

God's Great Leaders – Servants, Slaves

Session 7 – Leadership Prayers: Jesus' Prayer for Himself, His Apostles, the Disciples after Them John 17

1. What did Jesus ask for Himself? John 17:1-5

2. What did Jesus ask for the apostles? John 17:6-19

3. What did Jesus pray for “those who will believe in Me through their word”
(John 17:20, NKJV)? John 17:20-26

4. How did God, the Father, answer that prayer for Jesus? Acts 7:55,56

5. How were the apostles blessed in their mission? Romans 10:13-18; Colossians 1:23

6. How was Jesus' prayer for the unity of believers answered in the church in Jerusalem?
Acts 2:42-47

7. How do we cooperate in the answer of that prayer today? Colossians 3:1-4

8. Select one or more in your group to lead as you ask God to bless you in glorifying His name, in doing His work, and in making every effort *to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace* (Ephesians 4:3).

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Session 7 – Leadership Projects

You are an elder in the church. Some of the very active, supportive, and very cooperative members have been taught that only fermented fruit of the vine should be used in the Lord's Supper. Insofar as the Bible uses the generic term, "fruit of the vine," you and the other elders feel there is nothing wrong with it. So you agree to use it for the sake of the conscience of these good people. An alcoholic is converted and only one taste of alcohol will "send him into orbit" in wanting a drink. He cannot partake of the Lord's Supper safely. Please note that the people involved are not cranks or "weirdos" – they are conscientious, active, faithful, workers in the congregation. They have simply been taught the wrong thing (a wrong thing that does not affect their salvation or worship), and efforts to teach them better have failed. How would you like to see the eldership handle this problem?

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 7 – Leadership Problems and Possibilities

1. Who are the leaders' leaders? Where do leaders go with their problems?

2. Understanding that many issues that leaders must face are confidential, how will they get help and wisdom without betraying confidences?

3. What are some special problems that leaders' families face and how do we help with those?

4. How does a leader set proper time priorities to give adequate and fair time to his business, church, and family?

5. How can a leader help himself and his family to deal with the inevitable criticism that will come to him in his role?

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Session 7 – 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?
