

2010

## Am I Called to Be a Leader?

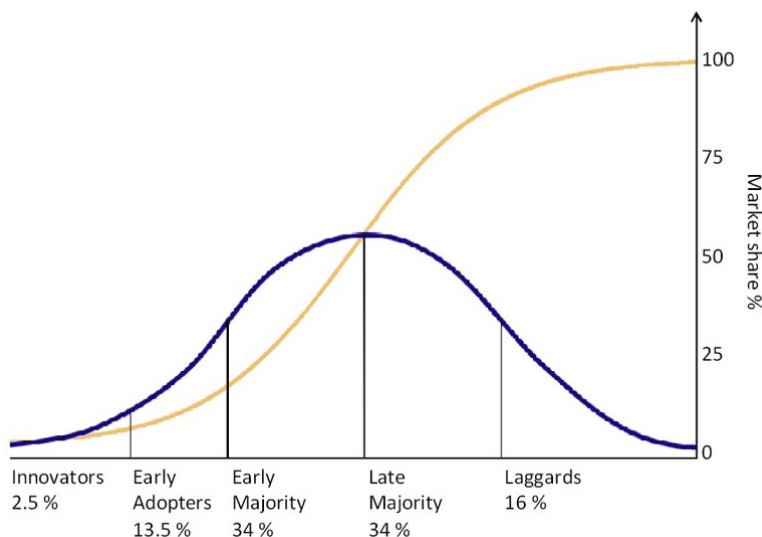
### Last Week

If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader. (John Quincy Adams)

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)

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)

### Law of Diffusion of Innovation



(Wikipedia.org)

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)

The spiritual gift of leadership is found in people who have a clear, significant vision from God and are able to communicate it publicly or privately in such a way that they influence others to pursue that vision. Leaders tend to gravitate toward the "point position" in a ministry. Others tend to have trust and confidence in their abilities. They best serve others by leading them. They tend to operate with a strong sense of destiny. (*Mark Driscoll*)

### **We Are All Called to Leading**

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;

If service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. (Rom. 12:6-8 ESV)

Everyone in the church has one or more spiritual gifts. Everyone should be involved in ministry. Everyone should be seeking to lead others to the point where they bring glory to God by the way they think and feel and act. But there are some people to whom the Lord has given qualities of personality that tend to make them more able leaders than others. Not all of these qualities are distinctively Christian, but when the Holy Spirit fills a person's life each of these qualities is harnessed and transformed for God's purposes. (*Piper 1995*)

### **There Are Two Circles of Leadership.**

According to John Piper, biblical spiritual leadership contains an inner circle and an outer circle.

#### **The Outer Circle**

In the outer circle are qualities that characterize both spiritual and non-spiritual leaders.

1. Restless
2. Optimistic
3. Intense
4. Self-controlled
5. Thick-skinned
6. Energetic
7. A Hard Thinker
8. Articulate
9. Able to Teach
10. A Good Judge of Character
11. Tactful
12. A Dreamer
13. Organized and Efficient

14. Decisive
15. Perseverant
16. A Lover of Family and Friends
17. Restful

### **The Inner Circle**

The inner circle of spiritual leadership is that sequence of events in the human soul that must happen if anyone is to get to first base in spiritual leadership. These are the absolute bare essentials. They are things that all Christians must attain in some degree, and when they are attained with high fervor and deep conviction they very often lead one into strong leadership.

1. That Others Will Glorify God
2. Love Both Friend and Foe by Trusting in God and Hoping in His Promises
3. Meditate On and Pray Over His Word
4. Acknowledge Your Helplessness

### **Do You Have This Gift?**

1. Do others have confidence in your ability to lead?
2. Do you enjoy being the "final voice" or the one with the overall responsibility for the direction and success of a group or organization?
3. When a difficult situation arises, do others look to you for input and leadership?
4. Do you usually take leadership in a group where none exists?
5. Do you find leadership enjoyable rather than frustrating and difficult?
6. Do others look to you to make the major decisions for a group or organization?