



Becoming a Building Leader

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I. Introduction:

A. Church Intro

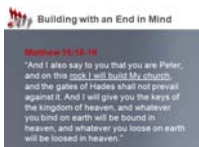
1. Great to be with you. Honor Pastors and Leaders. . Great church. Bright future.
2. Tonight, want to talk about becoming a "Building Leader." Leadership is a broad word and defined many ways. We will discuss one truth that is synonymous with leadership and that is "Building."
3. INTRO READ- The success of any organization is dependent upon leaders who understand their role as builders. A builder must understand who they are, what they are attempting to build and how to build it. Breakdown in any of these key areas may hinder overall vision fulfillment. Leaders are builders!

B. A Building Leader Defined



1. "A BUILDING LEADER is one who takes develops, constructs, refines, adjusts, modifies and perfects something into its desired state. You move something from where it is at, to where it needs to be. "
2. If you are in this room today, you are called to build. WHO we are as a builder, WHAT we are actually building and HOW we are going to build it are critical questions we must ask ourselves!.
3. Start with a building story of someone that devoted their life to building the wrong way...
WINCHESTER #The Winchester Mystery House – In 1844, a wealthy widow, Sarah L. Winchester began a construction project of such magnitude that it was to occupy the lives of a large team of carpenters and craftsmen until her death thirty-eight years later. The Victorian mansion, designed and built by the Winchester Rifle heiress, is filled with so many unexplained oddities, that it has come to be known as the Winchester Mystery house. This house is an architect marvel. Unlike most homes of its era, this 160-room mansion has 47 fireplaces, rambling roofs, exquisite hand inlaid parquet floors and gold and silver chandeliers and Tiffany art glass windows. However, there are stair cases built that lead to nowhere, rooms with no entry or exit, to just name a few. There are 160 rooms total, 10,000 painted windows, 467 doorways, 17 chimneys, with two that suspect were built but not attached, 40 bedrooms, 6 kitchens, and 40 staircases in between the four floors.

 This lady spent a great deal of her life, time and resources on building something that really ended up not making much sense. Many churches today do the same. Spend a great deal of time building something that ends up not going anywhere. WE WANT TO BUILD IT RIGHT.
4. We have been given the incredible honor to be a part of building the greatest organization on planet earth. From the beginning of time, God desired to build a church that would impact the world and touch nations! We must be BUILDING WITH AN END IN MIND.

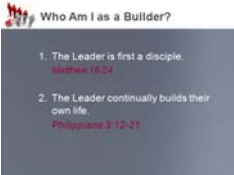


Matthew 16:18-19 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

5. We had better make sure that we are building what He desires us to build in the manner in which He wants it built with the right motives and methods in which to build!
6. It all begins with discerning you as the builder. You can have the best set of plans, the most incredible quality of materials and still make something a disaster!

II. Who am I as a Builder?

A. The Leader is First a Disciple



1. We don't start as leaders in the house of God, we start first as disciples.
2. A Disciple is one who is a fully devoted follower of Christ, and is submitted to His lordship and imitating Him in every thought, word, and deed.

Matthew 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me."

3. Discipleship is not a stepping stone to leadership; it is THE foundation stone of leadership.
4. One who has learned to live as a disciple is the one that God will choose to lead, because leadership is about modeling to other the way they should live.

B. The Leader Continually Builds Their Own Life .

1. A leader is a learner; committed to grow daily. They are committed to expanding every area of their lives. They are never content to where they are at, but push forward to where they need to be. Listen to what the Apostle Paul said (This guy wrote 2/3 of NT!)...

READ Philippians 3:12-21 MSG I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. Friends, don't get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back. So let's keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision—you'll see it yet! Now that we're on the right track, let's stay on it. Stick with me, friends. Keep track of those you see running this same course, headed for this same goal. There are many out there taking other paths, choosing other goals, and trying to get you to go along with them. I've warned you of them many times; sadly, I'm having to do it again. All they want is easy street. They hate Christ's Cross. But easy street is a dead-end street. Those who live there make their bellies their gods; belches are their praise; all they can think of is their appetites. But there's far more to life for us. We're citizens of high heaven! We're waiting the arrival of the Savior, the Master, Jesus Christ, who will transform our earthy bodies into glorious bodies like his own. He'll make us beautiful and whole with the same powerful skill by which he is putting everything as it should be, under and around him.

2. You set the bar for your personal potential and influence in lives of others by the dedication to personal growth. THIS IS A DAILY, LIFE-LONG PROCESS.

Q- Champions aren't build in a day, but built daily.

- a. An ongoing deepening of the Christ relationship, discovering new insights of living by faith in God and His word.
#How is your prayer life and Word life?
- b. An ongoing developing of the Holy Spirit relationship, discovering how to submit to and partner with the Holy Spirit.
- c. An ongoing deepening of the awareness of sin and a sensitivity to anything that offends God. The more influence we grow in as a leader, the deeper God will continue to purify me
#My dealings as young leader with Kevin Ford issue!
- d. An ongoing deepening of the cross-life that learns to deny self, pick up your cross and serve Christ and people.

3. A Disciple understands their life is not their own.

Galatians 2:20 NLT My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

- a. Living life for others is the beginning point of Christianity. It is a mark of a true disciple and a mandatory ingredient to a building leader.
- b. Leadership nostalgia wears off quick when true sacrifice is required.
#What is your motive for leading? Why do you do what you do?
- c. Ministry is NOT ABOUT YOU! It's about them! Walking deadman!
"Greater love has no man that he who lays down his life for a friend."

II. What am I Building? The Church God Had in Mind

A. The Church We Are Building is Described in the Book of Acts

We are not building our church, our way with our design. It is Christ's church. He is the Master Builder and has a Master Plan that he requires that we follow. The blueprint for His church is the Book of Acts (The history... His Story... of the New Testament Church).

1. A Presence- Filled Church

Acts 2:1-2 On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place.

Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting.

Acts 2:46 They worshipped together at the Temple each day...



-Moses-Exodus 33

-Joshua- remained at the tent – Was called to advance God's people.

#Doug and Donna – Presence driven leaders, part of presence driven Movement!

2. **A Spirit-Driven church**

Acts 1:4-5 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;

- a. We are Holy Spirit people.
- b. We believe the Holy Spirit leads us in all we do.
- c. We believe in the Gifts of Spirit.
- d. We believe in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- e. We seek for the Fruit of the Spirit.

Romans 8:14

1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12; Eph. 4

Acts 3:1-4

Galatians 5:22-23

3. **A Word-Centered Church**

Acts 2:42-46 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine

- a. The Bible is the infallible Word of God.
- b. We live by it and die by it!
- c. It is our guiding light and life manual.

4. **A Cross-Focused Church**

Acts 2:38 "... Then Peter said to them, (This is the full truth) "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..

- a. We are to intolerant of sin and called to live a holy, selfless life.
- b. Our behaviors align with our beliefs.
- c. We desire to be a testimony, a light and salt to the world.

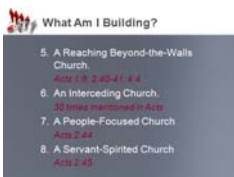
5. **A Reaching Beyond the Walls Church**

Acts 1:8 "... and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 2:40-41 ... Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. Acts 4:4 ... and the number of the men 5000...

- a. The church was never intended to be a love boat, but a battleship.
- b. The church is not a hospital for hypocrites, but headquarters for heroes.
- c. The world is in desperate need of Jesus. He is their ONLY hope.
- d. We have the answer, and must urgently share it with a world in need of Him.

#You are a city reaching church, not avg. community only church. It is in your DNA!



6. An **Interceding Church**

Over 30 times Acts records prayer taking place

- a. Prayer is the fuel in which the church is empowered.
- b. A prayerless church is a stagnant dying church.
- c. We wrestle not against flesh and blood but principalities and powers.

7. A **People-Focused, Community Minded Church**

Acts 2:44 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common...

- a. The church is not an organization with programs, but a community with people.
- b. The church is a group of people devoted to each other; mutual care vs. Hierarchy care.
- c. The church is a community of people who do life together; lasting, covenant relationships.

8. A **Servant-Spirited Church**

Acts 2:45 and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

- a. Jesus didn't come to be served, but to serve Matthew 20:28
- b. We are called to serve others.
- c. The greatest in the kingdom of God are those who serve.

We have talked about, "Who am I as a Builder?" and, "What am I Building?" Last, we will talk about "How am I to Build?" The Building Blocks of a healthy Building Leader...

III. How am I to Build? Building blocks of a Healthy Building Leader.

PRACTICAL IMPORTANT INTENTIONAL THINGS YOU SHOULD DO AS A LEADER:

Intentional = Deliberate; done on purpose not on accident!

A. A Building Leader Prays for the Church.

How Am I To Build?

- 1. Pray for the Church.
John 14:13-14; Hebrews 13:17
- 2. Protect the Church.
1 Corinthians 1:10; 2 Corinthians 6:3
- 3. Attend Church Strategically
Hebrews 10:25
- 4. Build Community
Acts 2:40-47

1. The leader prays specific prayers for God to bless, protect, prosper, build, and enlarge the church. #Prayer for church, finances, growth, protection, etc.

John 14:13-14 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.

2. The leader prays specific prayers for the leadership team who are building the house, for all the pastors, elders, and leaders.

Hebrews 13:17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

B. A Building Leader Protects the Church.

1. The leader who builds the church rejects negativism, critical attitudes, and disloyal words that seek to tear down the church in any way.

#Be Positive with others...help others see what they don't see

1 Cor 1:10 Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

2. The leader who builds knows how to keep their spirit clean and free so as to speak God's words and build an atmosphere of faith and vision fulfillment.

2 Cor 6:3 We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed

#Be committed to unity with each other. Matt. 18 #24 Hour rule – If stuck go to get help.

3. The leader must protect and support their Senior Leaders and all other leaders no matter the cost.

#David and Saul – “Who am I to touch the Lord's anointed?”

#Judas with Jesus, sold his soul for 30 pieces of silver. No Judas Spirit here.

#Arctic Wolves – One disengages, the whole herd scatters and dies.

C. A Building Leader Attends Church Strategically

1. The leader does not just attend the services of the church, but takes ownership in making the services spiritually successful by fervent prayer, worship, and involvement.

#Come prepared every service to be an example in worship

Hebrews 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

2. The leader takes responsibility for all the people in and around the church gatherings by praying for, listening to, reaching out to, and helping people encounter God and have a positive experience at church.

a. Come ready to minister to others and be ministered to.

b. Serving, meeting needs, connecting with people and ministries.

#Meet someone you don't know, kinda of know, then do know.

D. A Building Leader is Committed to Building Genuine Community

1. The leader knows the value of connecting to people and connecting people to people with every opportunity; they are a builder of community spirit.

a. Connect them To someone, not just something!

b. Altars, Lobby, Events, Small Groups, etc.

c. Get to know other ministries, resources and leaders for connection power.

2. The leader knows the value of hospitality, inviting people out to eat, over to their home for fellowship, and are gracious, open-hearted, warm, always enthusiastic to connect with people and to help people sense God's love and interest in them in every setting.

#I try to do every week after church, during week. – Weekly practice

E. A Building Leader is a Team Player



1. The leader joins with others in the work of the ministry as true partners with a common commitment to build the church and extend the kingdom of God, a companion spirit.

#No ministry silos – globally minded. Own it!

#BRICK LAYER STORY IN HERE SOMEWHERE>

2. The leader is joined with people who may become lifelong friends. As God joins people in work, relationship, and in doing life and ministry together, something happens that enriches life.

My life story... PF, Jack, Walter, Robert, Mark, DOUG/DONNA, Asim, Lisa.

F. A Building Leader Willingly Gives their Life To Christ, His Church and His Cause.

1. The leader who is convinced the church is worth giving their life to will wisely make decisions to create a lifestyle that makes room for being equipped, mentored, and prepared to lead and be involved in the church.

#What do you love? What is Important? Put church before hobbies!

2. The leader who will be a faithful and fruitful servant of the church will be a person who has learned sacrifice, and who learned to be stretched spiritually and emotionally, allowing new capacity to increase levels of participation.

- a. Sacrifice comfort to grow in capacity
- b. Sacrifice time to grow in ability
- c. Sacrifice what you want to become what God wants.

IV. Conclusion

I hope that you have been inspired and challenged to:

1. Assess Who you are as a Building Leader.
2. Understand and Embrace the Church that God desires to build.
3. Dedicate Yourself to Making it happen!

#PRAY FOR FRESH IMPARTATION TO BECOME BUILDING LEADERS