Sunday evening, December 12

“Middle management involves being able to translate the ideals of one’s superiors into practice and, at the same time, knowing how to motivate one’s subordinates. It necessitates keeping corporate goals in mind, while encouraging individuals to strive for personal achievement” Cyril J. Barber, *Nehemiah and the Dynamics of Effective Leadership*, page 26).

Here are Three of the Six Marks of Leadership in Nehemiah:

1. He Shows Concern for God’s Work (Nehemiah 1:1-4)
2. He Prays for God’s People (Nehemiah 1:5-11)
- 3. He Follows his Leader (Nehemiah 1:11-2:8)**

How can we Practice Followership in order to also Practice Leadership?

1. By Praying for your Leader (1:11)

- A. Nehemiah prayed for his unsaved leader four months.
- B. Nehemiah talked to his Divine King before he talked to his human king.
- C. This principle is also taught in the N T (1 Tim 2:1-2; Rom 15:30).

2. By Practicing Loyalty (2:1-3)

- A. Nehemiah was courteous, not manipulative.
- B. David was loyal to wicked king Saul (1 Samuel 24-26).
- C. Ruth was loyal Naomi in Ruth 1:6.

3. By Expressing Yourself with Tact (2:3b, 5, 7)

- A. Aquila and Priscilla were tactful to Apollos.
- B. Nehemiah wanted something the king had forbidden 13 years earlier in Ezra 4.
- C. Nehemiah acknowledged his leaders right to disapprove.
- D. Daniel also practiced this principle in Daniel 1.

4. By Offering Positive Alternatives (2:6-8)

- A. Nehemiah did not criticize the king’s plan.
- B. Nehemiah carefully researched and offered an alternative plan.
- C. Nehemiah included himself as part of the solution.

5. By Giving God the Glory (2:8c)

- A. Nehemiah was a forceful leader.
- B. Nehemiah was also a faithful follower.
- C. Nehemiah was most importantly blessed by God because of his godly attitude.