

PASTORS' CONFERENCE - LEADERSHIP SEMINAR 1993

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THE LEADERSHIP MINISTRY OF CHRIST

Christ is the Chief Shepherd of the flock of God and the chief example of leadership for us to follow, *1Pet 5:1-4*.

In Matthew's Gospel Jesus Christ is presented as **the King**, the ruler with authority. His genealogy is as the Son of David, and the references to "Kingdom", "Kingdom of heaven" are many. (As well as the "kingly" emphasis, Jesus is also presented as the One who fulfils the Abrahamic covenant and many Old Testament scriptures).

In Mark's Gospel Jesus is pictured as **the Servant** who ministers in power freely, to the needs of the people. There is no genealogy, only four parables, little teaching, but many miracles of ministry.

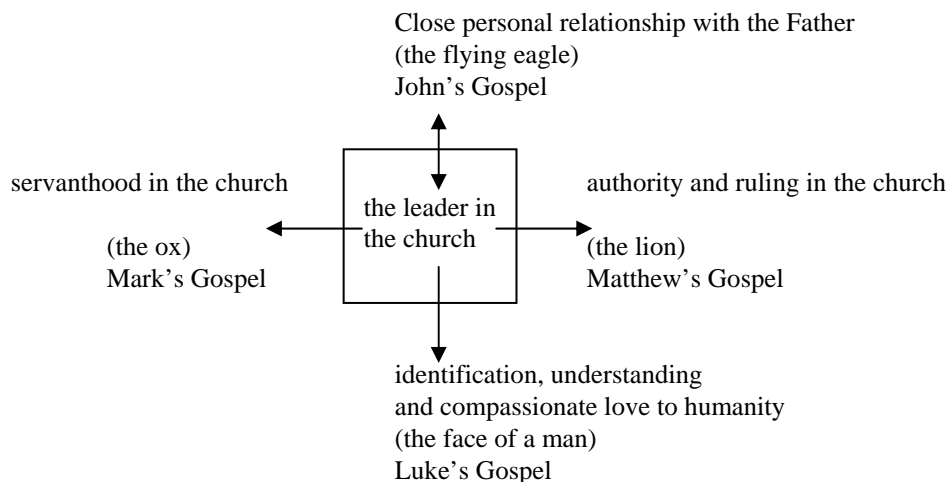
In Luke's Gospel Jesus is portrayed as **the perfect Son of Man**. The genealogy goes back to Adam and this Gospel emphasises the humanity of Christ. It shows Him identifying with mankind in compassionate love and understanding.

In John's Gospel Jesus is revealed to be **the Divine Son of God** in intimate fellowship with the Father.

The four living creatures around the throne of God also represent these four gospel pictures of Jesus. In *Rev 4:6,7*, they are described as being like **a lion, an ox, a man's face** and a **flying eagle**.

As under-shepherds to the Chief Shepherd we are called to be leaders like Him. The Lord appoints each leader in the church to:

- Rule** with the authority of Christ, *1Tim 5:17*.
- Serve** and care for the flock of God, *1Tim 5:18, 1Thes 5:12*.
- Understand and show compassion** to fellow men, *Heb 4:15, Heb 2:17, 1Cor 9:22*.
- Maintain a **close personal fellowship with the Father**, *Is 40:31, Jn 14:23*.



LEADERSHIP

- What is a leader?** *Rom 12:8, 1Cor 12:28, 1Tim 3:1*.
Leadership is the ability of one person to **influence others** and cause them to follow the leader. "Leadership is the capacity and will to rally men and women to a common purpose and the character which inspires confidence" – Montgomery. A leader is a man who knows the way to go, who can keep ahead, and draw others after him.
- God's three major agents in the accomplishment of His purposes are **His Spirit, His Word, and His man**.
In Genesis chapter 1 we read that "the **Spirit** of God moved on the face of the waters," v2; "God said, let there bev3,6,9,11,etc; and "Let us make **man** in our image," v26. God brought order out of chaos by His Spirit and His Word and set a **man** over creation to maintain and direct it for Him.
- God is dependent upon those whom He can raise up as leaders of others to fulfil His purposes in the earth, leaders such as Noah, Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Samuel, David, Peter and Paul, *1Sam 13:14, Ezk 22:30, Jer 5:1, Is 59:16*. In speaking of David's leadership in *Is 55:4*, God says He gave David as a **witness** to the people, a **leader** and a **commander** of the people.

God's leader must first be a **witness** to the Lord of His ways, His Word, and His purposes. He must know God. Secondly He must be a **leader of men**, going before them, leading them steadily forward in God. The Good Shepherd said, "He goes before them and the sheep follow Him, for they know His voice," *Jn 10:4*. Sheep need a leader who knows where to go and how to get there. Throughout the Word, God has consistently brought His chosen person to an advanced place of spirituality, and then set them in place to lead His people onwards. Thirdly, God's man is to be a **commander** with a clear "Thus saith the Lord!" word of authority. Jesus commanded, *Jn 13:34, 14:21*; Moses commanded, *Deut 33:4*; Paul commanded, *2Thes 3:10*. God's leader man speaks on behalf of God, with the authority to command others. This is not fleshly dictatorship but godly authority in His Name.

4. God's leader needs to be **Spiritual, Authoritative, and Sacrificial**.
Spiritual, because he must lead others as he is led by the Holy Spirit, *Gal 1:11,12, Acts 16:6-10*.
Authoritative, because people need to be led by one who knows where he is going, and who inspires confidence, *1Cor 11:1*.
Sacrificial because his leadership calling and gift is to operate for the benefit of others and not for selfish ends, *Mat 20:28, Lk 22:27, Jn 10:11, Jn 13:1-15*.
 5. Qualifications for a leader are given in *1Tim 3:1-7*.
 6. Only God can make a leader. God chooses those whom He wills to lead. He prepares, calls, equips, anoints, appoints and establishes, *Ps 75:6,7*.
 7. We do not elect leaders or confer leadership upon them by our appointment. We are to recognise, accept and support those whom God has raised up to lead in His church.
 8. The leader's responsibility in the church is to feed and care for the flock, to protect, heal, restore and guide the Lord's people in His ways. *Ezk 34:1-6, Ac 20:28, 1Pet 5:1-5, Tit 1:5-9, Mat 20:28, 1Tim 5:17, Lk 22:27, Is 58:6,7*.
 9. Sheep without a shepherd are scattered, confused and become a prey to the wolf. *Mat 9:35-38*.
 10. The godly leader needs to be highly esteemed, supported and encouraged by the saints. *1Thes 5:12,13, Heb 13:7,17,24, 1Tim 5:17*.
 11. A leader needs to be a man of:
 - Discipline** a person who has become submitted to the discipline of God and His Word and who imposes a rigorous discipline upon himself, *Lk 9:23, 1Cor 9:27*.
 - Vision** a person who "sees" ahead the purposes of God and is pressing on towards it, *Pro 29:18*.
 - Wisdom** a person able to make right judgment concerning spiritual and moral truth and apply it to the situations of life. *Jam 1:5,6, Pro 2:1-7, Pro 4:4-13, Col 1:9*.
 - Decision** a person capable of making a clear, wise decision, when all the facts are in, without undue delay, *Heb 11:8, Josh 24:15, 1K 18:21*.
 - Courage** a person who can encounter danger or difficulty with firmness and resolve, *Ac 4:13, 2Tim 1:7, 2Chr 32:7,8*.
 - Humility** a person of secure self identity in Christ, able to take the place of a servant to others. *Jn 13:1-15, Phil 2:5-7, Mat 20:28, Lk 22:27, Eph 4:1,2*.
- AND HAVE THE FULNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**
Ac 10:38, Ac 1:4,5,8, Ac 9:17, Ac 13:9, Ac 11:24, Eph 5:18,19.

THE LEADER AND HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

1. The Lord Jesus called His disciples **to be with Him** before He sent them out to do His work, *Mk 3:14,15*. It was necessary that they received from Him His truth, His life, His anointing before going out in ministry and evangelism.
2. **The leader needs to spend time with God before the day starts**, *Ps 63:1-5, Is 40:31, Ps 1:1-3*. George Mueller said that his main responsibility was to get his spirit free in God at the start of every day. Pray through to liberty, boldness and anointing. Start each day by giving the first hour or more to seek the face of God.
 If you have one hour before the Lord (more if possible):
 - a. **Begin by worship**, praise, thanksgiving and faith confession of His Word. Give 20 minutes to praising God. Magnify Him. *Ps 22:3, Eph 5:18,19, Col 3:16, Is 50:4, Is 55:3-5, Ps 27:14*.
 - b. **Move into intercession** for yourself, family, church, village, special needs, praying for God's Kingdom, rule and will to be done. Pray for the labourers and the harvest. *Lk 11:2-13, Eph 6:18,19, Lk 18:1-8, Mat 9:37,38*.
 - c. Spend the last 20 minutes in **the Word of God**, reading for personal revelation from the Holy Spirit. Write down what He says to you. *Ps 119:9,11, Ezk 36:25,26, Ps 119 :105,130*.
3. **God is the Father and source of all life**, light, truth, wisdom, authority, power and love. From Him, through Christ and the Holy Spirit, we receive all the life and ministry we need as His servants. *Gen 22:14, Phil 4:19, Jn 15:1-8, Mat 7:7-11, Ps 27:1, Ps 34:9,10, Jer 2:13, 2Cor 3:5,6*.
4. The leader should withdraw from busy ministry when he needs **to rekindle his relationship with God**, *Ps 100:4,5, Ps 95:1,2*. Do not lose your "first love," *Rev 2:4* because of being too busy in God's work. Our personal relationship with God is our "first love." Jesus often withdrew from the crowds to seek His Father's face, *Lk 5:15,16, Mat 14:23*.
5. **Revelation comes from relationship with God**. Revelation is the basis of ministry. We need revelation to move in faith, anointing and power. Ministry depends on the witness of the Holy Spirit, *1Jn 2:27, Jn 16:13, Jn 14:26*, and the revelation of the Word, *Col 3:16, Ps 119:105,130*.

6. **Our walk of fellowship with God** is more important than our labour and work for God. Do not allow people and their needs to keep you from pressing in to God each day. Get alone with God. You may have to go out into the fields to pray, praise Him and read His Word, *Col 3:1-4*.

THE LEADER AND HIS PRAYER LIFE

1. **Prayer is the way work is done.** The prayer is the work. What we accomplish for God is what we accomplish in prayer. Prayer is our No 1 work. After effective prayer, then we can arise and reap the results. We have to break through in believing prayer first, and then step out in ministry to achieve results.
2. *Jam 5:16* – “**The effective and fervent prayer** of a righteous man avails much.”
3. **Prayer is God’s way of getting things done.** As we pray God acts, moves, works, changes things and achieves His purposes. *Mat 7:7-11, Phil 4:6,7, Lk 18:1-8, Lk 11:2-13*.
4. **“Effective Prayer”** is:
 - a. **Asking prayer.** Be specific. *Mat 21:22, Mk 11:24, Lk 18:41, Jn 16:23,24, Jn 14:13,14*.
 - b. **Bold,** persisting prayer. *Lk 11:5-8, Lk 18:1-8*. Day and night persisting prayer.
 - c. **Believing prayer.** *Mat 21:22, Mk 11:24, Jam 1:5,6*. Faith in His promises.
 - d. **Expecting to receive prayer.** *Mk 11:24, Ps 62:5, Ps 27:13, Phil 4:19, Rom 8:32*.
 - e. **In His Name** prayer. *Jn 16:23,24, Jn 14 :13,14*. His authority.
 - f. **In His Will** prayer. *1Jn 5:14,15, 2Pet 1:4, 2Cor 1:20*. By His promises. Needs not wants.
 - g. **Obedient heart** prayer. *1Jn 3:22, Ps 66;18, Is 59:1,2, Jam 4:3*.
 - h. **Asking in humility.** *Ps 66:18, 2Chr 7:14, Lk 18:9-14, Is 66:2*.
5. **“Fervent Prayer”** is prayer your life depends on. It is earnest, from the heart, with meaning, feeling and depending upon God as the only hope. *1Sam 1:10,15,17,20, Heb 5:7, Lk 18:38,39*.
6. **“Righteous man”** is a person living right before God, both in standing before God in the righteousness of Christ, and in the state of righteous behaviour. Put on the breastplate of righteousness, *Eph 6:14*, which is the breastplate of faith and love, *1Thes 5:8*, where faith is at work through love, *Gal 5:6*, and avails.
Faith is believing and acting on God’s Word.
Love is acting and serving the needs of others.
 When we act in faith and love we are acting in **righteousness**.
7. **“Avails much”** means: benefits, helps, profits, accomplishes, achieves, is answered by God.

PRAYER

Prayer is:

Fellowship and communication between God and man, *Ps 27:4*.

Declaring Jesus Christ and God the Father as **the Centre** of all things and the total Source of Supply, *Lk 11:2-13*, meeting every need, *Phil 4:6,7, Phil 4:19*.

Expressing our **total dependence** upon the Lord. *Heb 5:7, Ps 73:25,26*. Breathing in the atmosphere of heaven, *Lk 18:1, Heb 10:19-23, Heb 4:14-16*. The way God’s purposes are brought to pass on the earth, *Jn 14:13*. Giving to God glory and spiritual sacrifices of worship, praise and thanksgiving, *Ac 13:2, Heb 13:15, 1Tim 2:1-4, Ps 96:7-9*. Believing God through His promises for the fulfilment of His purposes in the earth, and the meeting of all needs. *Jn 16:23,24, Mk 11:24, Mat 21:22, Mat 6:33, Num 23:19*.

The Church is God’s House and God says His House is to be a **House of Prayer for all nations**, *1Tim 3:15, Is 56:7, Mat 21:13*.

Jesus prayed:

at His Baptism and the Holy Spirit came on Him, *Lk 3:21,22*,
 before ministering in healing to the sick, *Lk 5:15-17*,
 when He needed guidance in choosing the twelve apostles, *Lk 6:12-16*,
 and revelation of who He is was given to the disciples, *Lk 9:18-20*,
 and He was filled with God’s glory, *Lk 9:29*,
 and others wanted to pray like Him, *Lk 11:1-4*.

Jesus is still praying, *Heb 3:1, Heb 7:25, Rom 8:34, 1Jn 2:1*.

Kinds of prayer:

1. Worship, praise, thanksgiving, *Ps 95:1,6, Ps 100:4,5, Ac 4:24-31*.
2. Petition - requests for personal needs to be met, *Phil 4:6,7, Mat 7:7-11, Mk 11:24, 1Jn 1:9, Rom 10:13*.
3. Intercession - praying for others. *Ezk 22:30, 13:5, Num 16:41-50, Is 59:16*.
 - a. On behalf of God, *Lk 11:2, Lk 10:2*.
 - b. For our own family.
 - c. The Church, *1Sam 12:19,23, Col 1:9-11, Ac 12:5, Eph 6:18,19*.

- d. The government, *1Tim 2:1-4*.
- e. The lost to be saved, *2Pet 3:9, 1Tim 2:1-4*.
- f. The Jewish people, *Ps 122:6, Rom 10:1*.
- g. Missionaries, *Col 4:3,4, 2Thes 3:1,2*.
- h. Church leaders, *1Thes 5:12,13, Heb 13:7*.

Hindrances to prayer:

1. The flesh - tiredness, distractions, *Mat 26:41*.
2. Busyness - too busy to pray, *Lk 10:41,42, (Ps 27:4)*.
3. Known sin - *Ps 66:18, Is 59:1,2, Pro 28:13*.
4. Unbelief - *Jam 1:5,6,7*.
5. Not praying in God's Will - *Jam 4:3, 1K 19:4, 1Jn 5:14,15*.
6. Unforgiveness - *Mk 11:25,26, Mat 18:21-35, Mat 6:14,15*.
7. Failure to persist - *Lk 11:5-8, Lk 18:1-8, Heb 6:12*.
8. Fear and unbelief - *Mat 14:31, Mat 17:20, Mat 8:26, Mk 11:23, 1Jn 5:10*.
9. A curse operating - *Is 54:17, Gal 3:13*.
10. Demonic oppression - *Ac 10:38, 1Thes 2:18*.
11. Involvement in the occult - *Deut 18:10-12, Deut 7:26, Num 33:52,55*.

THE LEADER AND HIS TIME IN GOD'S WORD - 1TIM 5:17

1. The leader needs to be strong in God's Word and to feed his spirit on the Word each day.
Pro 4:20-22 Attend to the words of the Lord,
Incline your ear to His sayings,
Do not let them depart from your eyes,
Keep them in the midst of your heart,
For they are life to all those who find them,
And health to all their flesh.
Ps 1:1-3, Heb 4:12, 1Pet 1:23, Jam 1:21,22, 1Thes 2:13, Ps 119:105,130, 2Tim 3:16, Ps 119:89, Is 40:8.
2. **God's Word is living bread** for the pastor and his church. Everyday the Holy Spirit will make alive to the leader and his people the Word of God to heal, to strengthen, to guide, to save, to instruct, to comfort, to correct, to reveal truth and to cleanse, as the believers spend time in God's Word, *Jn 8:31-36, Col 3:16*.
3. Set aside time each day for God's Word. Ask God to speak to you.
Ps 119:18,130. Read on until the Holy Spirit makes a passage alive to you. Stop there! Go over what the Lord is saying to you, *Ps 1:2*. Write it down in your notebook or diary. Maybe underline it or colour it. Try and cross reference to other verses. Meditate on that Word through the day. Say it over. Share it with others. Thank God for it. Pray it as a prayer if possible.
4. **On Monday start asking God for Sunday's messages.**
Write down every scripture that God makes alive to you, as you read the Word. One or two themes will become clear. Get some blank paper and start writing down every thought that comes to you during the week on that theme.
5. **Set aside Fridays to seek God**, pray, and prepare the messages for Sunday. Write out your message outline. Use headings and write the scripture references you are going to use. Many leaders fast on Fridays.
6. Preach the message to yourself a number of times. Go out and walk in the fields and preach it. Let the Holy Spirit make it alive to you.
7. **Claim the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ** over you, also the Blood of Jesus, the Word of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit. Bind and resist all and every power of darkness and release the Word of God and the Anointing of God. Step out in faith with all boldness and confidence. God will watch over His Word to perform it. *Jer 1:12, Is 55:11, 1Cor 2:4,5, Lk 1:37(AMP)*.
8. Use your spiritual diary as often as possible to confess your faith with praise. Speak out aloud all the promises and scriptures God has made alive to you.
Turn them into prayers.
Pray the Word of God constantly.
Claim His Promises, *Num 23:19*.
God is faithful, *Josh 23:14*.
9. **Take one day a week off to rest** and relax as much as possible, but keep praying and reading the Word.

OVERCOMING THE PROBLEM OF SIN

1. **Sin is the main hindrance** to our fellowship with God because sin is action against God. Sin is in opposition to God, *Rom 5:8,10, Col 1:21*.

2. **Sin separates us from God.** *Is 59:1,2, Ps 66:18, Gen 3:11-13,23,24, Ps 138:6, Pro 15:29, Jer 15:19, Is 1:15, Mat 7:23.* Sin produces death, *Gen 2:17, Rom 6:23, Jam 1:15.*
3. Sin is unrighteousness, *1Jn 5:17, Rom 1:29,32, 1Cor 6:9,10.*
Sin is disobedience to God's law, *1Jn 3:4.* It is lawlessness. [God's law is: *Jn 13:34, Mk 12:30,31, 1Cor 9:21*]
Sin is acting with a guilty conscience, *Rom 14:23, 1Tim 1:5.*
Sin is doing something that does not bring glory to God, *Rom 3:23, 1Cor 10:31.*
Sin is not doing something you know you should, *Jam 4:17, Mat 25:35,36.*
Some sins are more involuntary than others, such as the sins of the "uncrucified flesh": anger, fear, doubt, pride, while others are deliberate, wilful transgression and rebellion. See *1Jn 5:16,17.*
4. **The Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us** from the guilt of sins as we turn to God, confess our sins, repent and turn away from them by God's grace. *Rev 1:5, 1Jn 1:7,9, Rom 5:9, Pro 28:13.*
5. **God's Word tells us to get rid of sin.** *1Jn 3:3, Gal 5:24, Rom 6:12, 2Tim 2:21, 2Cor 7:1, Jam 4:8, Gen 4:7, Col 3:5,8,9, Eph 4:22-31.* Do not allow sin to rule in your life.
6. **The power of sin is broken:**
 - by confession of our sin, *1Jn 1:9, Pro 28:13,*
 - by knowing the truth of God's Word, *Jn 8:30-36, Ps 119:9,11, Ezk36:25-27,*
 - by identification with Christ in His death, burial, resurrection, which we declare by baptism, *Rom 6:1-14, Gal 2:20, Col 3:3, Col 2:12,13,*
 - by the life power of the Holy Spirit, *Rom 8:2, Gal 5:16,17,*
 - by abiding in Christ, *1Jn 3:5,6.*
7. The inward, upward lift of the Holy Spirit, the Word and Christ living in us, is far greater than the downward pull of sin and the old nature of self, *Rom 8:2.*
8. **Steps to freedom** from sinful bondage.
 - a. Confession to God, *1Jn 1:9, Jam 5:16, Pro 28:13.*
 - b. Choose against sin. Hate it. *Pro 8:13.*
 - c. Cry out to God to root it out of your life. Claim *Ezk 36:25.*
 - d. Recognise that God's power alone can set you free, *Zech 4:6.* Frequently, if we fight sinful bondage in our own strength, it will become stronger, *1Cor 15:56.*
 - e. Believe and confess God's promises **that He has already set you free at the Cross of Christ.** *Rom 8:2, Rom 6:2,6,11,14,22, Ezk 36:25-27, 1Jn 1:9, 1Pet 2:24, Gal 2:20, 2Pet 1:3,4, Heb 13:20,21, 1Thes 5:23,24.*
9. You can be free from sin's bondage because Jesus Christ has already set you free at the Cross.
10. **RISE EARLY EACH DAY** and get into God's presence, anointing and victory.

THE LEADER AND CHURCH DISCIPLINE

1. It is the **leader's responsibility**, together with the elders, to uphold God's standard of discipline in the church, as it is established in the Word.
2. **1Cor 5:1-13** directs leaders to deal with problems of immorality in the church and not to "turn a blind eye", pretend they do not exist, nor wait and hope they will go away. In the same way a father disciplines his children for disobedience and bad behaviour, so there has to be discipline in the church, and a godly standard of behaviour maintained. *1Tim 3:4,5.* In **1Cor 5** the church was faced with a problem of immoral conduct amongst its members. The church was directed to gather, and put out of their midst, the persons committing immorality, *1Cor 5:7,9,11,13,* after seeking to bring that one to genuine repentance and restoration.
3. **Mat 18:15-20** outlines the godly procedure for the settling disputes between brethren in the church, and the necessary discipline of the unrepentant brother causing the upset.
First the person who has been hurt must go and tell the other his fault and hope for an apology, or an explanation of a genuine misunderstanding. However if he will not listen and admit the fault, then the person who has been hurt needs to return with one or two more, so that the exact problem can be clearly stated. If he refuses to hear them, then the case needs to be declared to the church. If he refuses to hear the church, he must be told that until he is prepared to confess his sin, and give an apology, he will not be able to continue in fellowship with the believers.
4. As well as immorality, *1Cor 5:11* lists some other behaviour areas where church discipline is required.
 - a. Covetousness - a strong desire to obtain something that belongs to another person.
 - b. Idolatry - worshipping foreign gods, idols, or putting any other thing before God in our lives.
 - c. Reviling others - slandering and speaking evil of another brother in Christ.
 - d. Drunkenness - allowing alcohol, or some other drug to control and run your life.
 - e. Extortion - taking money or goods unfairly and unjustly from another person.
5. Where a church leader sins in a serious manner, such as in the matter of sexual morals, handling of finances, alcohol or drugs, pride and self exalting, he must be rebuked in the presence of the whole church by the other elders, *1Tim 5:19-21,* and stood down.

6. Where serious problems of this nature are left in the church and are not dealt with, the church becomes polluted, *1Cor 5:6*, the Holy Spirit is quenched, *1Thes 5:19*, and the church goes into rapid decline. It is the leader's responsibility to see that these things are dealt with speedily.
7. **Rev 2:14,15,16**, "I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality." "Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate". "Repent, or else I will come quickly !"
8. **Rev 2:20,22,23** "Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman, Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess to teach and beguile My servants to commit sexual immorality and to eat things sacrificed to idols." "Indeed I will cast her into a sick bed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation unless they repent of their deeds." "And I will kill her children with death. And all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I give to each one of you according to your works."
9. Where a church member has fallen into sin and has been visited a number of times in attempts to lead him/her into repentance and restoration, action needs to be taken to separate them from full participation in the ongoing life of the church. The leader and one or two other elders must visit the person concerned and indicate the requirement of God's Word that they withdraw from the life of the church until they return through genuine repentance and faith, *1Cor 5:7,9,11,13*. If this is not done the sin will spread through the church, *1Cor 5:6*.

THE LEADER AND ITINERANT MINISTRIES.

1. Today the Holy Spirit is raising up many mature believers who are available to travel freely through the churches to establish and strengthen them.
2. The five ministries of *Eph 4:11* are frequently among those who are led out by the Lord to minister in the wider body of Christ.
3. In *Ac 13:1-4* there is an example of prophets and teachers, chosen by God, to be sent forth in the apostolic role, *Ac 14:4,14*, of church planting, and later on, *Ac 15:35,36*, going forth to encourage and strengthen the churches previously established.
4. Apollos, *Ac 18:24-28* was another travelling ministry.
5. Paul frequently travelled from church to church with quite a large ministry team, *Ac 20:1-5*.
6. Because Paul was involved in the role of an itinerant or travelling ministry, he took pains to explain clearly how the leader of the local church and his fellow elders, were to relate to the travelling minister.

First of all there is to be no domination, manipulation, intimidation, or control by the travelling minister. "Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy," *2Cor 1:24*. The mobile ministry is a fellow labourer with the local leader and elders working for their joy. The local leader and elders are to stand by faith under the headship of Christ alone, *2Cor 1:24*.

Secondly, the local church is called to examine, test, try, and prove, against God's Word and the Holy Spirit, all ministry that comes to them, *Mat 7:15-20*.

1Cor 10:15 "judge for yourselves what I say."

Ac 17:11 "they searched the scriptures daily to see if these things were so."

1Jn 4:1 "Believe not every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."

1Thes 5:21 "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

Rev 2:2 "You have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars."

In writing to Timothy, the senior Pastor of the church at Ephesus, who was as "a son" in the Lord to Paul, *2Tim 1:2*, *1Tim 1:2*, Paul urges Timothy to "consider what I say and may the Lord give you understanding", *2Tim 2:7*.

In Paul's relationship to Timothy and to other churches that he ministered to, there was no strong authority control, or domination.

Thirdly, on a positive note, **Paul's authority** in the Lord, as a New Testament apostle, **was used to edify** and build up local churches, *2Cor 13:10*, *2Cor 10:8*. His authority and ministry was motivated by love and compassion for the local church and never for selfish gain.

Finally, travelling ministry, can be of great benefit to build up the local church, but at all times **final authority** in the local scene **rests with the leader and his team of elders**. It is advisable for the travelling ministry to have letters of sound commendation to assure the local church of the validity of his ministry. The best guarantee of the suitability of the itinerant minister is that of personal relationship with the local oversight where mutual love, acceptance and understanding have been established.

Also Covered in this Conference the Following Nos from Pastors' Notes:

Leaders' Relationship with Family Nos 73,51,
Authority in the Church No 68,
Ministry of the Leader's Wife, No 122,
Establishing the Leader and his Support Team, No74,