

HELPING TO KNOW IF YOU ARE A LEADER

Are You a Leader?

Many want to know if they could ever be a leader in the Lord's Church. I believe there are some questions that can be asked that will help you decide that question.



Before we ask these questions, however, I think some basics ought to be recognized:

FIRST: The Bible does give qualifications for both Elders and Deacons.

SECOND: Some people think that they are a leader simply because they happen to be boss of the person that has the clout or the purse. They may not have the position they have because of leadership abilities but have somehow inherited them.

THIRD: We need to realize that leaders are usually not born leaders but have learned from experience or because they happened to be in the right place at the right time.

Now, lets ask these questions to help determine if you are a leader:

1. Do you know your strengths?
 - × Can you name them?
 - × Could others name them right off?
2. Do you know your weaknesses?
 - × Can you name them?
 - × Will they hinder you as a leader?
3. Do people come to you with their problems?

If so, is it because of your position, financial status, job or influence due to any of these?

4. Are you an unselfish person?
5. Can you:
 - × Accept criticism graciously or do you have a tendency to be defensive at criticism?
 - × Delegate responsibility or do you have to do it all?
6. Do you:
 - × Genuinely like people or do they usually get on your nerves?
 - × Micro-manage people to whom you delegate responsibility?
 - × Have a mentor or a role model you can speak to often?
 - × Usually end up agreeing with the last person that you spoke to about a matter?
7. Does your wife have an unusual amount of influence on your decisions?
 - × Have you been called "hen-pecked" or suspicion that you are?
8. Are you a good listener?
9. Will you give time to people who may question your motives?
10. Do you go up to the eagles' nest to look around or do you think you would rule from the captain's cabin?
11. Would people describe you as one who is conformed to the age of one who has been transformed by a renewed mind...that is, are you a thermometer or a thermostat?
12. Does your wife share a desire for you to be in a leadership role?
13. Can you keep confidence?
 - × Do you enjoy being the first to tell people the news of what is going on?
14. Are you a toucher? And if so, why are you a toucher?
15. Are you punctual?

16. Can you allow others to be heroes without cutting them down when you hear them complimented?
17. Are you an insecure person, or a person who knows who he is?
 x Do you suffer from paranoia?
18. Do you tell the people the truth in as kind of a way as possible?
19. Do you try to create leaders and heroes of those whom you are leading?
20. Are you:
 x A jealous or envious person?
 x A caring and empathic person or are you callused and apathetic?
 x Yourself able to take orders?
 x A goal-setter?
 x SMART?
 S.pecific
 M.easurable
 A.chievable
 R.esourceful
 T.imeable
 x An organizer?
21. Has anyone ever described you as courageous?
22. Can you be effective in communicating your ideas publicly and privately?
23. Do you:
 x Compliment people?
 x Fellowship with the ones you wish to lead?
 * Who? Where? How? When? Why? What?
 x Know how to say "Thanks" for a job well done?
 x Have a tendency to lord-it-over people or do you lead by example?
 x Believe your motives for desiring leadership are pure before God?
 x Believe you have been seasoned enough to lead?
 x Handle stress well?
 x Get mad or do you get even? Or do you strive for peace and tranquility?
 x Feel that you have a good grasp of the faith and knowledge of what hill you would be willing to die on?
 x Have a good workable knowledge of the Word of God?
24. Can you:
 x Change, or even stop, your own method of doing things without bitterness?
 x Multi-task without frustration?
 x Take criticism of your wife and children without becoming angry?
25. Does your family demonstrate good leadership on your behalf?
26. Is there anyone in the Church who could have undue influence on you that you might wish to please them, rather than God?
27. Does tradition mean so much to you that you would insist on others doing them?
28. Do your children have an undue influence on your decisions?
29. Are you a person who rather enjoys strife and debate?
30. Are God and His Word the real source by which you will make your decisions and regulate your own life as well as the basis of leading those you choose to lead?
31. Are you a man of prayer?
32. Would you die rather than surrender your faith in Christ?

Think about these questions and be honest with yourself. Write down the question then answer it, and ask how you could improve and work on correcting your failings.

Remember that a river is not greater than its source so as a leader, you need to be a source that is a great foundation of God's wisdom, love, and grace.