

Leadership, What is it?

Leadership is like a box of chocolates.

When we think about leadership, we could think about a wide range of thoughts. Most of us have come under some sort of leadership or another, whether a group project, our parents, or our friends. Most people would say good leadership is important. Every four years we elect our country's leadership and every time we do, we make a judgment and choose who we think is best suited to lead our country. Surely we would not choose bad leadership, at least not knowingly. But how do we define leadership? And more importantly, how does the Bible define it? Over the next few weeks we're going to try to answer that question.

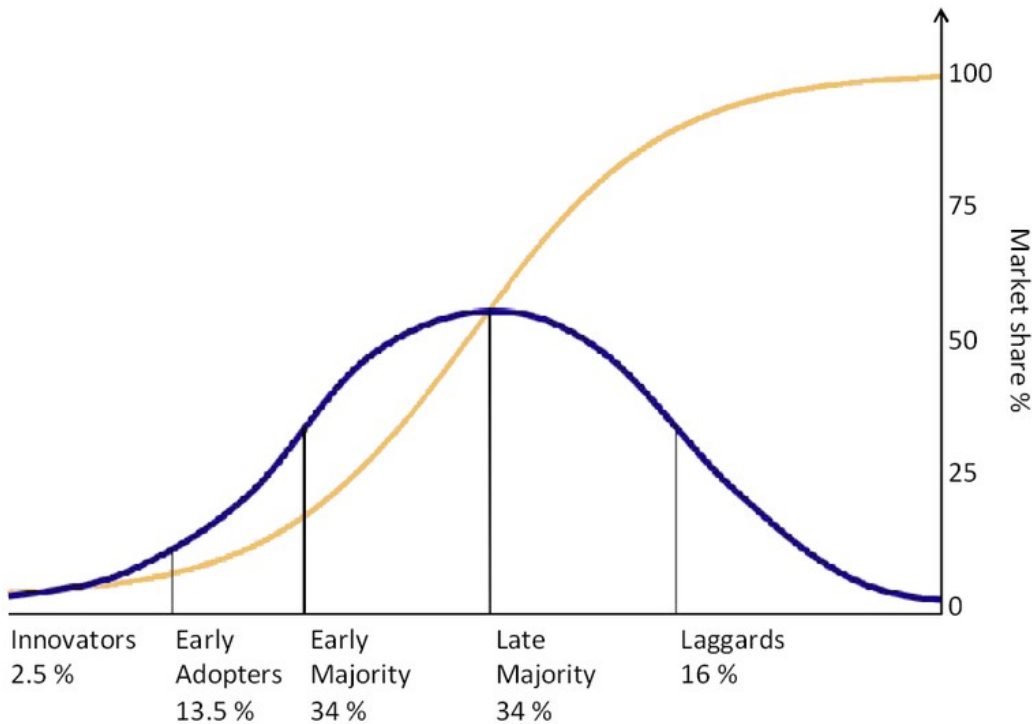
What is Leadership?

1. Some thoughts:

- i. The action of leading a group of people or an organization. (Oxford Dictionary)
 1. Lead: to...
 - a. cause (a person or animal) to go with one by holding them by the hand, a halter, a rope, etc., while moving forward
 - b. show (someone or something) the way to a destination by going in front of or beside them
 - c. be a reason or motive for (someone)
- ii. If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader. (John Quincy Adams)
- iii. Leaders aren't born, they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal. (Vince Lombardi)
- iv. The question "Who ought to be boss?" is like as "Who ought to be the tenor in the quartet?" Obviously, the man who can sing tenor. (Henry Ford)
- v. Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it. (Dwight Eisenhower)
- vi. Do you wish to rise? Begin by descending. You plan a tower that will pierce the clouds? Lay first the foundation of humility. (Augustine)
- vii. If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit. (Matt 15:14 ESV)
- viii. Spiritual leadership [is] knowing where God wants people to be and taking

the initiative to use God's methods to get them there in reliance on God's power. The answer to where God wants people to be is in a spiritual condition and in a lifestyle that displays his glory and honors his name. Therefore, the goal of spiritual leadership is that people come to know God and to glorify him in all that they do. Spiritual leadership is aimed not so much at directing people as it is at changing people. If we would be the kind of leaders we ought to be, we must make it our aim to develop persons rather than dictate plans. *(Marks of a Spiritual Leader - John Piper 1995)*

Law of Diffusion of Innovation: the process by which an innovation is communicated through certain channels over time among the members of a social system. *(Wikipedia.org)*



Course Schedule:

Date	Leadership Topics
8/8/10	What Is It? An introduction to leadership
8/15/10	Who Is Called To Lead? Qualifications and reflections of leadership
8/22/10	How Does One Lead? How Does One Follow? Practical thoughts on leadership
8/29/10	How Does One Deal With Failure As A Leader? Practical thoughts on failure