

Mustard seed leadership

BUILDING ON BIBLICAL VALUES

1 Corinthians 3:10-13 (NLT)

*10 Because of God's grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. **But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful.** 11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ.*

12 Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. 13 But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person's work has any value.

BIG IDEA: As co-laborers with Christ, we need to build the church on a revelation of Christ, by the Holy Spirit, in obedience to His Word, with love!

How are we going to use these values?

1. Own them by REVELATION
2. Model them though your EXAMPLE
3. Multiply them by TALKING, TALKING, TALKING

9. Building away from yourself

A. What is this value about?

This value is about pointing people towards Jesus and not ourselves. And helping them depend on Jesus and not us. In other words it means working ourselves out of a job by discipling people into leaders rather than keeping them as followers.

Someone once said that there is “No success without a successor”. That means that we have only truly succeeded when we have trained and empowered others to do what we can do so that the church or ministry can function without us and not be completely dependent on us.

Even Jesus built his disciples towards dependence on the Holy Spirit:

John 16:7 (NLT)

7 “But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.”

Isn't that amazing? When the leader is not there, the people have to depend on the Holy Spirit more!

B. Why is this value so important?

This value is so important because it helps us fulfil the first commandment that God gave us, which is to multiply:

Genesis 1:28 (NLT)

28 Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

The key to being fruitful is to multiply yourself into the lives of others through building relationships and empowering them.

The second reason this value is so important is because it also ensures sustainability of the ministry. If the whole church or ministry is built on a single leader then if (or rather when) that leader burns out or bombs out, the ministry or church suffers. If you build away from yourself then others can share the load and continue the work in your absence.

C. Vision

Get this right and the church feels like it really is more about JESUS than the pastor or leader. Suddenly the pastor is not the 'Man of God', but rather JESUS is!

QUESTION: If you are a pastor then when last did you take a Sunday off to be on holiday with your family?

Some pastors are never away from their churches because if they were not there then nothing would happen. That's bad building! Empower the people and let them depend on Jesus and not us.

PRACTICAL:

- Make it your goal to work your way OUT OF A JOB. Then God will promote you to a greater job!
- Make a decision to never do anything alone. Always get people to travel with you and work with you so that you can train and equip them.