

# LESSON 1

**ARE LEADERS BORN?**  
*"WHY DO WE NEED LEADERS?"*

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## ARE LEADERS BORN? "WHY DO WE NEED LEADERS?"

### Leadership Stanverb

**THE LEADER** - Says, "Let's do it together."

**THE FOLLOWER** - Says, "That's not my job."



*There is often a major misconception or misunderstanding amongst many, who say that leaders are born.*

***Leaders Are Not Born, They Are Developed"** -John C. Maxwell*

- Most recent research suggests that leadership is 30 percent genetic and 70 percent a result of lessons learned through life experiences.
- God has given each individual a specific gift, talent and purpose which needs to come to its full maturity in order for it to function in a believer's life.

***"Leadership is the capacity to influence others through inspiration motivated by a passion, generated by a vision, produced by a conviction ignited by a purpose."** -Dr. Myles Munroe*

### Ephesians 4:11-16

And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the **unity of the faith** and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

- A person can have a lot of *charisma*, but that does not signify leadership.
- A person can have great *speaking/speech* abilities, but that also does not portray leadership potential.
- A person can have *great influence* and *talent* and that still doesn't qualify them as a leader.

***“You can love people without leading them, but you cannot lead people without loving them.”***  
 –John C. Maxwell

### 10 Common Leadership Myths



- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Leaders are born and not made.    | 6. Leadership comes with age.                  |
| 2. Leaders know everything.          | 7. Leaders possess absolute power.             |
| 3. Leaders are infallible (perfect). | 8. Leadership can be attained through study.   |
| 4. Leaders only give orders.         | 9. Leaders do all important things themselves. |
| 5. Leaders are charismatic.          | 10. Leaders must be great public speakers.     |

*Former US secretary of State Colin Powell says, "Good leaders are made not born. They learn from trial and error, and from experience. When something fails, a true leader learns from the experience and puts it behind him. You don't get reruns in life," Powell says. "Don't worry about what happened in the past."*

### Biblical Leaders Also Had To Be Formed and Developed

1. **Moses**: He spent many years as a prominent figure in Egypt and witnessed the bondage of the Israelites and the cruelty of the Egyptians. After he was banned from Egypt, it took God about forty years to develop him as the deliverer of the Israelites.
2. **Joshua & Elisha**: Before they became great leaders and influencers, they both were under submission to their spiritual mentors. *Joshua* continually followed in the steps of Moses and observed everything that he did. Likewise, *Elisha* was faithfully serving Elijah and also observed how he executed the word of the Lord to His people.
3. **Daniel and Hedrak, Mechak & Obed-Nego**: Were taught and trained in the knowledge and culture of the Babylonians. This training took about three year and the Babylonian king only chose the smartest/wisest of the students.
4. **Samuel**: Before he became one of the greatest prophets of Israel, from his childhood years he still had to learn all the concepts, rituals and responsibilities of what it meant to be a prophet. Also, keep in mind that his spiritual leader Eli and his adulterous sons (priests) were not the best role models for his spiritual formation, but the Lord still matured Samuel in this ungodly environment.
5. **Esther**: It took a whole year just to have her physical body (appearance) pampered before she would stand before the king. But also keep in mind that she continually asked the eunuch's advice in regards to what the king enjoyed the most (clothing, color, smell, taste, ect). And I'm sure that this eunuch saw the unique difference in Esther and took the extra effort to council and to mentor her.

6. **Joseph**: Before he became second in command of Egypt (vice president), he had to go through harsh development, which also included in learning of the Egyptian language and culture and customs. His development journey took about thirteen years.
7. **King David**: Since his teenage years the Lord gave him opportunities to develop his warrior skills and was also preparing him to become a future strong leader over Israel.
8. **Saul (Paul)**: He was taught by the best religious leader of his time. But after his Damascus encounter with Jesus, Paul was lead into the desert for about three years where he personally received the knowledge and revelation of Jesus Christ. Even Paul with his caliber and Jewish background in knowledge said that he counts it all as rubbish in comparison to what he personally received from the Lord (Phil 3:4-8).
9. **12 Disciples of Jesus**: They were all regular individuals minding their own business and doing what they did every day until Jesus showed up into their life. It took Jesus about 3 ½ years to form and develop them into historical leaders (except Judas Iscariot).
10. **Jesus**: Studied the scriptures and the traditional customs as a young teenager. Even the scholars of His time were amazed to hear such wisdom and knowledge from a teenager when He taught them in the temple (Luke 2:46-47).

*“If you say that you are a leader, but no one is following you, then you are just taking a walk.” -John C. Maxwell*

### *It Takes A Leader To Form Another Leader*

Proverbs 27:17 (NKJV)

As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

Proverbs 27:17 (EXB)

As iron sharpens iron, so people can improve each other.

- Leaders cannot grow just by themselves.
- *Leader Mentorship* is one of the missing keys in many churches for building and raising strong and credible leaders.
- We are good at throwing scriptures at one another in regards to who and what a leader needs to be, but not everyone can extend a coaching hand to teach and to demonstrate that in real life.
- Just like an apple tree can only reproduce more apples in accordance to its nature and ability, so it is the same in regards to leader reproducing more leaders.

Luke 6:39 (Amp)

He further told them a proverb: Can a blind [man] guide and direct a blind [man]? Will they not both stumble into a ditch or a hole in the ground?

## *Jesus Rebukes and Exposes Church (Religious) Leaders of His Time*

### Matthew 15:14

Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.”

### Luke 11:52

“Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge. You did not enter in yourselves, and those who were entering in you hindered.”

- Throughout the four gospels we continually observe how often Jesus rebuked the religious leaders (Pharisees, Scribes, Sadducees and Lawyers) of His time. Jesus saw how corrupt, selfish and abusive their hearts and actions were towards Gods people.
- The position of every leader is to serve others with the heart of God, but not to lordship over them. Jesus saw their wicked hearts and exposed them in the public. For this reason they hated Him and wanted to kill Him.
- Jesus gives us great insight to what a Godly leader is not supposed to be like and if the leader is blind, then they will lead others to destruction and downfall.
- The religious leaders in the days of Jesus had a lot of head knowledge and way too many manmade traditions, but were missing the true heart of God and the passion to serve others.

*“Management is the process of assuring that the program and the objectives of the organization are implemented. Leadership, on the other hand, has to do with casting vision and motivating people.”* –John C. Maxwell

### ***Where Do I Stand?***

- Knowing how to do a job is the accomplishment of a **laborer**.
- Showing others is the accomplishment of a **teacher**.
- Making sure the work is done by others is the accomplishment of a **manager**.
- Inspiring others to do better work is the accomplishment of a **leader**.

### ***Why Do We Need Leaders?***

- For the Kingdom of God and the Word of God have structure and divine principles which keep the spiritual and natural realm in balance and in order.

-1 Cor. 14:40-42

“Let all things be done decently and in **order**.”

-Titus 1:5

“For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in **order** the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you.”

- Our God is a God of order and not of chaos, so He has placed leaders, rulers and those of authority in every aspect of life which includes our churches, our families, government, businesses and society.

-Ephesians 4:11-12

And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

-Titus 3:1, 3

Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, remind the believers to submit to the government and its officers. They should be obedient, always ready to do what is good.

- Your leadership skills and ability will determine the level of your success and influence.
- Your level of success and influence will determine your personal growth and maturity.
- Just like any plant needs time and necessary nutrients to grow to its fullest potential, so does every leader. It's not an overnight miracle grow process!

*My Personal Leadership Assessment*

*Do I have What It Takes?*

-Questionnaire-

-Scale-		
<input type="checkbox"/> = Dead Beat ( <i>none</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> = Bench Warmer ( <i>very little</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> = Talker ( <i>some</i> )
<input type="checkbox"/> = Listener ( <i>good</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> = Doer ( <i>great</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> = Going the Extra Mile ( <i>exceed</i> )

- 1) How is my passion to serve?  
0 1 2 3 4 5
- 2) How much is my personal life an example for others to follow me?  
0 1 2 3 4 5
- 3) What is my personal level of dedication and commitment as of right now?  
0 1 2 3 4 5
- 4) How good are you at following orders, requests or assignments that need to be done?  
0 1 2 3 4 5
- 5) Overall, what level of influence do you have around friends, classmates and co-workers?  
0 1 2 3 4 5
- 6) In the past year, how *consistent* have you been to a specific task or goal which you had?  
0 1 2 3 4 5
- 7) What level of *faith* and *relationship* do you currently have with the Lord?  
0 1 2 3 4 5
- 8) How *reliable* are you?  
0 1 2 3 4 5
- 9) Whenever faced with strong opposition, attack or unfair accusations, how did you handle them?  
0 1 2 3 4 5
- 10) How *teachable* are you?  
0 1 2 3 4 5

-My Leadership Level Analysis-

- Level 1:** (0-10) = Study hard the *TNG Leadership Curriculum*.  
**Level 2:** (11-20) = You are not ready to be a leader.  
**Level 3:** (21-30) = You are ready to Serve others.  
**Level 4:** (31-40) = You are ready to Lead others.  
**Level 5:** (41-50) = You are a mature leader and ready to Mentor others.



"Great leaders are not born, they are made.  
Which explains why so many have a screw loose."

Examples of Radical Leadership Growth and Development

- Abraham Lincoln: Born to uneducated farmer parents and also lacked formal education and charisma. Later in life had many political failures, but eventually became one of the greatest presidents in our history who has also abolished slavery.
- Frederick Douglass: Born in 1818 as a black slave, he self taught himself how to read. Later in life he escaped from slavery and eventually become an outspoken abolitionist, a spectacular orator, a bestselling author, and a newspaper publisher.
- Thomas Edison: Only received 3 months of formal schooling, because he got kicked out. He also lost most of his hearing when he was younger, but eventually became one of the greatest inventors with more than 1,000 patents.
- Milton Hershey: Dropped out of school after fourth grade and had an unstable youth since his family moved so often and eventually his parents separated. At the age 28, he became unemployed due to one of his business failures, but eventually founded the Hershey's chocolate empire to which we still lick our fingers to.
- Walt Disney: Had a rough childhood, since his father was a cold and abusive man with no affection. At age 16 he dropped out of school, but was a great dreamer and eventually built Disneyland, one of the world's most coveted family vacation spots.
- Mother Teresa: Was an ordinary nun who just wanted to help the needy. Eventually became the most talked about individual in just about any area of life, who has set the standard for serving and helping others.
- Ray Kroc: Dropped out of high school, but had a big dream and eventually bought out the McDonalds franchise with only few restaurants, since the McDonald brothers did not want to grow their business and eventually gave birth to the McDonalds empire.
- Arnold Schwarzenegger: Was born in a small village in Austria, whose father was cold and abusive. Became the youngest ever winner of Mr. Universe at age 20. Eventually became a world famous movie star and even surprisingly a governor of California.

**LEADERSHIP STANVERB**

**THE LEADER - Is always part of the players club.**  
**THE FOLLOWER- Is always part of the fan club.**

"Until we're willing to be uncomfortable,  
we cannot grow." -TD Jakes



Lesson #1 Application: Do additional research on individuals who had humble beginnings, but eventually became great leaders; world changers and historical role models.

**[www.NxtGenLeader.com](http://www.NxtGenLeader.com)**

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