

take a breath

in leadership living

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I would like to welcome every1one to Leadership Training and Discipleship. Our bcc objective is to Invite, Inform, Inspire, Instruct, and Implement a purposeful role of Influence for you as an aspiring Christian Leader to Impact mightily the lives of people in, as, by, and through, but not limited to, serving in and outside the local church.

I am excited to continue for some and introduce to others my edition of “take a breath” in leadership living. Through the eyes of spiritual leadership, the word breath is the scriptural definition to the word “inspiration” or divinely breathed in as in 2 Tim 3:16-17 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (NKJV) 2 Tim 3:16-17 (NIV) All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. [same Greek Word: “Breath = Inspiration = Wind = Spirit”]

Thus to “take a breath” is to divinely take in a God-Inspiration for leadership living. We reserve all rights of originality of conceptual and creative material of bcc and pastor toran c. smith. That is what this is for as The LORD’s Leaders in The Kingdom of God.

I have found that leadership is the researched, studied, learned, experienced, and imparted knowledge that produces real results in and for others. Leadership is the organizing and coordinating of resources, energies, and relationships, in a productive context for an intended result. Leadership is first being, then doing. It is the ability to inspire others to become and fulfill themselves by you doing the same. Surely every leader, pastor, manager, student, leader in a church, account representative, every person, parent, school teacher, coach, or Christian, needs to take a breath in order to continue to effectively lead and grow themselves and others.

The practical way of looking at my Leadership Philosophy is- Leadership is successfully living in “the natural,” using principles, or Keys to the Kingdom, that are the dynamics that produce measurable fruitfulness. So let us get growing in today’s lesson.

The 2020 Lens for all The Lord’s Leaders

“Lift me and Lead me”

Acts 20: 18-24

18 And when they had come to him, he said to them: “You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, 19 serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews; 20 how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house, 21 testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. 22 And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, 23 except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. 24 But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

Erwin McManus quotes:

“The church does not exist for us. We are the church, and we exist for the world.”

“The person who loves the process has a much greater chance of success than the person who loves the outcome.”

“Faith is the determination to create with our lives what only our hearts can conceive.”

“We can’t change history, but we can create the future.”

Verse Phrases for our Faith	2020 Lens to Look at A Leader
Vs.18- <u>in what manner I always lived</u> among you,	1. Consistent Character
Vs.19- <u>servicing the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me</u>	2. Humble, secure, vulnerable, emotionally intelligent; 3. Deals with attacks of foes, and doubts & disrespect of friends
Vs.20- <u>I kept back nothing that was helpful, but preaching it to you, and teaching you publicly and from house to house</u>	4. Holds nothing back helpful; 5. Communicates however- emails, FB, SM, calls, wherever- services, streets, & even in house to house
Vs.21- <u>repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.</u>	Change of mind, change of heart, change of actions; actions established in hopes & beliefs of Jesus The Truth
Vs.22- And see , now <u>I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there</u>	6. Shutdown, locked-up on lock-down, not in control, quarantined; 7. Uncertain of what was to come, never been in this situation before, threatened
Vs.23- <u>the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me.</u>	The Holy Spirit knows and shows whatever was to come
Vs.24- <u>But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.</u>	8. Sacrificial Servanthood; 9. Relentless Commitment; 10. Purposed for The Good News - Grace of God

Conflict and Context for The Current

- A. As all of us have been praying, declaring, and listening to The Lord because it is obvious ppl do not know what is going on. Ppl are asking questions from personal physical needs to their jobs & economy, to how long-how long - can we just get this to stop and go back to normal, and fear driven anxiety of sickness and disease to passing something that could steal, kill, or destroy and not even know it. There is much uncertainty, unknowns, out of anyone’s control. Some well to do ppl have said, this is irony - you can have all the wealth, all the loving support, be quarantined beside essentials, sanitized until you are in a new color tone, and not have any control over being infected.
 - 1. How are we suppose to Lead this Life?
 - 2. There is a highly populated Leadership concept that states, “you can not lead anyone where you have not been there yourself before.”
 - 3. I have been bound in my spirit by this, locked up on lock down with others around me because I have felt limited by this lesson. (I do believe there is partial realities to this, but there is a tension to be managed with both sides of this thought.)

- B. Now let us apply it to the current.
 - 1. You and I, most all of us, and globally we are currently in a major crisis of unknown, uncertainty, and unsureness if things will ever return to the way it was, so now what?
 - 2. How are we suppose to navigate through this, get up from the temptations of being down, and lead through this ourselves?

Let us Look at Leaders with The Lord

- A. Noah- led to the building of the Ark when he did not know what a cruise ship was neither had it rained
- B. Abraham- was told to pick up everything and go to a place that “I” will show you. (Because he did not know)
- C. Jacob- went away to a land that his uncle was there, but came back home to reconcile from his wrongs.
- D. Joseph- yes his father and others had dreams before, but he went through betrayal from his own brothers, uncertainty, unknowns, lies, denies, attacks, and defies out of his control. He had never been in a pit before, then promoted into a position, only to be thrown in prison then stuck there, locked up on lock down, forgotten about, and God used his purpose and gift to lift him out, and up into the palace. God used it to save his ppl and his dream came true! Why? Because he said, though the contagious virus of the unknown was meant for evil, God turned it for Good! That many lives would be Revived!
- E. I could mention Gideon, who thought he was a nobody, and not able to know what to do with so much trial, tribulation, and troubles that was against him and his ppl, and wanted to how could God want me to lead? Gideon at The Lord’s leading lessened the troops from thousands down to three hundred. Gideon had never led before, and was inept and insecure, the ppl could have turned on him, but he led them to a place they had never been before because you can lead ppl where you have never gone before!

Switch Gears Here to Give Credence to how and why you want to go and know some things you lead.

- F. Moses- fled from Egypt and lived in an unknown land for some decades and discovered God on a mountain in a burning bush. What did God say, “and this shall be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God at this mountain.” Moses did just that and led them back to that mountain because he wanted them to Encounter God just like he did and worship just like he had been there already before. This is also compared to why God trained him with his staff and the changing of his hand from leprosy to not. So that when he went to Pharaoh, he had done those things before
- G. David- R* why did David say, 34David replied, “Your servant has been tending his father’s sheep, and whenever a lion or a bear came and carried off a lamb from the flock, 35I went after it, struck it down, and delivered the lamb from its mouth. If it reared up against me, I would grab it by its fur, strike it down, and kill it. 36Your servant has killed lions and bears; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God.” 37David added, “The LORD, who delivered me from the claws of the lion and the bear, will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” “Go,” said Saul, “and may the LORD be with you.” BECAUSE- there are some victories you need to win in private when no one is looking, no one is there to record it to your Instagram, no glamour, no celebration for being a hero in the spotlight, just you and your commitment to Jesus!
- H. And Then there is Jesus! God, The Son of God had never been birthed into the earth through the womb of a woman, God had never been made vulnerable into the hands whom he created but now being carried. Jesus is The Human Expression of God, and HE was made subject to infirmities and weaknesses just like we. Jesus learned obedience through suffering. And though HE was without sin and perfect,
 - 1. Jesus needed to lead where God had never been before how to lead on earth as one of us. So what was God’s Answer? HE Received The Holy Spirit and became The Anointed One, The Messiah, The Christ! And the next clue we see is that The Spirit Led HIM into the wilderness.
 - 2. God had never been to the passion suffering of crucifixion, burial, and God had never died. But The Word of God says, The Spirit of God raised, “lifted” Jesus up from the dead and He is now Alive forever more!

Led by The Holy Spirit

A. Helper -

John 14: 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—

- 1. paraklētōs - (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengtheners, Standby)
- 2. Paraclete- a huge construction machinery that “lifts.” Military Planes as well “lifts off”



B. The Spirit of Truth -

John 14: 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

John 15:26 “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

John 16:13 “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will **guide** you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

1. hodēgeō - a leader of the way, a guide
a teacher of the ignorant and inexperienced
2. Tour Guide- HE has already been there; HE will take you and me where we have never gone before! He knows all the routes, how to guide and describe everything, HE is qualified to take you there wherever you need to go! The Helper “hodego’s” us through new stuff, to do new things! The Holy Spirit is the leader of the Way.

The 2020 Lens

A. What does 20/20 Vision actually mean?

1. “A person with 20/20 vision can see what an average individual can see on an eye chart when they are standing 20 feet away,”
2. An eye chart measures visual acuity, which is the clearness or sharpness of vision. The top number is your distance in feet from the chart. The bottom number is the distance at which a person with normal eyesight can read the same line.
3. **20/20 vision is not perfect vision.** I.E.- A person can have 20/15 vision, which is sharper than average. If you have 20/15 vision, you can see a line in the eye chart at 20 feet that the average person can only see when they are 15 feet away.
4. We as Leaders do not want average vision, but Led by the Perfect Vision of The Holy Spirit!

B. Reentry

1. March Dr. Jeff Johnson made an odd statement, “Reentry!”
2. Since that time a Prophet man of God used this exact same word.
3. Malachi 3 and 4- Book of Remembrance and The Reconciling of families and homes.
4. This time of uncertainty has brought families back together again. The Prodigals are coming home.
5. We can not wait to get back to the House of God and the Corporate Reentry into God’s House and the congregations

“Lift me and Lead me”

You can Lead where you have never been before.

It may be an uncertain time, unknown what is to come, when will things go back to a new normal, but this one thing I do know... Christ wants me to look at HIS corrective LENS for me to see me and to see you too!

I refuse to have a vision of myself and you as though we are limited to average! God has a Perfect View of you and me for our future to be!

All we need is The Holy Spirit = paraklētos - to Lift me up! (when I am down, discouraged, defeated, or distracted from leading our way...)

All we need is The Holy Spirit to Tour Guide us into places we have never been before and lead others to places we have never gone before for all our good! The enemy may have meant this for evil, but God Lifted us, and Leads us into all Truth Who is Jesus of the Gospel of Grace! In Jesus Name..., TATA-May HIS Peace be unto you