

Leadership Definitions from Leadership Lessons Level 1 Participants 2/99

(Although we are using the masculine pronoun %him+in the following to simplify and unify the definitions . it is not to imply that there is a difference in essential leadership qualities between men and women.)

A leader is an individual whose disciplined example of words and actions is so Christ-like that it compels others to follow and be influenced by him to become more Christ-like themselves.

A leader is one who draws ò rather than trying to driveò people toward the full life God has for them.

A leader is a person who is able to discern the needs of others and directs them to that goal by his example as a good and godly follower of Christ

A leader is a person who is saved by grace, lives a life of submission to the Potter so the Lord can work out His plan for that person's growth and development into Christ-likeness and His plan for that person's service within the body of Christ.

A leader is a person who lets God do what He chooses to do in and through that person

A leader is a person who gives his life as a showcase for the handiwork of God.

A leader is a person who is godly, who sets and lives high moral standards, mentors and encourages others to be their best even if they surpass him, all the time with his mind on an eternal perspective but focused on individual people.

A leader is a person who looks to Christ's example as the direction to go, influencing others through encouragement, example, guidance, faith, speech and always be willing to serve and change according to God's will.

A leader is a person who is grounded and growing, who breaks the trail for and guides the way for a group of people both directly and by example.

A leader is a person who is striving to be Christ-like, and this is obvious to everyone in their presence. And people in their presence want what they have.

A leader is a person who through example, guidance, and self sacrifice can motivate others to become growing Christians following God.

A leader is a person who is in humble subjection to the commands and exhortations of God's Word and is yielded to the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The leader possesses the spiritual gift that permits the leader to influence and provide guidance to his group of individuals. He is a co-laborer and an example. He selects proper examples to model his ministry after. His personal life will be an example that pleases the Lord and supports his ministry. He is a godly steward of his time, finances, and resources. He is totally committed to his divinely called task.

A leader is a person who is a godly, disciplined follower of Christ who is committed to be a servant, and leads by being an example with a humble, gentle spirit, who desires to teach others (II TIM. 2:2) with respect and honesty and as a result accomplishes the responsibilities given to him from God.

A leader is a person who leads by example, takes a servant attitude, allows followers to excel & even pass him by, is a follower, is accountable, follows Christ

A leader is a person who is disciplined to imitate Christ, strengthens the faith of others, and never forgets to be a servant

A leader is a person who takes God's word, applies it to his life, and turns that around and guides the people around him by being an example.

A leader is a person who, by word and deed, helps others to become more like Christ, as he himself strives to do the same.

A leader provides influence and guidance to others as he is an example of a growing follower of Jesus Christ in His church.

A leader is a person who encourages his followers, but he himself is also a good follower. He is one who listens well and acts only at the proper time. He lives by example and is strong and truthful. He puts others before himself and expects no accolades when he is done. A leader is all of this and more, but only if his foundation is on Christ.

A leader is one who encourages, teaches and influences other in a Christlike manner. A leader is determined to continue to acquire a greater knowledge and understanding of God's word everyday

A leader is one whose hands are in two places; one in the pierced hand of Christ, and the other in the hand of those who need a help to stand.

A leader is one who first and foremost follows Christ as the ultimate example and lives his life in such a way as to please God. They then can, by example, show those who follow how the Lord how He would have them live their lives to please Him and to grow in Christ-likeness.

A leader is one who follows Christ wholeheartedly, allowing his life to be made more and more like Christ's; he communicates these changes to others through word, action, and example, influencing others to be more like Christ.

A leader is God's servant who sets an example pleasing to God, encouraging and influencing others to strive to be a light in the church and a witness in the world.

A leader is one who influences others by imitating Christ in thought, word and deed, continually looking in the mirror of God's Word, realizing the need for forgiveness and seeking it.

In the field of learning we often make a distinction between experts and novices. Novices are usually those people who are new in a field and who have limited strategies and content knowledge. They also are very consumed by the tasks before them, so much so that they have little resources left at their disposal to attend to other occurrences around them. Experts, on the other hand, are those whose entire approach to a domain has been altered by their experience and knowledge of the field. Experts interpret most of what goes on in light of their own understanding of the domain as opposed to the individual circumstances by which they are surrounded. Experts solve problems quickly and are able to monitor other information sources at the same time. Yet to move from a novice to an expert, one must devote thousands (some estimates run around 10,000) of hours to working in the content area.

So what does all of this have to do with Christian leadership? To me it comes down to the automaticity of thought and action characteristic of an expert follower of Christ. As we renew our minds in the Word, we start to view life and the circumstances around us in a different way.

We interpret things in light of His purpose and plan for our lives. As this process becomes more real in our lives, we show others Christ through our humble spirits, love for others, and decisive commitment to His standards in our lives. Leaders are expert followers because they are consumed with Christ. They not only know the words, they display the behavior. And above all, they are continually making an impact on those around them. I believe this "definition" reflects your own view in that leadership is not deemed a position conferred upon one by others. Instead, it is an influential nature inspired by God and fulfilled in the lives of others through the Holy Spirit. Our role is to be invested and useable. The expertise is not through man's striving (as if we make ourselves more like Christ), but it does require diligence so that we can be conformed to His image.

A leader has a solid personal relationship with Christ, a love and concern for people, a life worthy of emulation (walk matches talk), is able to take constructive criticism, profits from mistakes, encourages others and continually seeks to learn and grow

A leader is one who sets the example for his followers to mimic, encouraging them to surpass his own skills, and praying for them as they press toward the mark.

A Leader needs to be an example of what is right based on God's word, and an encouragement by what he does and says. He has influence because of the respect he has earned from being an example and an encourager, but realizes that he has not arrived at perfection.

A LEADER IS one who follows the Christian based principles to influence, teach, and encourage the growth of a group through his/her example and own maturation in the WORD OF GOD.

A leader is one who, being once a follower himself, encourages, models and guides his followers through example to be as he now isō a reproducer of the likeness of Jesus Christ

Descriptions of a Biblical leader:

is someone who is faithful, loyal, obedient, always seeking direction from God, unthreatened by others, willing to help without seeking any gain, seeking fellowship with Christian brothers, focused on an eternal perspective, always open to others and their needs, honest, fair, even-keeled, secure in belief and not easily distracted. I also feel the a leader serves.

A qualified spiritual leader is a loyal, disciplined, obedient servant of god. Seeking to mold his leadership abilities from the word, and fellowship with other Christian leaders. A spiritual leader needs to be open to criticism but not argumentative, showing restraint. It is essential to be direct, honest, fair and clean thinking. He must earn the trust of the church, and people he is leading.

A person who is faithful, unselfish in his ways, content with what he has, compassionate, secure in his beliefs, controlled in his actions and thinking, actively seeks the truth through scripture, stands firm in his faith with a desire to grow and will not be swayed by worldly ways.

Opposite of a Biblical Leader

Someone who has unconfessed sins, disrespectful children, seeking self glorification, always on the edge, influenced by unhealthy choices, always sees the glass as half empty, always wanting more, attitude of if I help you, what can you do for me, ungodly influences, focused on right now and not tomorrow, unfair, not honest, wavering with decisions that need to be made and never taking a stand for what is right.

Self seeking, dishonest and greedy. Displaying a lack of control in habits, a lack of discipline for God and his word. He cannot be fair, clean thinking or caring because he is not close to God. He is argumentative critical, impatient and unrestrained. Above all, he cannot be trusted and is not someone whom I would fellowship with. He is the person we are praying for, not praying with.

A person who has no loyalty to anyone or anything, thinking only of what he can gain personally by whatever means, surrounding himself with like-minded people and people he can control and manipulate to achieve his personal goals, having no patience or compassion and bending the scriptures however necessary to justify his actions for personal gain.