

No 75

## HOW TO IDENTIFY THE PERSON GOD IS CALLING INTO LEADERSHIP

God's method is to find a man or woman, not a group, or a committee, whom He can raise up as a leader, e.g. Gideon, *Judg 6*, *1Sam 13:14*, *Jer 4:25*, *Jer 5:1*, *Ezk 22:30*, *Is 59:16*, *Is 41:28*.

God is seeking for men and women with **authority, spirituality and a sacrificial nature**.

**Authority** in a person who knows where he is going in God, inspires confidence in others.

**Spirituality** is being alive in the Holy Spirit and led by the Spirit. This is a person who is seeking God, hearing the Word of God, and one who experiences fresh, frequent encounters with God by the Holy Spirit.

**A sacrificial nature belongs** to one who sets himself in God to be a servant to others in need, *Gal 5:13*. Jesus gave the example of a servant lifestyle. *Lk 22:27*, *Jn 13:1-15*, *Phil 2:5-7*, *Mat 20:28*.

People qualify for leadership by conforming to God's spiritual requirements and by paying the full price of surrender and discipleship. Leaders are not made by man's appointment or election, or by attending a leadership training college. Leadership often comes to those who have never sought it but instead have spent their time seeking God. They have qualified for it by spirituality, discipline, ability and diligence. Spiritual leadership is a thing of the Spirit and is conferred by God alone, *Ps 75:6,7*.

Leadership often starts in small ways of seeking and serving God. Taking opportunities no matter how small and unnoticed, and doing them wholeheartedly, *Col 3:17*.

When one qualifies for leadership, God anoints him with His Spirit and gives him leadership opportunities.

### Natural Traits

Self confident  
Knows men  
Makes own decisions  
Ambitious  
Originates own methods  
Enjoys leading others  
  
Motivated by personal considerations  
man  
Independent

### Spiritual Qualities

Confident in God  
Knows God too  
Seeks to find God's Will  
Full of zeal for God  
Finds and follows God's ways  
Determined to obey God and help others  
in the way  
Motivated by the love of God and  
  
God dependent

A leader is one who knows the road, can keep ahead, and can draw others after him. He can rally men and women to a common purpose and has the capacity to inspire confidence.

A spiritual leader is one who allows the Holy Spirit undisputed control of his life, so that the Holy Spirit can flow through him to others.

Spiritual leaders have superior spiritual power compared to those they are leading, because the Holy Spirit is able to work in them and through them to a greater degree than in those they lead.

A true safe leader is likely to be one who has no desire to lead but is pressed into it by the pressure of the Holy Spirit, and the need of the situation. In general the man who is ambitious to lead is disqualified as a leader. The God appointed leader has no desire to lord it over God's people, but is humble, gentle, self sacrificing, strong in faith, determined to obey God and to be true to His Word, *1Pet 5:1-4*.

He/she:

avoids getting immersed in details; is not petty; is not pompous; is a good picker of men and women; trusts those under them to do a job; has power of clear decision; inspires confidence; does little things well; knows priorities; uses leisure well; has intensity; learned to use momentum; has power of growth; handles discouragement; stands in faith before impossibilities; knows his weaknesses.

### **STANDARDS OF MEASUREMENT FOR POTENTIAL LEADERS**

1. Able to conquer sinful habits and help others too.
2. Self-controlled when things go wrong - does not fall apart.
3. Able to think independently - as well as listen to others.
4. Handles criticism to advantage and not destroyed by it.
5. Manages disappointments and finds strength in God.
6. Able to gain co-operation of others and win respect.
7. Establishes discipline without being authoritatively heavy.
8. Brings understanding between opposing parties.
9. Has tact in delicate situations.
10. Can encourage people to go on in God.
11. Accepts opposition without personal affront or offence.
12. Makes and keeps friends.
13. Not unduly dependent on the praise of others. Able to face disapproval and hold steady in God, *Is 54:17*.
14. At ease with superiors and strangers.
15. At ease with subordinates and encourages them.
16. Interested in all people, cultures, races, social levels.
17. Thinks about the words to be spoken with care before speaking.
18. Has a strong steady will.
19. Does not nurse resentments and hold unforgiveness for injuries done to them.
20. Optimistic in outlook.
21. Able to focus on the main objective.
22. Welcomes responsibilities.
23. Not using people but develops them and helps them on with encouragement.
24. Seeks the needy person out to bring them help.