**Welcome to Step 3 of Growth Track: Develop Your Leadership**

This step is designed to help you develop as a leader. Leadership is influence and we want to help you use your gifts and passions to make a difference in the lives of others. In this step you will be strengthened in your character and leadership abilities to help live out your purpose.

**I Peter 4:10 (NLT)**God has given each of you a gift from His great Variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

Last week we talked about gifts and personalities, but now is the time to discover how to use those gifts to  **SERVE PEOPLE** .

This is where some people have hesitations from stepping into leadership. Many people look for reasons to disqualify themselves from leadership. They will say:

* “I’m not ready”
* “God is still working on me”

We are convinced people disqualify themselves because they have the  **WRONG DEFINITION**  of leadership.

**Leadership Is Influence**

Leadership is influence. Nothing more. Nothing less. It is about influencing others in a worthwhile cause. It is not dependent on titles or positions. It is dependent on people discovering their gifts and passions, and then using them to make a difference in the lives of others.

Everyone is a  **LEADER** , even if they have not thought of themselves as one. Everyone is a leader because we all  **INFLUENCE**  the lives of others every day.

Throughout scripture we can see the imperfect people God chose to use. He never uses those who are the most talented. He never uses those who had it all together. God did this on purpose.

* **Moses** – had a speech impediment and murdered a man
* **David** – was an adulterer and conspired to kill a man
* **Paul** – murdered Christians before his encounter with God

God is trying to show you that no matter who you are or what you’ve done, past or present; He can use you to influence others if you will allow Him into your life.

**Four Hesitations**

Before we begin to develop our leadership, there are some things we believe that stand in the way that we want to make sure we get over at the start.

**Exodus 3:7-12 (NLT)** This passage begins with God saying to Moses, “I have come down to rescue (My people Israel)”… “Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt. But Moses protested to God, ‘Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?’ God answered, ‘I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain.’”

Don’t measure yourself by how you see you – measure yourself by how  **GOD SEES YOU** .

Look through God’s lens of how He sees you. Moses felt like the wrong person for the job, but God said,  **“I’LL BE WITH YOU”**  in verse 11 – that is the key!

In Exodus 3-4 Moses battles Four Hesitations that tried to hold him back in his leadership journey.

1. Who Am I?

 **Exodus 3:11 (NLT)** But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

 First Hesitation -  **INSECURITY** .

* We all have had insecurities, but by seeing ourselves the way God sees us we will have the confidence to be the leaders He has called us to be.
1. What If They?

 **Exodus 4:1 (NLT)** But Moses protested again, “What if they won’t believe me or listen to me? What if they say, ‘The Lord never appeared to you’?”

 Second Hesitation -  **FEAR OF MAN** .

* Don’t allow yourself to be held back from God’s best for your life because you’re concerned about what people think of you.
* Decide that you are not going to be led by the fear of man.
* **Proverbs 29:25** The fear of man will prove to be a snare, but those who trust in the Lord will be kept safe.
1. I Never Have.

 **Exodus 4:10 (NLT)** But Moses pleaded with the Lord, “O Lord, I’m not very good with words. I never have been, and I’m not now, even though you have spoken to me…”

 Third Hesitation -  **INADEQUATE** .

* Moses felt inadequate because he had never done what God was asking him to do.
* God is famous for calling you to do something that you have never done. He is always going to require you to take some type of step of faith.
* **Hebrews 11:6** Without faith it is impossible to please God
* God will never ask you to do something that He does not anoint and grace you in. God answered Moses in **Exodus 4:12**, saying, “Now go! I will be with you as you speak, and I will teach you in what you should say.”
1. Send Someone Else.

 **Exodus 4:13** But Moses again pleaded, “Lord, please, send someone else”

 Fourth Hesitation -  **RELUCTANCE** .

* It’s OK to have feelings of reluctance. Everyone called of God has had those feelings. But we can’t base our decisions on those feelings. We must trust God knowing that He has called us and will equip us to do what He is asking us to do.

**Guard Against The Enemy**

You may feel that you are not ready to take the next step – but we want to encourage you to take it! Because we believe that your life will never make sense or bring you fulfillment until you are doing something in your life that really makes a difference.

The devil, our enemy, will try to keep you from:

  **GOD’S CALLING ON YOUR LIFE** and

  **MAKING A DIFFERENCE** .

The devil will try to distract you and hinder you through:

 **POSSESSIONS YOU HAVE** **,**

 **THINGS YOU NEED TO DO** or through

  **PROBLEMS IN YOUR LIFE** .

The above statements are tactics the enemy will try and use to keep us from serving God.

**Ephesians 6:11 (NLT)**Put on the whole armor of God so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.

**Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)** Seek first the kingdom of God… and all these things will be added to you.

We must choose to put God in first place and trust what He said, that all other things will be added to us

**Our Purpose In Life**

When we did not know Jesus, our whole life was about finding Jesus. Now that we have found Jesus, our whole life is about making a difference for Jesus.

Heaven is coming and there will be pleasures and rewards. We do have some of these rewards on the earth, but we cannot be enamored by them. We are here for one reason – To Know Jesus and To Make Him Known!

**1 Peter 2:9 (NLT)**But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

* God has called you into the ministry. You are a  **MINISTER** .
* You are to use your life to  **INFLUENCE** others for Jesus, as you proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Whatever it is that is standing in the way, take a step beyond it by faith, realizing there is leadership inside of you. As you do this you will find the joy that God always intended for your life.

**Qualities Of A Leader**

Being a leader is not about titles or positions or even abilities. What qualifies a leader are  **QUALITIES** .

**Daniel 6:1-3 (NLT)** It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps (leaders) to rule throughout the kingdom, with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss. Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.

Daniel did not have natural distinguishing abilities, he decided to distinguish himself through developing distinguishing qualities. All of us have the ability by the grace of God to distinguish ourselves – by our exceptional qualities.

Below are our cultural values here at Victory, which are the qualities that we are asking you to embrace as those joining our dream team and, in essence, our leadership team. These qualities are what qualify YOU!

The **First** **Cultural Value** is: **CELEBRATION.**

 We Celebrate What God had done, is doing, & going to do. We celebrate each other through encouraging words

The **Second** **Cultural Value** is: **JOY.**

 We choose to have Joy each day in whatever task we’re assigned to do.

The **Third Cultural Value** is: **EQUIPPING.**

We equip ourselves to equip others to do the work of the ministry

The **Fourth Cultural Value** is: **EXCELLENT SPIRIT.**

 We give our best at whatever we do

The **Fifth Cultural Value** is: **EXPECTANCY.**

 We believe our best days are always right in front of us

The **Sixth Cultural Value** is: **GRATITUDE.**

 We value each day & each task by having an attitude of “we get to” rather than “we have to”.

The **Seventh Cultural Value** is: **INTEGRITY.**

 We do the right thing even when no one is watching.

The **Eighth Cultural Value** is: **CONSISTENT GENEROSITY.**

 We are blessed to be a blessing on all occasions

The **Ninth Cultural Value** is: **SERVANT LEADERSHIP.**

We lead by looking for ways to serve others. We are “there you are” people rather than “here I am” people

The **Tenth Cultural Value** is: **UNITY.**

 We are peacemakers, strife stoppers, team players & bridge builders.

The **Eleventh Cultural Value** is: **REACH**.

 We choose to reach beyond ourselves and draw people in.

 We care about being connected to one another and connecting others

 to each other.

We believe that you embrace these qualities, our cultural values here at Victory you will be equipped and qualified as a leader and vital part of our dream team, helping us reach out locally and globally with God’s love!

REMINDERS

* Volunteer Apps are on tables, please fill one out and take to drop box or turn into GT team
* Step Four next week – “Join the Team”
* GT team is ready to answer any questions that you may have