

“Leadership is the art and science of inspiring others to reach their full potential in the pursuit of a common vision”

Dr. James Bultman



Today Scripture Reference



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## The TCL E-Leadership Resource Did You Get Your Wisdom?

*Proverbs 2: 1-6 My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.*

My life was changed back in 1994. Even though I had 40 years of living within Christian circles and feeding on what others fed me with, I had never fed myself regularly with time alone with God whereby He could speak to me and shape my life. Sure I found myself leading a prayer and reading scripture once in a while, but never regularly, and never with great purpose. In fact, the day when I actually sat before God with the intention of listening to Him, I found myself totally insufficient before Him, knowing that what I was in for was beyond the human experience, actually far beyond what I could ever understand.

Let me not confuse you by communicating that I felt I was stupid or lacked common sense. On the contrary, I felt I had a degree in common sense and actually commented more than once that common sense should be a course in college. Up to that point I had met many educated people that had no common sense. No, this time was different. I knew I was entering a world beyond the “wisdom of the world” yet could not even remember that Paul had already made the distinction between the “wisdom of the world” and the wisdom that comes from the Spirit of God.

Today I can remember where I was sitting late at night in my family room with the Bible before me, when I subjected myself and my understanding to God. It was at this first moment of subjection that I asked Him for wisdom ... for the wisdom to understand His Word and His ways. During the course of the next year of Bible study, I found the scripture verses above. They became the light for the life I have before me. They are still the underlying reason for “the art and science of leadership”. For in these verses I found one of the most important components of the wisdom of God ... that which many leaders find to be a waste of time. I found out that wisdom is a process.

The process goes something like this ... it begins with some “ifs”.

1. If we accept God and His commands. (truly in pursuit of His will, not our own)
2. If we ask for it boldly. (“calling out” ... “crying aloud”)
3. If we look outside ourselves. (as if it were like silver or treasure)
4. If we search for it with **intensity**. (like you would for hidden treasure)

A common thought with many people is that wisdom is something that one receives and holds onto. Receives in such a way that it is sufficient of itself and needs no further refinement. Ask that person to share his/her wisdom and he/she can deliver it on the spot. However, can you find wisdom without a process? Surely we remember Solomon, who, on the spot used his wisdom to identify the real mother of two feuding women? Yes we do remember the “on the spot” delivery of wisdom in this case. We also acknowledge that some are given the gift of wisdom. However, might I exhort all who read this that the delivery of wisdom is always preceded by process. It was with Solomon prior to his judgment before the women, it always has been with me, and it will always be for you.

Don't miss out on the search ... leaders can't live without it.

*Proverbs 3:13-15 Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding, for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her.*