



# LEADER-GRAM

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## THE CHURCH NEEDS MEN

The Lord's church is experiencing a 4-fold crisis among men:

1. Men who can/will serve.
2. Men who desire leadership.
3. Men who will lead their families.
4. Men who place the kingdom first in their lives (Matthew 6:33).

THE CHURCH, THEREFORE, NEEDS MEN . . .

- \_\_ 1. Who will glorify God (Ephesians 3:21).
- \_\_ 2. Who will dare to dream big kingdom dreams (Joel 2:28-32).
- \_\_ 3. Who will "head" their families (Ephesians 5:21-6:4).
- \_\_ 4. Who will "move mountains" (Matthew 17:20).
- \_\_ 5. Who will inspire and encourage others (Hebrews 3:13; 10:24).
- \_\_ 6. Who have the attitude of Christ (Philippians 2:4-8).
- \_\_ 7. Who re sold on being "bold" (Acts 4:11-13).
- \_\_ 8. Who are "faith walker", not "sight talkers" (2 Cor. 5:7).
- \_\_ 9. Who are "crucified with Christ" (Galatians 5:24).
- \_\_ 10. Who know and speak the truth in love (John 8:32; Ephesians 4:15).
- \_\_ 11. Who place the kingdom first on their lives (Matthew 6:33).



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- \_\_12. Who are prayer warriors (1 Thessalonians 5:17).
- \_\_13. Who are doers of the word (James 1:20-23).
- \_\_14. Who aspire to be leaders: elders, deacons, teachers, preachers, etc.
- \_\_15. Who pursue excellence in life and ministry (Ecclesiastes 7:8; 9:10).

### RESPONSE:

Go back over the above 15 items and indicate your level of commitment to each item.

Using numbers 1 through 5, indicate your level of commitment, with 5 been totally committed and 1 indicating little or no commitment:

5—red hot

4—hot

3—warm

2—lukewarm

1—cold



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## 30 WAYS TO KILL A GREAT IDEA

Church growth is tied to ideas. Nothing happens until someone gets an idea that is activated. Big ideas are easier to get than sell. Sadly, there are some in the church who act as if their mission is to kill great ideas. In case you're interested in killing great ideas here are 30 proven ways to accomplish that goal:

- \_\_1. Don't take the idea seriously.
- \_\_2. Discredit the person who brought up the idea.
- \_\_3. Try to shoot holes in the idea.
- \_\_4. Be as critical of the idea as you possible can be.
- \_\_5. Say, "We've tried that before and it didn't work."
- \_\_6. Use the silent treatment as a sign of rejecting the idea.
- \_\_7. Use your face and body language to show disgust for the idea.
- \_\_8. Roll your eyes and look upward with amazement on your face.
- \_\_9. Pull your glasses off and throw them on the table.
- \_\_10. Try sighing or yawning to show boredom for the idea.
- \_\_11. Push your chair back from the table.
- \_\_12. Snicker or laugh at the idea.
- \_\_13. Fold your arms and stare into space.



- \_\_14. Frown while shaking your head.
- \_\_15. Hit your forehead like detective Columbo.
- \_\_16. Make sarcastic remarks about the idea or presenter of the idea.
- \_\_17. Downplay the need that the idea relates to.
- \_\_18. Purse your lips while frowning.
- \_\_19. Say all the negative things you can think of about the idea.
- \_\_20. Ask, "How much will it cost?"
- \_\_21. Say, "We'll discuss that idea later." (Later never comes).
- \_\_22. Belittle the idea in harsh language.
- \_\_23. Pretend the idea isn't rational or appropriate.
- \_\_24. Refuse to comment—be silent.
- \_\_25. Send the idea to a committee.
- \_\_26. Table the idea for "future" study or investigation.
- \_\_27. Look disinterested and refuse to look the presenter in the eyes.
- \_\_28. Gossip about the idea; tell others how "dumb" the idea is.
- \_\_29. Say, "You've got to be kidding."
- \_\_30. Connect the idea with something or someone that is considered "unsound."

**WHAT'S YOUR BIG IDEA FOR GROWTH?**

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## LEADERS ARE DREAMERS

Few successes in life happen by accident, or are stumbled upon in the dark alley of chance. Most successful people began their journey to the winner's circle with a dynamic, all-consuming dream that wouldn't let them go; neither could they let the dream go. Walt Disney said: *If you can dream it, you can do it.* Ralph Lauren, chairman of the Polo/Lauren Corporation, said: *A leader has the vision and conviction that a dream can be achieved. He inspires the power and energy to get it done.* The word of God states: *And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh' and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions (Joel 2:28).* **What's your dream?**

We live in a world filled with dreams of mischief and self-centeredness; a world that wants to have it "My way." In the midst of this negative, God degrading climate, kingdom dreamers must step up to the bat and hit a homerun. It is basic to man's nature to be a dreamer. Psychologists and physicians tell us that we dream several times during a night's sleep. This is not our primary interest in this discussion. We are talking about wide-awake kingdom dreamers in the real world, who have as their mission the glorification of God through the church (Ephesians 3:21). Anytime a leader of the church is seen anywhere, it should be said of him, as it was said of Joseph, "Behold, this dreamer cometh" (Genesis 37:18, 19).

Through the years I have noted that effective kingdom dreamers have several things in common:

1. They have an unwavering faith in God (Hebrews 11:6).
2. They have a clear understanding of God's vision for the church (Isaiah 2:2-4).
3. They have the attitude of Christ in every situation (Philippians 2:4-8).
4. They have a "can-do" attitude (Philippians 4:13).
5. They are faith walkers (2 Corinthians 5:7).
6. They are committed to the future, not to looking backward (Luke 9:62).
7. They have prioritized the kingdom to first place (Matthew 6:33).



8. They are “doers of the word” (James 1:21-24).
9. They are committed to the truth (John 8:32; Proverbs 23:23).
10. They have a single focus (Philippians 3:12-14).
11. They are fruit producers (John 15:1-10).
12. They are “prayer warriors” (1 Thessalonians 5:17; James 5:16-18).

What is your GREAT dream for the church; for your family; for your spiritual growth; and for your leadership in the church? Woodrow Wilson once said: “We grow great by dreams. All big men are dreamers. They see things in the soft haze of a spring day, or in the red fire of a long winter’s evening. Some of us let these great dreams die, but others nourish them and protect them; nourish them through bad days, till they bring them to the sunshine and light which comes always to those who sincerely hope that dreams will come true. **What’s your BIG dream for the kingdom?**”

### ***DREAM LIST***

If you want to get serious about being a kingdom dreamer, take a few minutes and complete this dream list. Let faith be your guide; let God’s power be you resource. Dream as if, with God’s help, you cannot fail:

1. My growth dream for the church is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. My financial dream for the church is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



3. My unity dream for the church is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. My leadership dream for the church is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. My outreach dream for the church is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. My dream for our educational department is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. My communication dream for the church is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. My \_\_\_\_\_ dream for the church is \_\_\_\_\_

(fill in blank)

**TAKE YOUR DREAM AND RUN!**



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## HOW TO BE A MOTIVATING LEADER

Few words are more synonymous with leadership than **motivation**. *Motivate, vt. To incite or impel. Motivation is often increased by use of a reward of some sort—or a punishment if one should fail.* All leaders are concerned with a proper answer to the question: *How can we motivate our people to do...?* There are two basic ways a leader may approach the motivation of his followers: passive and active. Passive leaders wait for the right time or circumstances to arrive before trying to move followers. Active, self-starting leaders take responsibility to make things happen. They take any circumstance, no matter how challenging it may be, and say, *It is up to ME to mobilize my people resources and find a solution to the problem.* They are doers who are result oriented.

People are drawn to the positive energies of an active, motivating leader. They want to be inspired with a reason to go on; a reason to “take the hill.” To encourage and motivate followers, a leader needs to know what makes his followers tick; what their hot buttons are and how to “push them” in a godly manner. Leaders need to know why followers act the way they do, both positively and negatively.

Here are some basic rules which are helpful in motivating people:

**Rule # 1:** People act out of their personal perception of life, people, and needs. Each person has his own way of looking at life. To motivate people, a leader needs to spend some time trying to understand each person’s unique world view and private logic.

**Rule # 2:** People are better understood when you know how they act and react to their roles in daily social life. How do they handle the consequences of their behavior? This means, again, that leaders must spend time getting to know their followers.





**Rule # 3:** Each person is unique, different; created this way by God. The Bible affirms this in the categories of gifts (cf. 1 Cor. 12; Eph. 4:11-16; Rom. 14&15). Motivating leaders don't ignore these uniquenesses, but rather explore them and help the follower develop them into dynamic ministry skills. Again, the challenge is one of knowing the followers in a personal way. This is why leadership is so demanding.

**Rule # 4:** Most unmotivated followers aren't lazy, non-caring, indifferent, bad, sick or stupid. Many times unmotivated followers are discouraged because of some action, or failure to act, by a leader. The antidote to discouragement is encouragement; the work of a caring leader.

**Rule # 5:** Leaders who motivate others let it be made known that they, as followers, are responsible for their actions; that no one can relieve them of their responsibilities to God and ministry. Leaders help them fulfill their obligation to God and the church.



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## WHAT IS YOUR MAJOR STRENGTH AS A LEADER?

As the ranks of leadership dwindle, become more and more inactive, and fewer men desire to lead, the burden for the committed becomes greater. This forces leaders to accept assignments they are not equipped or qualified to handle. They become the proverbial *round peg in the square hole*.

God has designed a Body (i.e., church) where the members are placed according to His design (cf. 1 Cor. 12:18); and once placed they must function according to their capacity and abilities (cf. Eph. 4:11-16). It is the task of *elders, preachers and teachers to equip the Body for ministry*. This is not an easy task, nor is it one that should be taken lightly.

We spend/waste too much time on our weaknesses and non productive qualities in the leadership ranks of the church. Just because a person volunteers for a job, or is assigned a job, doesn't mean that it's his major strength. In fact, it may be his weakest. As leaders we should discover, develop and capitalize on our strengths.

What is your major strength? How do you know it's your major strength? Here's a little exercise to help you zero in on your major strength. Indicate with a number from the following rating scale; plus give the evidence for your rating.

**Scale:** 5-Strongest, 4-Next to strongest, 3-Okay, 2-Weak, 1-Poor

\_\_1. Teaching

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_2. Planning

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_3. Motivating

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_4. Evaluating

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_5. Ideas

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_6. Counseling

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_7. Organizing

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_8. Innovator

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_9. Evangelism

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_10. Managing

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_11. Manual tasks

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_12. Knowledge

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_13. Research

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_14. Writing



Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_15. Caring

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_16. Preaching

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_17. Visiting

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_18. Promoting

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_19. Team player

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_20. Negotiating

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_21. Budgeting

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_22. Maintenance

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_23. Dreaming/vision

Evidence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_24. Inspiring

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_25. Demonstrating/modeling

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_



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\_\_26. Other; \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

If you had to choose only ONE of your major strengths which ONE would you choose and why?

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## DON'T TELL ME, JUST DO IT!

From the beginning of the Bible to the end of the Bible, **ACTION** is the operative word. It's the *Acts of the Apostles* not the resolutions of the Apostles. The Great Commissions centers in **GO**, not sit or talk (Mk. 16:15). We must be *DOERS of the word, not just auditors (Jas. 1:20-23)*.

I venture to affirm that our problem is not one of not KNOWING what we should do and be, but, rather, it is one of not DOING what we should in response to God's commandments. In most congregations we are long on talk but slow when it comes to walk. We have no problem in talking about what we plan to do or want to do, but when it comes to activation, that's another story. We must not say that *in four months the harvest will come*. **The harvest is ALREADY white unto harvest !**

Are you a talker or walker? Tough question! But one that must be answered by every leader and member of the church if we are to accomplish God's will. Here's a quick little survey to help us get on the DO IT track.

A. What are your three (3) kingdom goals (Matt. 6:33)?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_



B. What are the steps you will take within the next 30 minutes? One hour? One day? One week? One Month? One year? to reach your goals?

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C. Direction is more important than location or speed. Where are you presently headed relative to your goals?

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D. Show how you're going to reach your goals:

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E. Define your perceived obstacles and how you will overcome them:

1. You must know what to do.
2. You must know how to do it.
3. You must know when to do it.
4. You must know the formula for doing it.
5. You must begin doing it.

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F. Ask this question every hour on the hour during the day: ***What else could I be doing right NOW with my time that relates to my goals?***

G. Ask this question: **What is stopping me from reaching my goals?**

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H. What are you willing to do in order to reach your goal?

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## PROPER ACTIONS

Remember these basic guidelines for taking action:

1. You can perform an action all day long and still have it wrong—practice doesn't make it perfect.
2. It's not motion alone that gets the job done, it's the correct motion.
3. Half-hearted efforts bring half-hearted results.
4. Unplanned action is like an unplanned trip: there's no telling where you may end up.
5. Unevaluated action is subject to creating a repetitive pattern.
6. One small, proper action achieves more than "101 good intentions."
7. It takes strong passion for a goal to fuel proper action.
8. Truth is action's best friend (Prov. 23:23).
9. There are no substitutes for genuine achievement.
10. Laziness and do-nothing agendas don't glorify God (Eph. 3:21).
11. It takes proper means to justify the end.
12. Always have an alternative game plan when the one you're using fails.
13. When people say, *I told you so*, respond with, *I'm still on the go!*
14. Action is a step of positive faith (Heb. 11:1, 6).
15. Remember the 5-steps to achievement:
  - 1) Awareness (You can't do or be what you're not aware of).
  - 2) Understanding (You must understand what you are aware of)
  - 3) Caring (How much do you care about what you are aware of?)
  - 4) Dissatisfaction (Without this you'll never do much of anything)
  - 5) Action (The target of 1 through 4 steps).



## **ACTION VERSES**

1. *Bring forth fruit (Matt. 3:8).*
2. *These things do (Philippians 4:9).*
3. *Be doers of the word (James 1:22, 23).*
4. *Do His will (Matthew 7:21-23).*
5. *Do good unto all men (Galatians 6:10).*
6. *Visit the orphans and widows (James 1:27).*
7. *Go into all the world (Mark 16:15).*
8. *If you do these things (2 Peter 1:10).*
9. *Lay up treasure in heaven (Matthew 6:19-21).*
10. *Provoke to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24)*
11. *Lay by in store (1 Corinthians 16:1-4).*
12. *Bear much fruit (John 15:8).*
13. *Obey Him (Hebrews 5:8, 9).*
14. *About the Father's business (Luke 2:49).*
15. *Do His commandments (Revelation 22:14).*

**WHAT'S HOLDING YOU BACK FROM BEING AND  
DOING WHAT GOD WANTS YOU TO BE AND DO?  
ARE YOUR REASONS ACCEPTABLE TO HIM?  
HOW DO YOU KNOW?**