

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answers: *Leadership Bible Study*

How to positively influence the attitudes and actions of others for Jesus Christ

Welcome to CLI's Leadership Bible Study! You are taking an important step in order to positively influence the attitudes and actions of others for Jesus Christ. You are embarking on a never-ending journey to make a difference in your community, your world and most importantly God's kingdom.

No one is born a leader, but with God's grace, anyone can develop this gift to be used for good. However, leadership is not easy. It takes effort and sacrifice. It takes an undivided heart towards the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

With this right heart and motivation, God will provide all that you need when you need it. But remember, you must trust and follow Christ. Your goal as a Christian leader is to allow Christ to work through you in order to bring glory to God. May He draw you close and equip you for every good work.

This study is freely given and your work freely reviewed in the name of Jesus Christ. Your only cost will be the stamps and envelopes necessary to return your completed answer sheet(s). When you finish each lesson, return it to us for comments and encouragement from one of our "Bible Ministers." Your answers, along with a new lesson, will be mailed back to you within 1-2 weeks.

Since this study is offered to men and women, we will frequently use the pronoun "he" when referring to both genders. The term man/men can also refer to the whole human race in the Bible, so please take this into consideration. God's revealed Word is for every single person. The Bible contains God's commandments, promises, and warnings which are essential for spiritual health and vitality (strength, energy). Bon Voyage! (French for "good journey")

God be with you now and forevermore!



Executive Director¹

All Scripture is from The NIV Study Bible, 10th Anniversary Edition, Kenneth Barker, General Editor, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI, 1995.

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Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day One) Leadership Defined

Words are interesting concepts. If I were to say banana and you understood English, most likely you would imagine a yellow thick-skinned fruit. Other words that denote abstract (not concrete) ideas are harder to grasp. For example, numbers and other pure mathematical objects would be considered abstract.

Sometimes we have heard words so many times that we think we understand what they mean, but in fact we don't. Then again, we may have been taught incorrectly. Therefore as Christians it is beneficial to study the real or varied meanings of the words that define our faith. The simple act of clarifying a word's definition can have a dramatic effect on your walk with the Lord.

Words can also mean different things to different people. Even the name Christian may have different meanings for different people. For example, a Christian may be defined as one who goes to church on Sunday or as one who reads the Bible. The Christian may be labeled for what he does rather than for the One he serves.

Believers in Christ were first called Christians in Antioch (Acts 11:26). The Greek *Christianos* (Χριστιανούς) “originally applied to the slaves belonging to a great household.”² Slaves belonging to such households had greater status and authority in the community because of the high social rank and wealth of their owners. Later the term *Christianos* came to denote the adherents (supporters) of an individual or party.”³

Christians are servants or slaves who belong to the great household of God through Jesus Christ. You belong to God and are to serve Him only. You serve Him through His Son, Jesus.

When you live up to the true definition of Christian, others will know that you are a follower of Jesus. Your status and authority will come from the Sovereign God, ruler and owner of all. Your behavior, works, and attitudes will always point to the One you are serving rather than to yourself.

Sometimes people call themselves Christians but are excessively (extremely) involved in their own interests, businesses or activities. They are self-absorbed and engrossed in their own world. Their primary focus is on themselves. Self-absorption is being overly involved with yourself.

Question 1. Based on the definition of Christian above, how is self-absorption contrary to a follower of Christ?

**See end of lesson for repeat of questions and blank spaces for you to write your answers. When all the questions have been completed, return your answer sheets to CLI. You may keep this lesson for your own study or review. You may pass it on to another or discard.

² Trent, Butler, Editor, *Holman Bible Dictionary*, (Homan Bible Publishers, Nashville TN, 1991), 252

³ Ibid.

2. Have you been guilty of the sin of self-absorption? If so, what will you do about it?
(Consider 2 Corinthians 10:4-5)

However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. 1 Peter 4:16

3. In 1 Peter 4:16 why do you think Peter says that if you suffer as a Christian, praise God?

Christ suffered death on the cross so that man could have his sins forgiven. As a follower of Christ, the Christian may be called to suffer for upholding His name. The Christian is blessed to follow in his Master's footsteps even in painful trials and persecutions when aligned (united) with God's will.

Now let's see how the terms Christian and leadership work together. Leadership means being a leader - someone who leads. It is a verb (action word) with a variety of meanings:

1. To show the way to by going in advance.
2. To guide or direct.
3. a. To serve as a route for; take: *The path led them to a cemetery.*
b. To be a channel or conduit for (water or electricity, for example).
4. To guide the behavior or opinion of; induce.
5. a. To direct the performance or activities of.
b. To inspire the conduct of.
6. To play a principal or guiding role in.
7. a. To go or be at the head of: *The queen led the procession.*
b. To be ahead of: *led the runner-up by three strides.*
c. To be foremost in or among:¹

In a real sense all of these definitions apply to Jesus, the preeminent (most excellent) Leader. *First*, He showed the way by going in advance; He was born of a woman and lived on earth. He is the firstborn among many brothers (Romans 8:29). *Second*, He guides and directs the Christian in the right course (John 10:14). *Third*, He is the path of life. He is the way or channel to God (John 14:6). *Fourth*, He guides us in all truth that affects our behavior and opinions (John 1:17). *Fifth*, He directs our works and activities (John 10:16). He inspires us to be pure and holy (1 Peter 2:5). *Sixth*, He is the Principal and Guide in our life. *Seventh*, He is the head and at the head of everything (Colossians 1:15-18). He is foremost in and among all men and all angels (Philippians 2:10, Revelation 3:14).

The Christian has the great privilege of following the Son of God, the utmost (greatest) Leader. In leading others, the Christian gets his instructions from Jesus. The Christian leads in obedience.

4. Review the ways Jesus leads above. Are there any ways listed above that Jesus is not leading your life? Explain.

The goal of this study is to build up Christian leaders. Christian Leadership is heading up, leading, guiding, and going out in front for the cause of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God.

Being a leader is an active call upon your life. It is not for the weak or mediocre. The true leader will not be spit out of Jesus' mouth (Revelation 3:16). But neither will the true leader be proud or boastful (James 4:6). It is a high calling that demands a high level of commitment. Let the "heavenly boot camp" begin!

Personal Application: Pray the following prayer in sincerity:

Lord Jesus, You are an excellent Leader. Everything that You do is for the good of all people. How You love God's creation and how You love me. Your ways are far superior to my ways and I long to follow You completely. I pray that You lead me in every area of my life. I ask that no one and no thing in my life is free from Your leadership. Make me a leader totally identified with You, my Lord. May I lead with a pure heart giving all the glory to our triune God. Amen.

Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Two) *The Model*

Building a house, computer system, or any other involved structure generally doesn't happen overnight. It takes time to develop and implement the plan. You'll need the right instructions or directions from the beginning. For example, if you want to build a house you wouldn't copy a model for a car. If you were making lasagna for dinner, you wouldn't be following the instructions for a chocolate cake. In other words, whatever it is you want to make or build, you must start with the right design or plan in accordance with the proper model. It is also a process.

In the very same way, Christians generally do not become effective leaders overnight. It takes time to develop and implement the plan of leadership. And like anything else, Christians need the right instructions from the beginning to end up with the right results.

I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.

John 13:15-16

1. Read John 13:15-16. Who is the model for building a Christian leader?

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

2. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Where do you find the instructions for following the Model?

Yes, Jesus is the Model and the Bible is the blueprint.⁴ However, our Model and Blueprint are not stagnant or fixed objects. They are living: He is our *living* Lord and our instructions are the *living* Word. Our relationship with both are dynamic and vibrant. Thus, the Christian starts to build his or her skills by *actively* following the Model and *actively* studying His words.

⁴ Blueprint is a photographic reproduction, as of architectural plans or technical drawings, rendered as white lines on a blue background. Also called *cyanotype*. A detailed plan of action. (from Microsoft Bookshelf 1996-97 edition)

3. Do you think there are many Christians today working from the wrong model or blueprint? If so, what kind of model are they working from and what will be their end result?

4. At this point in time, what model and blueprint are you using?

Everyone who is a Christian is a leader. You are either leading people to Christ or away from Christ. There is no middle ground. Now, some people have a special anointing or gift for leadership from the Holy Spirit (Romans 12:8) just like some have a special anointing or gift from the Holy Spirit to evangelize (2 Timothy 4:5). There are different gifts from the Holy Spirit to glorify God. But we are not talking about spiritual gifts right now. We are talking about what every Christian is called to do as a follower of Christ.

Our goal is to become like Jesus. Jesus was the most excellent of men. He is the perfect leadership Model. The question then becomes: How can we follow in His steps and be a leader of excellence?

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. John 14:26

*And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.
2 Corinthians 3:18*

Read John 14:26 and 2 Corinthians 3:18 and answer question 5:

5. How can you follow in Jesus' steps and be a leader of excellence?

The Holy Spirit helps you follow Jesus and become a leader like Him. You are being transformed or changed into His likeness throughout your life. It is a long building process but always keep your eye on the glorious face of Jesus, for this is who you will resemble in the end.

Personal Application:

Ask God to speak to you personally through the following verses about Jesus:

"Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations.¹⁹ He will not quarrel or cry out; no one will hear his voice in the streets.²⁰ A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he leads justice to victory.²¹ In his name the nations will put their hope."

Matthew 12:18-21 (quoted from Isaiah 42:1-4)

What did God say or impress upon you?

Communication with God is pivotal (essential) in your role as a Christian leader. Do you regularly hear (in your mind or heart) God speaking to you?

Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Three) *The Chief Cornerstone*

Have you ever built anything? Perhaps you have been on a construction team and helped build a house or you might remember building something with your toys when you were a child. In order to build, one must take individual parts and place them together in a systematic way. The outcome will be a product or form that is far more useful than its individual parts. Not to say that the individual parts cannot be useful for other purposes but compare a concrete block with a completed house, a single thread with a shirt, or an aluminum panel with a plane.

After you have your model or plan, the individual parts must be selected carefully. They must be compatible for the project. In other words, you must use the materials that the blueprint calls for if you want the final product to look like the model. Would you want to lead a team attempting to build an airplane with concrete blocks? Of course not! You want to lead a team that is going to do something useful and make a difference. A plane that could not get off the ground would not be very beneficial. Of course you could make a restaurant in the shape of a plane, but then you would have a restaurant that looked like a plane and not a flying machine!

It is not only important to build with the correct parts but also to use quality materials. Quality materials will last longer and function properly. With quality materials the finished project will be more secure and safer to use.

1. What happens if you begin your project with faulty or defective materials?
2. Do you have a real life story to share of a project that was built with defective materials? What happened?

Without choosing your building materials properly, you would not only be wasting your time but the time of others as well. Your product would be just as defective (flawed) as the materials that you used. Consider for a moment also that Christian leadership is about everlasting benefits. You are leading others forward, toward God.

3. What would you do if you discovered your building materials were of inferior quality?

Leading and building have a lot in common. Leadership is gathering individuals with different perspectives (viewpoints) and putting them together in a way that births a greater purpose, a greater good. Like using the proper materials in a building project, the individuals must be appropriate for the job. For example, if a group of Christians were gathering for a worship service, you would not ask a nonbeliever to give a personal testimony of how he came to know the Lord.

4. What are some reasons that you should not ask a follower of a non-Christian religion to pray for you or to lead a group in prayer?

A follower of another religion is not talking to the one, true, living God. Our Father in heaven forbids idols or false gods in the life of His people (Exodus 20:3-4). Remember, God the Father is only approached through God the Son (John 14:6).

Building is used as a metaphor⁵ in various parables⁶ in the Bible. Jesus was skilled at using everyday occurrences in the lives of the people to illustrate a spiritual truth. His parables were entertaining yet extremely meaningful.

I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice.⁴⁸ He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.⁴⁹ But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete." Luke 6:47-49

5a. According to Jesus in Luke 6:47-48a, what is a person like who hears His words and puts them into practice?

5b. When the flood came what happened (v.48b)?

6. What do you think the flood represents in this parable?

7a. In Luke 6:49, what is a person like who hears His words but does **not** put them into practice?

7b. What happens when the flood or torrent strikes (v.49b)?

In biblical times, people would search for a good strong cornerstone for a foundation for their house or building. The cornerstone was a stone that was laid at the corner of two walls to strengthen and bind them together. The cornerstone is used in the Bible as a symbol for strong leaders.

So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed. Isaiah 28:16

Therefore, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "Look! I am placing a foundation stone in Jerusalem. It is firm, a tested and precious cornerstone that is safe to build on. Whoever believes need never run away again."^{NLT} Isaiah 28:16 (quoted in 1 Peter 2:4-8)

8. Read Isaiah 28:16 both in the NIV and the New Living Translation (NLT). Based on a cornerstone being used as a metaphor for a leader, give a description of his character.

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. Ephesians 2:19-22

⁵ A figure of speech in which a word or phrase that ordinarily designates one thing is used to designate another, thus making an implicit comparison. *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language*

⁶ A parable is a simple story that illustrates a moral or spiritual truth, most commonly about the kingdom of God. Hernando, James D. *Dictionary of Hermeneutic*, 101.

9. Read Ephesians 2:19-22. Who is the chief cornerstone?

Not only is Jesus our Model, He is the chief building material. He most assuredly is our all-in-all. In other words, we see Jesus (Model) through the Bible (Blueprint) and we understand the plan. However, to begin building we need a sure foundation that we can trust. In order to become a Christian leader, a person must trust Jesus as Lord and Savior.

10. As a Christian leader, what is the goal of your building project (purposefully bringing individuals together) according to Ephesians 2:19-22?

The Christian leader's goal is to become and help others become a holy dwelling place for the Holy Spirit. Like the temple in the Old Testament, we are to be a living place of worship (adoration, devotion). Christian leaders glorify God and lead others to glorify God also. The tasks, the team members, and the activities may all be different but the end result is the same:

Glorify God.

Glorify means to give glory, praise, and honor. The Hebrew⁷ word for glory is *kabod* (כְּבוֹד). It means abundance, weight, burden, and honor. It is used in various ways in the Bible but when it refers to God it means recognizing His importance (heavy weight) and majesty. Glorifying God is recognizing God's holy character, His goodness and tremendous worth. God is preeminent. He is the most excellent, the greatest, and unsurpassed Supreme Being.

The Christian leader must begin building with our chief and precious (great value) Cornerstone. You are taking these lessons because you have professed faith (belief, trust) in Jesus Christ; however, if you are unsure of your relationship with God, read Genesis 1:27, 3:1-17, Romans 3:23, 5:8, 6:23, and 10:9.

11. Jesus is the Cornerstone from which we build our lives as a holy temple to the glory of God. If you have questions about your salvation or relationship with God, please write them clearly for your "Bible Minister" to give guidance.

Personal Application:

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. 1 Corinthians 3:11-14

Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind any wrong foundation or building block in your own life? Confess (agree with God that you sinned) and repent (turn away from) from your wrongdoing. Ask God to help you build your life on Jesus Christ and no other. Pray that all you build from this day forward will survive for His glory.

⁷ The Old Testament was originally written in the Hebrew language and the New Testament in Greek.

Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Four) *The Trinity*

In looking to Jesus, our Model and Cornerstone, we must look to Him in the right way. Jesus, the Son of God was born fully man and fully God. He is one with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. The explanation of this divine unity is difficult because it is a divine mystery.

A divine mystery is something that our human minds cannot fully understand about God. The Trinity is one of the most important and well-known divine mysteries. The word trinity is not found in the Bible but simply means “tri-unity” or “three persons in one.” The name Trinity as referring to God was first used in the book *Against Praxeas* by “Church Father”⁸ Tertullian (160-225 AD).

Tertullian used the term to describe the relationship of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This name came into existence because Bible scholars were reflecting critically on the pattern of divine activity portrayed and revealed in Scripture. As they studied and meditated on God’s Word, they came to agree on the doctrine of the Trinity. Church doctrine is a written body of teachings that has been set forth and accepted by the theologians (study God, religion) and the church body.⁹

The doctrine of the Trinity states there is one God who exists eternally in three distinct persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Father, Son, and Spirit are of one and the same divine essence. In other words, each member of the Trinity is fully God and fully one with each other. (Person is another term coined by Tertullian to help in understanding the God of the Bible.)

1. Why do you think we bring up the Trinity in our study of leadership?

Following God the Son means that a leader is also following God the Father and God the Spirit. Therefore, our Leadership Model must include the triune God. In order to know and relate to God properly, a leader must understand the Trinity as much as is humanly possible. A leader will rely on the triune God in all that he or she does each day.

⁸ The Church Fathers or Fathers of the Church are the early and influential theologians and writers in the Christian church, particularly those of the first five centuries. Those fathers who wrote in Latin are called the Latin (Church) Fathers, and those who wrote in Greek, the Greek (Church) Fathers. Famous Latin Fathers include Tertullian, Augustine of Hippo, Ambrose of Milan, and Jerome; famous Greek Fathers include Irenaeus of Lyons, Clement of Alexandria, Origen, Athanasius of Alexandria, John Chrysostom, and the three Cappadocian Fathers. (Source: Wikipedia free encyclopedia)

⁹ Church doctrine can fluctuate somewhat among Protestant and Catholic denominations. Indeed even among Protestant denominations there are differences of how Scripture is interpreted. However, there are certain tenets of the faith that must be in place for a particular congregation or group of people to be called Christian. The Trinity is one such doctrine and some others include the Fall of Adam and Eve, the Virgin birth of Jesus, Jesus being fully God and fully human, His death on the cross to pay for man’s sins and resurrection from the dead.

Personal Application:

A. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and then read and meditate on the following verses: John 1:1-2, 3:16, 10:30, 14:16-17, 17:21, 20:28, Matthew 16:15-17, 28:19, 1 Peter 1:2, Nehemiah 9:20, Isaiah 48:16, Zechariah 4:6 and Joel 2:28-29.

B. What was one thing that you learned from reading these verses?

C. What was one thing that God revealed to you about Himself?

D. List any questions that you have after reading these verses?

We cannot relate to our Model Jesus Christ without relating to His whole essence. To know Jesus is to know the Father and the Holy Spirit. They are one with an eternal relationship. They always were and always will be.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. Genesis 1:1-2

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. John 1:1-3

2. In the beginning who created the heavens and the earth?

The Old Testament was originally written in Hebrew. It has been translated into many languages including many versions in English. Sometimes a language has certain nuances or grammatical differences that are hard to translate. For example, the Hebrew word in Genesis 1:1-2 that we translate God is *Elohim*. This is a masculine, plural noun. Although the word is used to express the plural of majesty¹⁰, it is also a marker for the existence of the Trinity working together in the beginning of earth's existence.

3. Who was with God the Father at creation according to Genesis 1:2 and John 1:1-3?

The New Testament was originally written in Greek. The apostle John chose his "words" very carefully. The Greek word *logos* (λόγος) is translated "word" in our Bible. *Logos* means 'something said,' such as a word or a saying.¹¹ In the beginning God created the world by speaking it into existence.

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. Genesis 1:3

4. According to Genesis 1:3, when God said "Let there be light" what happened?

¹⁰ In ancient times a king or ruler was referred to in the plural as a form of respect.

¹¹ BibleWorks 6, BibleWorks, 2003.

Some scholars have stated that John used the Greek word *logos* to refer to the Greek's idea that the world had some controlling principle. That is, they would understand the word as the concept of a god or a creating force in their own language. Both definitions would be appropriate and make sense to the Jew and to the Greek. Both these groups of people would have the opportunity to read or hear John's letter.

God also communicates and manifests (makes known clearly) Himself through His Word. The Bible is also known as the Word and has many illustrations of God telling His prophets to write down what He is saying.

Go now, write it on a tablet for them, inscribe it on a scroll, that for the days to come it may be an everlasting witness. Isaiah 30:8

5. According to Isaiah 30:8, how long will God's Word be a witness (gives evidence, testifies)?

Jesus is our everlasting Witness! Jesus is the Word. He is our Model, Blueprint and Cornerstone. Our life and leadership are deeply-rooted (entrenched) in Christ.

Jesus is God! He became flesh and communicated clearly that He was the Son of God who came to give us light and life. He reveals and communicates the character of God.

Meditate on this:

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

In him was life, and that life was the light of men. John 1:4

He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. Revelation 19:13

Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Five) *The Triune Relationship*

In order to follow our Leader and lead like Him, we must understand the interrelatedness of the Father, Jesus, and Spirit. Are they jealous of one another? Do they ever get angry at each other? Do they make fun of the other Person? Do they ever belittle (put down) the other one? I'm sure you answered all these questions with an emphatic and forceful: NO!

1. How do *you* think the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit truly feel about each other?

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit have been together ceaselessly (eternally) without beginning and without end. Benjamin Franklin's proverb that fish and company stink after three days may apply to human relationships but certainly not to the Divine. They work together in love and never tire of each other.

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" Matthew 17:5

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17

2. Read Matthew 3:17 and 17:5. How does God the Father introduce Jesus?

but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me. "Come now; let us leave." John 14:31

3. Read John 14:31. What does Jesus do to show that He loves the Father?

But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of an eternal sin." Mark 3:29

4. From Mark 3:29, how do you think God the Father and God the Son feel about God the Spirit?

"Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations." Matthew 12:18

He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you. John 16:14

5. Meditate on Matthew 12:18 and John 16:14. List some of the relational characteristics (ways they get along) of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

The triune God is devoted to one another. They love and delight in each other. They are generous with each other and want honor for each other. Now what is so amazing is that God wants the same for you and me. Read Jesus' prayer (John 17:20-24) to God the Father.

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one:²³ I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.²⁴ "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. John 17:20-24

6. According to John 17:20, who is Jesus praying for?

7. In verse 21, what is Jesus asking the Father?

8. In verse 22, Jesus asks that the believers may be _____ as we are _____

9. In verse 23, Jesus asks that believers be brought to complete unity for what purpose?

10. In verse 24, Jesus asks the Father that believers will be with _____

Just think, Jesus wants us to be one with God the Father and God the Spirit! Just as they love and delight in each other, God wants us to have the same relationship. You, dearly beloved Christian leader, will never be alone again. You will always be with the triune God who cares and delights in you personally, intensely and persistently! He will give you the strength, wisdom and love to identify with and be identified by others with your Model and Leader, Jesus Christ.

Personal Application:

Memorize Matthew 22:36-40, recognizing the commandment includes Father, Son and Holy Spirit as our triune God. If you have memorized it in the past, review and meditate on it.

Leadership depends on knowing and living by this commandment.

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment.³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22:36-40

Considering the love relationship between the Father, Son, and Spirit, how do you think God expects us to act toward God and one another?

After you have memorized Matthew 22:36-40, write it on your answer sheet. Do not look at the verses. In this way your Bible Minister will know that you have completed your assignment.

End of Lesson One.

Answers: CLI Christian Leadership Study Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model

Name & Number: _____ Date: _____

Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day One) *Leadership Defined*

Question 1. Based on the definition of Christian above, how is self-absorption contrary to a

follower of Christ? **It is contrary to looking out for the interests of others (Philippians 2:4.2:20) and denying oneself and taking up one's cross (Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34 & Luke 9:23).**

2. Have you been guilty of the sin of self-absorption? If so, what will you do about it?
(Consider 2 Corinthians 10:4-5)

Personal Answer. Note: According to 2 Corinthians 10:4-5, the believers has the divine power to crush the stronghold of self-absorption. We need to pray and expect God's grace and power to help us overcome this sin and any other. We use our free will to train our minds and obey Christ.

The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.
2 Corinthians 10:4-5

3. In 1 Peter 4:16 why do you think Peter says that if you suffer as a Christian, praise God?

Various thoughts and answers but: Christ suffered death on the cross so that man could have his sins forgiven. As a follower of Christ, the Christian may be called to suffer for upholding His name. The Christian is blessed to follow in his Master's footsteps even in painful trials and persecutions when aligned (united) with God's will. (strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said. Acts 14:22)

4. Review the ways Jesus leads. Are there any ways that Jesus is not leading your life?
Explain **Personal Answer.**

Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Two) *The Model*

1. Read John 13:15-16. Who is the model for building a Christian leader? **Jesus**

2. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Where do you find the instructions for following the Model? **Bible**

3. Do you think there are many Christians today working from the wrong model or blueprint? If so, what kind of model are they working from and what will be their end result?

Personal Answer but certainly there are Christians working from the wrong model or blueprint. There are Christians in the U.S. that are working from a worldly model and blue print. We cannot tell them apart from the nonbelievers as they are working from the same model gained from the media and internet. Satan, the father of lies is usually behind the wrong model.

You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. John 8:44

4. At this point in time, what model and blueprint are you using?

Personal Answer

Read John 14:26 and 2 Corinthians 3:18 and answer question 5:

5. How can you follow in Jesus' steps and be a leader of excellence? Personal Answer but must understand that the Holy Spirit helps us follow Jesus and become a leader like Him. We are being transformed or changed into His likeness throughout life. It is a long building process but we keep our eye on the glorious face of Jesus, for this is who we will resemble in the end.

Personal Application:

Ask God to speak to you personally through the following verses about Jesus:
Matthew 12:18-21 (quoted from Isaiah 42:1-4)

What did God say or impress upon you: Personal Answer

Communication with God is pivotal (essential) in your role as a Christian leader. Do you regularly hear (in your mind or heart) God speaking to you? Yes No Sometimes **(Circle One)**

I would like more information about communicating with God: Yes No **(Circle One)**
(Bible Minister: If circle Yes - send **“Steps to Communicating with God.”**)

Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Three) *The Chief Cornerstone*

1. What happens if you begin your project with faulty or defective materials?

The project will be flawed and not work properly. It won't last, could fall apart and it might even cause harm.

2. Do you have a real life story to share of a project that was built with defective materials? What happened? **Personal Answer**

3. What would you do if you discovered your building materials were of inferior quality?
Discard and start over. Don't give up, just begin again.

4. What are some reasons that you should not ask a follower of a non-Christian religion to pray for you or to lead a group in prayer?

1. They are praying to a different god. Satan and his followers are usually behind false gods. They want to divert worship of the one, true, living God.

2. God forbids idols of false gods in the life of His people (Exodus 20:3-4).

3. It would confuse Christians and keep the non-Christian from learning the truth about Jesus as the path to God.

5a. According to Jesus in Luke 6:47-48a, what is a person like who hears His words and puts them into practice?

He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. (strong and secure)

5b. When the flood came what happened (v.48b)? **When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. (dependent and trusting in God)**

6. What do you think the flood represents in this parable? **Temptation and trouble.**

7a. In Luke 6:49, what is a person like who hears His words but does **not** put them into practice?

But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. (weak and insecure)

7b. What happens when the flood or torrent strikes (v.49b)? **The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete. (collapse and complete destruction)**

8. Read Isaiah 28:16 both in the NIV and the New Living Translation (NLT). Based on a cornerstone being used as a metaphor for a leader, give a description of his character.

Firm, tested and approved, trustworthy, strong and secure. Holds people up and together.

9. Read Ephesians 2:19-22, who is the chief cornerstone? **Jesus Christ, God's Son**

10. As a Christian leader, what is the goal of your building project (purposefully bringing individuals together) according to Ephesians 2:19-22?

The Christian leader's goal is to become and help others become a holy dwelling place for God to live by His Holy Spirit. Christian leaders glorify God and lead others to glorify God also.

11. Jesus is the Cornerstone from which we build our lives as a holy temple to the glory of God. If you have questions about your salvation or relationship with God, please write them clearly for your "Bible Minister" to give guidance.

Personal Answer – Bible Minister – please pray and give godly counsel. For specific questions check to for CLI prepared answers for frequently asked questions. Also our send "How to have confidence that you will be with God in heaven" if questions about salvation.

Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Four) *The Trinity*

1. Why do you think we bring up the Trinity in our study of leadership?

Following God the Son means that a leader is also following God the Father and God the Spirit. Therefore, our Leadership Model must include the triune God. In order to know and relate to God properly, a leader must understand the Trinity as much as is humanly possible. A leader will rely on the triune God in all that he or she does each day. (Other answers may be correct)

Personal Application: A. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and then read and meditate on the following verses:

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.² He was with God in the beginning.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 10:30 I and the Father are one."

John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever--¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

John 17:21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

John 20:28 Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Matthew 16:15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."¹⁷ Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven.

Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

1 Peter 1:2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

Nehemiah 9:20 You gave your good Spirit to instruct them. You did not withhold your manna from their mouths, and you gave them water for their thirst.

& Isaiah 48:16, Zechariah 4:6, Joel 2:28-29.

B. What was one thing that you learned from reading these verses? Personal Answer

C. What was one thing that God revealed to you about Himself? Personal Answer

D. List any questions that you have after reading these verses? Personal Answer – Bible Minister: please address and get answers from CLI.

2. In the beginning who created the heavens and the earth? **God**

3. Who was with God the Father at creation according to Genesis 1:2 and John 1:1-3?
God the Spirit and God the Son.

4. According to Genesis 1:3, when God said “Let there be light” what happened?
There was light.

5. According to Isaiah 30:8, how long will God’s Word be a witness (gives evidence, testifies)?
Everlasting. Forever.

Lesson 1: Building a Leadership Model (Day Five) *The Triune Relationship*

1. How do *you* think the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit truly feel about each other?

Personal Answer: But they love each other perfectly and completely. They are in complete agreement and live in perfect harmony.

2. Read Matthew 3:17 and 17:5. How does God the Father introduce Jesus?

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."
Matthew 3:17

"This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" Matthew 17:5

3. Read John 14:31. What does Jesus do to show that He loves the Father?

world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

4. From Mark 3:29, how do you think God the Father and God the Son feel about God the Spirit?

Protective, loving, in harmony as one, they want Him to be revered and treated as holy.

5. Meditate on Matthew 12:18 and John 16:14. List some of the relational characteristics (ways they get along) of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Loving, delighting in , giving, unselfish, sharing, and caring. Maybe other thoughts.

Read Jesus' prayer (John 17:20-24) to God the Father.

6. According to John 17:20, who is Jesus praying for? **All believers, even future ones**

7. In verse 21, what is Jesus asking the Father? **To make believers on with God**

8. In verse 22, Jesus asks that the believers may be **one** as we are **one**.

9. In verse 23, Jesus asks that believers be brought to complete unity for what purpose?

May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

10. In verse 24, Jesus asks the Father that believers will be with Him where He is and to see His glory.

Memorize Matthew 22:36-40 recognizing the commandment includes Father, Son and Holy Spirit as our triune God. If you have memorized it in the past, review and meditate on it.

Leadership depends on knowing and living by this commandment.

Considering the love relationship between the Father, Son, and Spirit, how do you think God expects us to act toward God and one another?

Personal Answer to include love, trust and obey God. Love others unselfishly and with honorable motivations.

After you have memorized Matthew 22:36-40, write it here. Do not look at the Scripture verses so that your Bible Minister will know that you have committed your verses to memory.

End Lesson One

Next Lesson, Number 2:

Triple Love Poured Out – The triune God's personal love for you!

rev 9/3/2011