 **Leadership** **Lesson 3**

Essential Qualities of Leadership[[1]](#footnote-1)

*Part 2*

**Quality #1: Humor (Proverbs 25:11; Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4a).**

**Humor**: The skill of getting people to laugh in the right moments and for the right reasons in order to serve them more effectively.

Humor is a vital tool for leadership, enabling leaders to ease tension, build connections, unify groups, and soften harsh realities. Properly timed humor can regain attention and smooth over confrontational moments, while a bit of sarcasm can serve as an effective rebuke. Our greatest example, Jesus, used humor and sarcasm, and the Bible shows us that laughter is a valuable aspect of our human experience (Ecc. 3:4; Psalm 126). Godly leaders have a good sense of humor. Leaders should cultivate clean, wholesome humor to relax difficult situations and foster a sense of normalcy.

**Quality #2: Anger (Eph. 4:26-27; John 2:13-17; Mark 3:5; Neh. 5:6-10)**

**Anger**: An intense feeling of displeasure when we see something wrong and want action to be taken.

While it's natural to view anger negatively, scripture suggests there is a place for righteous anger in leadership. Although many passages caution against anger (Prov. 29:22; Matt. 5:21-22; James 1:19-20), other passages highlight its appropriate use. Ephesians 4:26-27 encourages anger without sin, while Jesus' actions in the temple (John 2:13-17) and his rebuke of the Pharisees (Mark 3:5) demonstrate righteous indignation. Nehemiah's anger at social injustice (Nehemiah 5:6-10) further exemplifies this. Anger primarily involves perceiving that something is wrong, experiencing an intense emotion of displeasure, and feeling a strong demand for change.[[2]](#footnote-2) Righteous anger is a necessary leadership tool for addressing sinful problems and provoking change, but we must be careful not to mislabel our sinful anger as righteous.

**Quality #3: Patience (Eph. 4:1-2; 1 Thes. 5:14; Rom. 15:1).**

**Patience**: To graciously endure someone or something with self-control and persevere with kindness.

Patience is crucial for Godly leaders. If you want to be a leader of men, you must learn to be patient with all men, because all men are sinners. Patience is not a weak or passive trait; it's about actively caring for others and being gracious to them despite their foibles. Unlike impatient leaders who rush ahead selfishly, good leaders stay close, helping others keep up. They lead with empathy, not just authority, waiting for everyone to be ready before moving forward together.

**Quality #4: Friendship (Prov. 17:17, 27:17; John 13:1, 15:12-15, 21:17a)**

**Friendship**: Showing genuine care for others and choosing to do life with them, sharing a relationship built on trust, support, and selflessness.

Again, leadership is influence, and no one is more influenced by your leadership than your friends. Loneliness can be inherent in leadership, but the best leaders are those who pursue and maintain Godly friendships. Without genuine friendships, one cannot truly lead. Jesus illustrated this profoundly: His disciples weren’t just followers but friends (John 15:12-15). Therefore, Godly leaders must actively love, pursue, and befriend people, extending beyond their comfortable zones to genuinely impact others.

**Quality #5: Tact & Diplomacy (Daniel 1; Nehemiah).**

**Tact**: The ability to feel out people and situations wisely without giving offense.

**Diplomacy**: The ability to navigate people of differing viewpoints in order to find helpful solutions for everyone.

Leadership often involves navigating relationships with tact and diplomacy, but it's more than mere flattery or manipulation. Drawing examples from Joseph, Daniel, Nehemiah, Paul, and William Wilberforce, effective leaders can influence positively without compromising their integrity. They understand how to respectfully support and communicate with others, including those in authority, to achieve meaningful outcomes. If you don’t learn to be tactful, you might forfeit God-given opportunities to impact the world for His glory.

**Quality #6: Inspiration (Neh. 4:11-15; Rom. 12:11).**

**Inspiration**: The ability to motivate and galvanize others to sacrifice for an important cause.

The zeal, drive, and passion of leaders inspires others. Nehemiah ignited the people of Israel through his words, actions, example, and unwavering confidence. He inspired them to press on, and the project was completed in record time despite numerous challenges. God’s inspirational servants motivate others people to champion God’s causes, and do so with selflessness and excellence. Leaders inspire others to do great things for God.

**Quality #7: Executive Ability (Is. 30:18; 1 Tim. 3:1; 1 Cor. 14:40)**

**Executive Ability**: Effectively administrating a group or organization, exercising leadership, and making strategic decisions to accomplish their mission.

Leaders are called to bring order out of chaos. Our God is a God of order (Isaiah 30:18) who orchestrates peace, not confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33), and His leaders should reflect that order in their work. Many good organizations fail due to a lack of organization. Therefore, leaders must be organizers, establishing and maintaining order in their leadership.

**Quality #8: Listening (James 1:19; Prov. 18:13)**

**Listening**: The skill of hearing people attentively while they speak, in order to accurately understand, empathize, and provide assistance.

Leaders must be listeners. Scripture reminds us to be quick to hear (James 1:19) and careful to have all the facts before we speak on a topic (Prov. 18:13). In today's fast-paced communication culture, where quick responses often overshadow thoughtful listening, leaders stand out by their ability to listen first and speak second. Effective leadership entails not only hearing but comprehending, ensuring responses are informed and respectful. Leaders who carefully listen to people will earn the respect and loyalty of those who follow them.

**Quality #9: Letter Writing (Prov. 18:21; 2 Cor. 7:8-9; Col. 4:16; 2 Tim. 4:13)**

**Letter Writing**: The ability to communicate clearly, appropriately, and effectively through your written words, being respectful and caring to your recipient while also representing yourself accurately.

At first glance, written communication may seem like an outdated leadership trait. Yet, in today's world, we use written forms more frequently than ever before. This makes the topic even more crucial. Just as spoken words have power (Prov. 18:21), so do our written words. Mordecai's careful writing of an edict to counteract Haman's decree and Paul's strategic letters across Asia Minor demonstrate this power. Leaders bear responsibility for their communication, from texts and emails to resumes and social media posts. Each interaction is an opportunity to wisely steward influence.

*“If you want to change the world, pick up your pen and write.”*

*~ Martin Luther*

**Prayer**

**Scripture**: A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways…Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw night to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

James 1:8; 4:7-8

**Single Focus/Cross Impact Requests:**

* Single Focus (Connect, Grow, Serve)
  + Summer Missions Trip
  + July Activities and Fellowships
  + Leadership & Discipleship
* Cross Impact IUPUI, Purdue, Ball State, and UIndy (potential at other campuses)
* Sunday Soul-Winning Efforts

**Specific Requests:**

* Jack Elms, Kendall Elms, Jesiah Achenbach, and Max Garcia in military training/service
* Joseph LaPointe’s back and spirit
* Jessica’s Unsaved friend in Mormonism
* Ian’s unsaved family
* James as he recovers from his diabetic episode and financial implications (Hau’s friend)
* Pastor Jonah Scott (Andy’s friend in WI) recovering at home after all of his dramatic health issues. Pray for continued recovery physically, mentally, and spiritually.
* Those who are out this summer @ camps and other ministries and jobs: Joel Montgomery, Emma Reasen, John Barfield, Steven Platt, Ashlyn Moritz

**Announcements:**

* Sunday, June 30- **SNF at the Hick’s home**- *please bring a side or drink*
* July 6- Fireworks Hangout in Carmel
* Sunday, July 14- **SNF at the Knoedler’s home**- *please bring a side or drink*
* Saturday Game Night with Knockerball- July 13 in the evening (more to come)
* Missions Trip- July 19-21

**Order of Service for tonight:**

* **Opening Game**: King of the Grill
* **Opener**: Ian Darr
* **Songs**:
  + Nearer, Still Nearer (on screen)
  + I Am Weak But You Are Strong (on screen)
* **Announcements**: Pastor Andy
* **Message**: Pastor Andy
* **Prayer**: Ian Darr





1. These six leadership qualities are provided in chapter 8 of Oswald Sander’s book, “Spiritual Leadership: Principles of Excellence for Every Believer.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. This idea came from a small groups lesson called “‘Little Sins’ that are a Big Deal,” in Lesson 4: Anger. Written by Dr. Ben Hicks. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)