



Leadership Training for Leaders Inside and Outside the Church



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

Dr. James Bultman

What TCL Course Participants Say

“Ron, I really feel that you are in the very center of God's Divine Will for your life. Our church participants also affirmed the hand of God in your ministry. We shall keep praying and believing God for greater things to happen for His Kingdom through your efforts ... May God bless you.”

**Pastor Jim Gambill
Sauk Village, Illinois**

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The TCL Leadership Network What is Your Leadership Battle?

There is a popular book entitled “Every Man's Battle”. It is a book about the sexual aspects of men ...about their bodies and about their minds. Those of us men that have read it understand the battleground. Why? Because there is a common thread of sexuality found in most every man ... at least in the most of the world. There is something about the battleground that is the same ... no matter who you talk to.

I have had the honor of four overseas leadership teaching trips to West Africa. Prior to my travel I was trained to guard against trying to bring western culture into the teaching. However what I have found is that the battleground overseas looks just like the battleground here in the United States. While I find variances in political structure in government and in the church, the desires of the most prominent world view of leadership reigns ...who has the fame, fortune, power, or position.

I realize that from a theological standpoint what I just wrote is not very profound. We should not be surprised that the Devil and our own sinful nature share the same side of the battleground. What I am surprised at is at how many of us try to find some righteousness in every aspect of the world's most prominent view.

Please bear with me for a moment. Can you find any righteousness in a desire for power? We could try to place righteousness in the search by saying “I can do more for God if I had more power.” Does that statement make the desire righteous? I would think it might if God really needed our help. Since God does not need any help in accomplishing what He has in mind, what righteousness can we add to what God has credited to us? Is it not by faith alone we are commended as righteous? Can we get more of it by holding on to a desire to get power to help him out? I think not.

Friends, please ...we can't take an attribute of the sinful nature and make even a fraction of it righteous. When the Israelites demanded new leadership in the form of a king, they were hiding their rejections of God's leadership by painting a good picture of what the world was doing in comparison to what Samuel's sons were doing. It was a smoke screen. They were trying to justify their sinful desires and in the same way we do the same thing.

In I John 2:15-17 it says, “Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of what he has and does – comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.” (NIV)

One might ask, “How do I get and lead people toward a righteous but Big Vision? How do I develop a righteous Big Hairy Audacious Goal (BHAG) when I know it might result in a bit more power, a lot more fortune or a higher position? My suggestion is this. Start with painting a picture of the end result Or write a description of your Preferred Future. Share what you have drawn or written with some close godly friends that can be honest with you. Then ask them this question ...”What and who do you see in this?”

The goal here is to paint a picture that looks like Jesus and not like you. You may say “Come on Ron, how can I do that if my BHAG is to build the tallest building in the world? To that I say trust me, for I and everyone will see who resides in the building, at what level ... and for what purpose.

What are your Leadership Battles? If you are a leader and a man, I know of at least one, probably two.

Ron Porter

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Other References for This Issue
I Samuel 8, Hebrews 11:4

