

# “Biblical Leadership”


09/18/22

# Homework Review

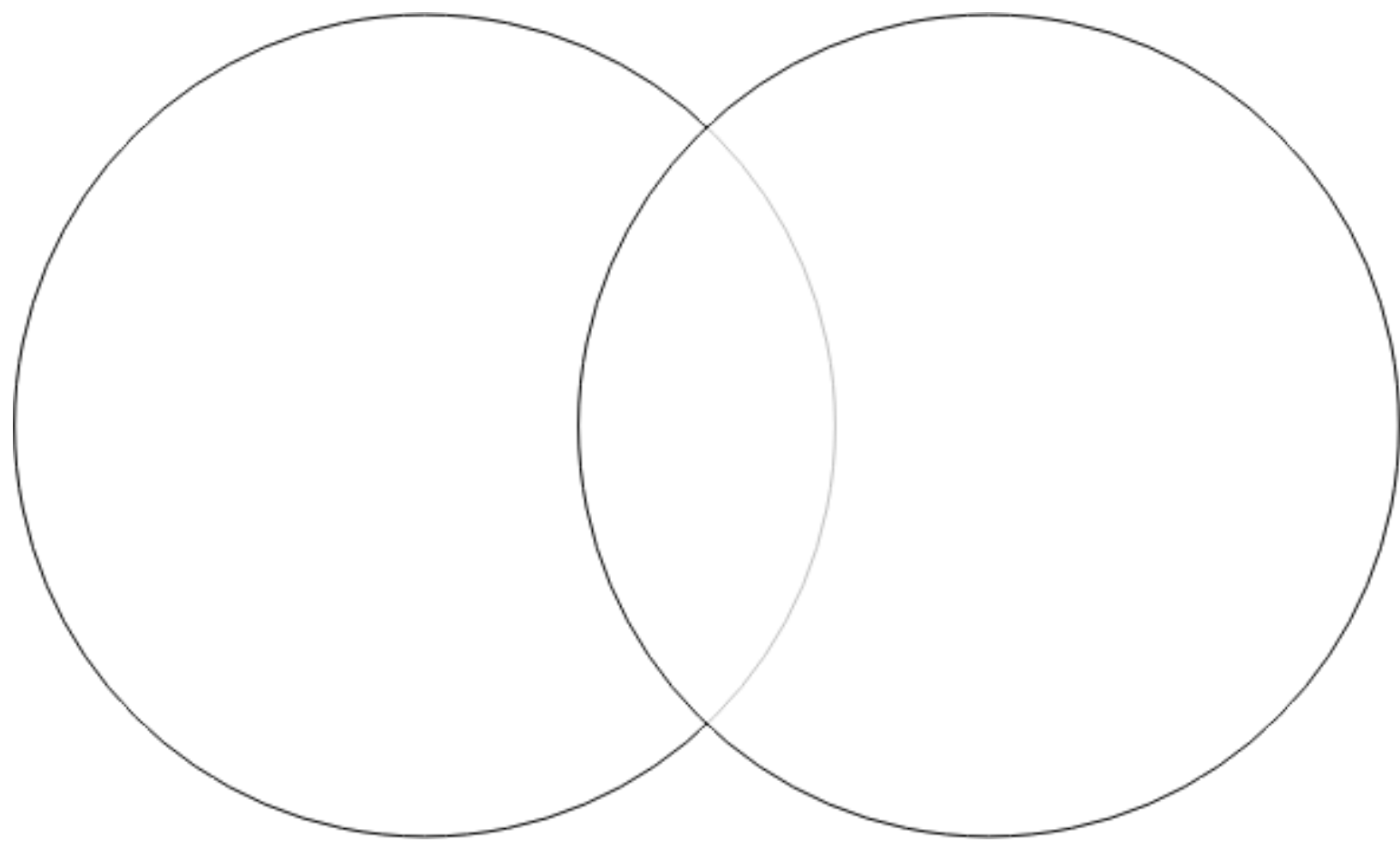
- ▶ What is found in the Bible about leadership?
- ▶ Who comes to mind when you think of leaders from the Bible? Why do you think of think of these people?
- ▶ How is the Christian leader different from a worldly leader?
- ▶ List 5 characteristics of a Christian leader and Scripture reference.

# Intro

Tonight: Biblical Leadership



Goal: Students would understand what biblical and Christ-like leadership entails, and this knowledge should change how they lead.



# 1) The Character of the Christian Leader

- ▶ Christian leaders should behave differently.
- ▶ *“There is no such thing as a self-made spiritual leader. A true leader influences others spiritually only because the Spirit works in and through him to a greater degree than in those he leads.”* Oswald Sanders
- ▶ Fruit of the Spirit
  - ▶ Galatians 5:22-23 - <sup>22</sup> *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,*  
<sup>23</sup> *gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.*

# 1) The Character of the Christian Leader

- ▶ Competency should never replace character
- ▶ Humility - Philippians 2:3
  - ▶ Philippians 2:3 - *<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves.*
  - ▶ *“Willingness to concede error and to defer to the judgment of one’s peers increases one’s influence rather than diminishes it.”* Oswald Sanders

# 1) The Character of the Christian Leader

## ▶ Service - 1 Peter 4:10

- ▶ 1 Peter 4:10 - *10 Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God.*
- ▶ *“ True greatness, true leadership, is found in in giving yourself in service to others, not in coaxing or inducing others to serve you.”* Oswald Sanders

## 2) The Calling of the Christian Leader

- ▶ Colossians 3:17, 23 - *<sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him... <sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, do it from the heart, as something done for the Lord and not for people...*
- ▶ I Thessalonians 5:24-25 - *<sup>24</sup> He who calls you is faithful; he will do it.*
  - ▶ *“Spiritual leaders are not elected, appointed, or created by synods or church assemblies. God alone makes them.” Oswald Sanders*



## 2) The Calling of the Christian Leader

- ▶ Calling combats ungodly criticism
  - ▶ Proverbs 15:31 - *<sup>31</sup> One who listens to life-giving rebukes will be at home among the wise.*
  - ▶ Psalm 77:11 - *<sup>11</sup> I will remember the LORD's works; yes, I will remember your ancient wonders.*
- ▶ Calling combats apathy
  - ▶ Proverbs 26:15 - *<sup>15</sup> The slacker buries his hand in the bowl; he is too weary to bring it to his mouth!*

## 2) The Calling of the Christian Leader

- ▶ Calling combats weariness
  - ▶ Psalm 42:1 - *1 As a deer longs for flowing streams, so I long for you, God.*
  - ▶ *“A leader will seldom say ‘I don’t have time.’ Such an excuse is usually the refuge of a small-minded and inefficient person.”* Oswald Sanders
- ▶ Calling combats fear
  - ▶ Matthew 14:27-29

### 3) The Culture Christian Leaders Create

Galatians 3:28 - *28 There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female; since you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

Influence over power

Trust over fear

### 3) The Culture Christian Leaders Create

#### Empowerment over micro- management (respect)

*“Do you direct people or develop people?”* Oswald Sanders

*“Christians everywhere have undiscovered and unused spiritual gifts. The leader must help bring those gifts into the service of the kingdom, to develop them, to marshal their power. Spirituality alone does not make a leader; natural gifts and those given by God must be there too.”* Oswald Sanders

#### Encouragement before critique

*“Are you responsibly optimistic? Pessimism and leadership do not mix. Leaders are positively visionary.”*  
Oswald Sanders

# 4) Case Studies:

Paul in Acts 27

Moses in Exodus 18

# Homework

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What is an area of my life that needs to change to better lead as a biblical leader?

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What is strategic leading? What is strategic thinking?

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What is the difference between strategic leading and strategic thinking?

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What is a biblical example of strategic leading and strategic thinking?