

A COMMON VISION AND MISSION TO ADVANCE THE GOSPEL

A Leader strives for Scripture-Based Decisions and Spirit-Led Directions

Decision-making is a fundamental responsibility of leaders. People who are unwilling or unable to make decisions are unlikely leadership candidates. All decisions have ramifications, and leaders must be prepared to accept the consequences of their decisions. A single leadership decision has the potential for critical impact on followers and their families. Mistakes are costly on both the organization and the individual. Leaders must have the fortitude to live with this reality.¹

The world adopts a pragmatic approach to decision-making - to weigh all the evidence, compare the advantages and disadvantages, and then make the most logical course of action. This is counter to our biblical understanding. Spiritual leaders must not follow such an example, as the Bible cautions us of such a danger: *"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death"* (Prov. 14:12). *We readily identify with the psalmist's observation: "People do not think nor act as God does"* (Ps. 118:8).

Scripture-Based Decision

Basing decisions firmly on biblical principles helps leaders avoid mistakes. An effective biblical leader is one whose decisions are based on Scriptural underpinnings. Church leaders ought to remember Jesus' declaration of his subservience to the Father, *"Not My will, but Yours be done"* (Lk. 22:42; Mt. 6:10). Leadership decision-making begins by discerning the will of God.

God reveals his will through his Word: *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"* (Ps. 119:105; see also Ps. 19:7-9; 2 Pet. 1:19). Making decisions often includes making a judgment about an attitude or action, bringing truth and grace and transformation to the human soul, starting with your own.

Spirit-Led Direction

A biblical leader is one who moves in the direction according to the leading of the Holy Spirit. The Book of Acts describes the early church apostles as leaders who were Spirit-led and Spirit-filled. There is a marked difference between the disciples before

the crucifixion and after the Day of Pentecost. This transformation is clearly attributed to the Holy Spirit's coming upon them. Leaders need to walk daily in the Spirit's power, not in the flesh (Gal. 5:16-23). They strive to be clean vessels, fit for the Spirit's indwelling and use. Leaders seek the Lord to fill them every day, transforming them to become more and more like his Son.



A leader's reliance on God for the outcome of plans is more often easier said than done. The reality for many leaders is that they are more accustomed to relying partly on God and partly on their plans. Spirit-led planning calls for leaders to be willing to pause when they feel they have not heard clearly from God.

Hence, spiritual leadership does not exist apart from the Holy Spirit's guidance. Leaders often overlook their spiritual life because they are consumed with fulfilling their tasks and responsibilities. As a result, when leaders face a major decision that desperately calls for God's answer, but they have grown unfamiliar with the divine voice.

Blessings, on the behalf of the Co-Labourers in the Singapore Baptist Convention,

Rev. Dr. Bobby Lee
Executive Director

¹Henry T. Blackaby and Richard Blackaby, *Spiritual Leadership: The Interactive Study* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2006), 136-7.

Power of Prayer

Andrew Tjang, Mission Director

“Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.”

Jeremiah 33:3 (NIV)

Baptist Women's Combined Prayer Meeting



It was a significant day on 8 July, Saturday, when the Baptist women of Singapore met for combined prayer at Thomson Road Baptist Church. The theme, “Invest in God’s Kingdom”, set the tone as 83 people earnestly prayed together specifically for the 10 mission projects coordinated by the Convention. We could sense the rattling and echoes of heaven and earth, united in one purpose for God’s mission. We anticipate a greater passion and unity for mission amongst our Baptist community, and for God to work exceedingly great and mighty things through prayer.

Convention Mission Department

Praise the Lord for giving us a new team to work alongside the Convention’s Mission Department! The Spirit was present as He drew the mission committee closer together in prayer for mission. There was a desire to seek God’s mission agenda with one another.

We whole-heartedly prayed that our hearts and minds to be aligned, as a team, to God’s will and for the larger Baptist community. Do pray for us that the Lord will continue to stir us and the Baptist community together to be more passionate for His mission.

