

God's Great Leaders – Servants, Slaves

Session 5 – Leadership Prayers: Jeremiah – Discouragement, Persistence, Depression Jeremiah 20:7-18

1. Why was Jeremiah discouraged and what did he want to do? Jeremiah 20:7-10

2. How did Jeremiah praise the Lord and what did he ask from the Lord? Jeremiah 20:11-13

3. What thoughts and feelings followed Jeremiah's praise? Jeremiah 20:14-18

4. How could a godly leader have this range of thoughts and feelings in so short a time?

5. What prophecies was Jeremiah privileged to deliver

a. About the coming of Jesus? Jeremiah 23:1-8

b. About the return from captivity? Jeremiah 29:10-12; Jeremiah 32:36-44;
Daniel 9:1, 2

c. About the new covenant? Jeremiah 31:31-34

6. Select one or more in your group to lead as you ask God to bless you in your leadership position – whether you are afraid and ready to quit, encouraged and ready to tell others how great and powerful God is, or depressed and wished you have never been born.

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Session 5 – Leadership Projects

You are an elder in a congregation where the preacher has been with the church for several years. The congregation has enjoyed substantial growth during this tenure. He is sound in the faith and clean in life and influential in the community. Some of the members “get tired” of his preaching. They come to the elders and say, “If you don’t change preachers, we are going to change our membership to another congregation.” How would you think the eldership should handle the matter?

1. What are at least three ways to deal with this?

2. What action will be taken?

3. Who will be responsible for seeing it carried out?

4. When will it be done?

5. How will we communicate this to the group we lead?

6. How will we answer questions about this issue?

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Matthew 20:25-28

Session 5 – Leadership Projects

You are an elder in the church. Some issue involving certain doctrinal concepts is making its rounds in the church. Various ones are taking differing and conflicting positions on it. Some congregations are even splitting over the question. What would you want the eldership to do?

1. What are at least three ways to deal with this?

2. What action will be taken?

3. Who will be responsible for seeing it carried out?

4. When will it be done?

5. How will we communicate this to the group we lead?

6. How will we answer questions about this issue?

(Leadership situation from W. T. Hamilton; used by permission.)

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Session 5 – Leadership Problems and Possibilities

1. If leaders don't deal with disqualified and/or ineffective leaders, what can an individual in the group do? How can you "get rid" of a "bad" leader?

2. What do you think, how do you feel, and how do you respond to "death wishes" for leaders?

3. How do you think you might respond as a leader in a group if you learn that group members are discussing your leadership by saying, "I'll tell you what it is going to take to get this group going in the right direction is a few good funerals"?

4. What does Matthew 7:12, Matthew 18:15-17, and 1 Timothy 5:17-22 teach about the process of dealing with my displeasure and disappointment in others – especially leaders?

5. What practical, Biblical principles do you believe you need to apply when you are displeased with present leadership in a group that is important to you?

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Session 5 – Leadership Mustard Seeds

1. What did you learn about God?

2. What did you learn about prayer?

3. What did you learn about group interaction?

4. What did you learn about leadership?

5. What did you learn about yourself?
