

LIFT

Ministry Group March Resource

Keys to Self-Leadership

(World Outreach School of Leadership)

1. **Self-Awareness:** an accurate and honest understanding of ourselves.

Read: Acts 20:28 & 1 Tim. 4:16

A self-aware leader should watch over their: character, heart, conduct, limitations, emotional health, marriage, and family.

Discuss: How difficult is it for you to be honest with yourself?

2. **Self-Discipline:** is taking person responsibility to discipline ourselves in life and leadership.

These areas include our thought life, sleeping patterns, spending routines, time management, eating habits, exercise, spiritual practices, organization, and personal development.

3. **Self-Control:** is the ability to internally regulate yourself.

Read: Galatians 5:22-23

Three vital areas a leader must exercise self-control:

- Temper: Emotional State
- Tongue: Words
- Sexual Desires: Purity

Discuss: How does self-discipline differ from self-control?



Great Leaders Learn to Lead Themselves First

“One of the essential truths that any good leader needs to learn is that leadership begins with you. If you can’t lead yourself, you can’t lead others.”

-Jenni Catron-

Leading is hard, but sometimes the most difficult person to lead is the one staring back at us in the mirror.

How is it that a minister can balance a capital campaign and a board meeting, yet not balance his/her checkbook?

How can a minister expound on biblical literacy, but spend less than 15 minutes daily in personal devotions?

How can a minister inspire the congregation to give sacrificially, yet never personally give to missions or outreach initiatives?

The obvious answer to these questions is “they can’t” at least not effectively. World Outreach School of Leadership defines self-leadership, in a ministry leadership context, as the intentional practice of disciplining, regulating and developing our lives and leadership so that we can effectively lead ourselves and others to fulfill God’s ultimate purposes of maturity and mission. (1)

(1) <https://world-outreach.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/SOL-S1-M5.pdf>



4. Self-Development: intentionally growing our life and leadership.

Self-development can focus on two areas: personal and leadership.

There are ten areas that populate the spectrum of a leader's personal development:

- Spirituality
- Physical health
- Intellectually
- Emotional health
- Socially (Relationships)
- Marriage
- Parenting
- Vocation
- Finances
- Recreation

Discuss: Which of these areas do you need to develop in?

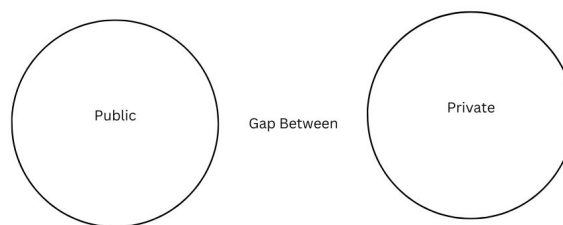
On the leadership side of self-development there are a number of practical ways to develop as leaders:

- Sustain and attitude of lifelong learning.
- Conduct an honest self-audit of your current growth to identify strengths and weaknesses.
- Foster a mentoring relationship.
- Be involved in leadership.

5. Self-Sacrifice: Being prepared to pay the price to become a great leader includes:

- Denying ourselves.
- Surrendering to Jesus' mission.
- Willing to make sacrifices.
- Willing to endure hardship.
- Exercise courage.

Great Leaders Learn to Lead Themselves First (Cont.)



Leading ourselves is difficult if there is a disparity between our public life and private life. When there is a gap between how a minister behaves privately and how they depict themselves publicly it creates a credibility gap. It diminishes our authenticity and weakens our spiritual integrity.

Rather than these two worlds being separated and compartmentalized, our public life needs to be an expression and extension of our private life.

Discuss: Why is it imperative that a minister's public and private life be aligned?

According to World Outreach School of Leadership, there are four reasons why self-leadership is important:(2)

1. *Self-leadership gives credibility and legitimacy to our leadership.*
2. *One of the principal ways we lead and influence people is by the example of our own life.*
3. *We can only reproduce in others what has been, or is being, produced in us.*
4. *Self-leadership is the way by which we take personal responsibility to grow as a leader.*

Discuss: The Apostle Paul declares in 1 Corinthians 11:1, "Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ." How confident are you in asking others to imitate you? Is your private life something you would want to see reproduced in others?

(2) <https://world-outreach.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/SOL-S1-M5.pdf>

