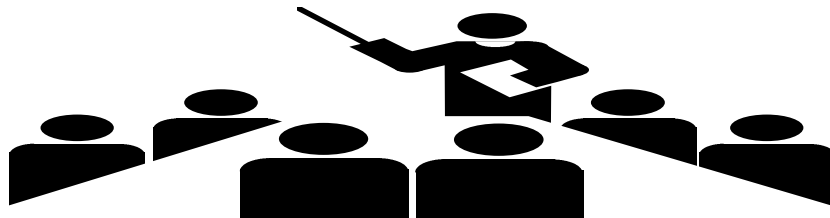


# LEADERSHIP SEMINAR



Facilitator  
**The Rev. Dr. Darryl B. Starnes, Sr.**  
Director, Bureau of Evangelism  
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Charlotte, North Carolina



**Topic:**  
**“The Challenge of Christian Leadership”**

# LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

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## The Challenge of Christian Leadership

Resource: *The Leadership Challenge*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.

By James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner,  
(San Francisco: Jossey-Bass: A Wiley Company, 2002)

### I. THE MEANING OF LEADERSHIP

- *Leadership is influence, the ability of one person to influence others.*

**J. Oswald Sanders**

- *Leadership is the function that fosters and maintains a congregation's focus on divine purposes, promotes rational efforts to achieve it, and keeps counterproductive processes in abeyance.*

**Joe S. Ellis**

- *Leadership is ultimately about creating a way for people to contribute to making something extraordinary happen.*

**Alan Keith**

- *The gift of leadership is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to set goals in accordance with God's purpose for the future and to communicate those goals to others in such a way that they voluntarily and harmoniously work together to accomplish those goals for the glory of God.*

**C. Peter Wagner**

### II. CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP (Mark 10:35-45)

#### A. Christian Leadership is not:

1. About seeking position or recognition. (35-40)
2. About lording it over people. (41-42)
3. About making people serve us. (45)

#### B. Christian Leadership is:

1. About suffering for righteousness' sake. (38-40)
2. About serving those whom we lead. (43-45)
3. About sacrificing for the sake of the kingdom. (45)

### III. CREDIBILITY: THE FOUNDATION OF LEADERSHIP

- A. **HONESTY:** We follow those who are proven worthy of our trust [truthful, ethical and principled].
- B. **FORWARD-LOOKING:** We follow those who have a sense of direction and a concern for the future.
- C. **COMPETENCE:** We follow those who have a track record for and an ability to get things done well.
- D. **INSPIRATION:** We follow those who can communicate the vision in ways that encourage us to sign on for the duration.

#### IV. THE FIVE PRACTICES AND TEN COMMITMENTS OF LEADERSHIP

##### A. MODEL THE WAY

1. Find your voice by clarifying personal values.
2. Set the example by aligning actions with values.

##### B. INSPIRE A SHARED VISION

3. Envision the future by imagining exciting and ennobling possibilities.
4. Enlist others in a common vision by appealing to shared aspirations.

##### C. CHALLENGE THE PROCESS

5. Search for opportunities by seeking innovative ways to change, grow, and improve.
6. Experiment and take risks by constantly generating small wins and learning from mistakes.

##### D. ENABLE OTHERS TO ACT

7. Foster collaboration by promoting cooperative goals and building trust.
8. Strengthen others by sharing power and discretion.

##### E. ENCOURAGE THE HEART

9. Recognize contributions by showing appreciation for individual excellence.
10. Celebrate the values and victories by creating a spirit of community.

#### V. CHURCH LEADERSHIP AND CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

##### A. THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH: Making Christian Disciples (Mt. 28:18-20)

1. **Evangelism** [proclamation of the gospel] is the first step in Christian discipleship. (Mk.16:15,16)
2. **Baptism** [initiation & assimilation into the Church] is the next step. (Matt. 28:19)
3. **Teaching** [training converts to obey Christ] is the crucial step. (Matt. 28:20)

##### B. CHURCH LEADERS SHOULD BE SPIRITUALLY QUALIFIED. (Acts 6:1-7)

1. They should be of honest report. (a good reputation)
2. They should be full of the Holy Spirit.
3. They should be full of wisdom.

##### C. CHURCH LEADERS SHOULD BE ECCLESIASTICALLY QUALIFIED. (*Discipline*)

1. They should be members in full connection. (*Discipline* [2000], pp. 340-341)
  - a. They must have "saving faith" in the Lord, Jesus Christ.
  - b. They must believe in the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures.
  - c. They must be willing to be cheerfully governed by the rules of the church.
  - d. They must hold sacred the ordinances of God.
  - e. They must endeavor to promote the welfare of the Redeemer's Kingdom.
  - f. They must cherish friendly feelings toward all persons, especially the church.
  - g. They must contribute of their earthly substance according to their ability to support the church.
2. They should be members in good standing. (*Discipline* [2000], pp. 34 - 35, 182, par. 491)
3. They should know Methodist doctrine. (*Discipline* [2000], p. 161, par. 445)
4. They should know and uphold Methodist polity. (*Discipline* [2000], p. 161, par. 445)
5. They should be committed to Evangelism. (*Discipline* [2000], p. 161, par. 445; p. 182, par. 491)
  - a. They must evidence the desire to witness to the gospel of the kingdom.
  - b. They must evidence the ability to witness to the gospel of the kingdom.
  - c. They must evidence the practice of witnessing to the gospel of the kingdom.

**D. CHURCH LEADERS SHOULD BE APPOINTED ON THE BASIS OF GIFTS, CHARACTER, AND COMMITMENT. (Acts 6:7)**

1. They should have been disciplined [demonstrating evidence of the following:]
  - a. Consistency in their personal devotions [private prayer and Bible Study]
  - b. Faithfulness to the appointed means of grace [worship, study, and especially small group discipleship]
  - c. Obedience in their Christian lifestyle [progress in their pursuit of scriptural holiness]
  - d. Competence in personal evangelism
  
2. They should be appointed and sustained in office on the basis of their ability in and commitment to disciple making.
  - a. Stewards and trustees - ability, desire, and practice of witnessing to the gospel (*Discipline*, pp. 161, 182)
  - b. Class leaders - evangelistic efforts and ability to provide sub-pastoral oversight. (*Discipline*, pp. 34, 296e)
  - c. Christian Education [teachers] - ability to teach God's people to obey His word and to train them for service
  - d. Missionaries - ability to carry the gospel to people of different cultures, both home and overseas.
  - e. Lay leaders - ability to deepen spiritual life of laity & expand the church thru education & evangelism. (p. 310)
  - f. District, Conference, Regional, Connectional, and General Officers - ability to equip saints for ministry.
  - g. Pastors, Presiding Elders, Bishops – ability to train capable disciple makers and develop faithful leaders.