

Tennessee Fifth Jurisdictional

Council Of Pastors and Elders



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RIGHTEOUS LEADERSHIP MATTERS: INTERCESSORY PRAYER

What is Righteous?

One who is decent, morally right, has Integrity, Ethics, and Value.

What is Leadership?

One with ability to lead, guide, direct, inspire, inform, equip and to influence others to maximize their potentials, and to reach their ultimate goal.

Leader after God's own Heart - Jeremiah 3:15

The scriptures reveal the Characteristics of a Righteous Leader.

David is described as a man after God's own heart. (1 Samuel 13:14, 1 Samuel 16:7, Acts 13:22). As we look at David he was the greatest King of Israel He was a man with a passionate Love for God and his people. He was a valiant warrior he defeated Goliath by himself with one smooth stone with the faith of God, Strength of God and God trust, he knew that God would give him the victory over his enemy. He had integrity of heart meaning that he was honest at heart, a heart that adheres to moral and ethical values. David was a moral and honest shepherd, who knew how to take care of his sheep and protected them. God saw how he led the sheep and promoted him to leading his people. David's example is a great guide for how a man after God's own heart leads. God is looking for righteous leaders after his heart, leaders that will lead in the family as well as home, and the community, leading by precept and example, Godly leaders that will impact the churches by ruling just and fair, showing love to all without favor, teaching what is right and not going along to please the crowd. Righteous Leaders that seek out to do no harm to other, righteous leaders that seeks to save that which is lost without being judgmental, remembering that we all sinners one time or another, and that Jesus paid the price for you as well as me. A righteous leader seeks peace and pursuer it. A righteous leader steps are ordered by God and not by man.

What are the characteristics of a Righteous Godly leader?

Wisdom

All leaders must have God's wisdom; Jesus himself was filled with God's wisdom and grace. Wisdom is different than mere knowledge. The wise leader can see farther than others (a leader has foresight and hindsight). Spiritual discernment is a requirement for individuals who have been set aside as to lead God's people. The church today is in dire need of wise leaders. Proverbs 8:15 When a king sits on his throne to judge, he winnows out all evil with his eyes. Proverbs 20:8

(a) Integrity

What does it mean to be a person of integrity? Having integrity means you are true to yourself and would do nothing to dishonor you. Personal integrity is demonstrated by who we are and what we do when no one is looking. However, righteous leaders possess more than personal integrity...they possess Godly integrity. People of Godly integrity are those who hate what God hates and love what God loves and do everything within their power not to dishonor the name of the Lord.

(b) Love

Love and faithfulness keep a king safe; through love, his throne is made secure. Proverbs 20:28. How we love is more important than what we know or achieve! The Pharisees in Jesus' day were extremely religious but unloving. People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. How we love is more important than what we know or achieve! The Pharisees in Jesus' day were extremely religious but unloving. People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

(c) Seeks Good Advisers

For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisers make victory sure. Proverbs 11:14. Remove the dross from silver and out comes material for the silversmith; remove the wicked from the king's presence, and his throne will be established through righteousness. Proverbs 25:4-5. Every effective leader needs advice and seeks advice. The ability to listen to the advice of others is the mark of a great leader.

(d) Self-Control

Like a roaring lion or a charging bear is a wicked man ruling over helpless people. Proverbs 28:15. The leader who cannot control himself will not be able to command the respect of those he leads.

(e) Awareness of his Influence

When the righteous thrive, people rejoice; when the wicked rule, people groan. Proverbs 29:2. In almost every era, no country has been able to rise above its leaders. For better or worse, people become like those they follow.

(f) Compassion

If a king judges the poor with fairness, his throne will always be secure. Proverbs 29:14. Jesus is the ultimate model of taking time for the poor, the outcasts, and children. He was naturally drawn to the weak who needed an advocate. That is why James teaches us that pure religion is to look after orphans and widows in their distress.

(g) No Need for Public Approval

Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe. Proverbs 29:25. The greatest freedom is having nothing to prove and no one to impress. Good leaders are more concerned about pleasing God than their popularity with others.

(h) Submission to God

A king's heart is in the hand of the Lord; he directs it like a water course wherever he pleases. Proverbs 21:1. When Christ entered the world he said, here I am O Lord; I have come to do your will. When a man or woman is submissive to God and his Holy Spirit, God will direct the person into the way which will glorify him the best.

Characteristics of a Self-Righteous Leader:

In this section I think of King Saul, he started off well as King of Israel, but lost the love of God and for people. He became jealous of David's popularity when the people began to say: David has killed his ten thousand and Saul his thousand. He was stubborn, idolatry, rebellion, impulsive, disobedient, suspicious, violence temper against David, and a spirit of murder in his heart.

1. They do not see their walk with God as a Community project.
2. They do not work well with others.
3. They consistently believe they are right and know best.
4. They are resistant to change.
5. They do not respond well when reminded they need to change.
6. They do not desire others exhortation or admonition even getting angry at times.
7. They are not patient with those who mess up, struggle with sin or have lost their way.
8. They do not deal well with opposition or accusations.
9. They will consistently wonder why God has singled them out for difficulty.
10. They do not see a need to admit or confess their sin.
11. They consistently point out the sin of others with an air of superiority.

We must remember that when we talk about leadership it just does not refer only to Pastors only, whether we are over the Usher Board, Choir, Praise and Worship Leader, Evangelist Board, Mothers Board, ECT. We all are leaders, whether in our home, job or in our church. God has called us all to be righteous leaders because he is righteous. In everything that we do, do it to the Glory and Honor of God. We must keep God first, remembering that it not about us but it is about doing the will of the father.

Open Discussion.