THE MINISTER (Part Two) What You Must Do to Lead Others Well

INTRODUCTION

The *goal of this lesson* is for you to examine yourself, identifying areas in *care* and *competence* where you need to change and grow and then begin to plan out how you will change so you honor Jesus.

- **A. Care**. To lead others well, you must care for them.
 - 1. Be a servant and a slave (Matt 20:20-28).

Reflection: Think of Christian leaders you admire or follow. How do you measure their greatness? Is your evaluation more in line with the thinking of the world or with Jesus?

What are ways you can be around people so you know their needs and can serve them appropriately?

How you exalt Christ through the mission:

How is being a servant reflected in your home?

2. Be humble (Phil 2:2-3).

The root of disunity:

How should you respond when others come to you criticizing the leadership?

Reflection: When things do not go the way you would like, how do you respond? Are you critical or supportive? Do you see how selfishness and pride lead to fighting and disunity?

3. Love

a. Your love is proved by your actions.

Do others know you love them by how you serve them living out the gospel? What loving things could you do for them?

b. Love like a mother (1 The 2:7-8).

Reflection: What are ways you can show more loving care to those you are leading?

c. Love like a father (1 The 2:10-11).

Reflection: Do you model the character you want others to have? Where do you need to change?

Reflection: Do you have a father's heart? Do you take the time to get involved in the lives of others individually, where you know them well enough to exhort, encourage, and implore them? How can you improve in this?

- **B.** Competence. Know where you are leading people and how to influence them to get there. You should have a sense of direction and purpose, and a clear strategy for moving people in the right direction.
 - 1. Know where you are leading people.

Reflection: Think of one or two people that you are investing in. Could you identify how they are doing in regards to character: areas they need to grow; conviction: what they believe; competence: developing their spiritual gifts; care: how they love others? Write down some thoughts.

2. Know how to influence people to get where you want them to go.

Reflection:

- Do you know what is going on in the lives of those in your ministry and how is their faith being tested? How can you know this better?
- Do you know how to connect their troubles to Scripture: to God's grace, his promises, or his commands? Do you need to get equipped so you can do this better? If so, how will you?
- Does your strategy include every person? Are you developing leaders who can help you?
- When do you connect with people in your ministry? Do you not only use your regular meeting night but other times as well? What are those other times?

3. Be driven to grow in usefulness.

Reflection: Do you have someone who is evaluating your life and ministry? Who?

Reflection: Are you driven to get better equipped so you can be more useful for Christ? How?