

A COMMON VISION AND MISSION TO ADVANCE THE GOSPEL

## *Biblical Leadership*

"The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task" (1 Tim. 3:1).

Biblical leadership is about getting God's people to discern a God-given direction and commit their lives to accomplish this purpose. The Bible contains several core principles of biblical leadership, whether it is for the purpose of building a temple, opposing unjust or unbiblical laws, or organizing and discipling a growing body of new believers.<sup>1</sup>

As flawed and imperfect people are, God consistently chooses to use men and women to motivate and mobilize his people to accomplish his divine plans and purposes. When leaders fall, doubts arise whether there is a need for human leaders, but God has sovereignly chosen this way. Until Christ returns, the church will continue to be God's instrument for carrying out the Great Commission and people will be called on to provide leadership.



When surveying the Bible on leadership, a few observations can be made. One, biblical leaders were prophets, priests, kings, apostles, or church leaders. They came from different backgrounds. Two, there were good and bad leaders. Three, there were leaders who failed and leaders who succeeded. Four, not all leaders finished well and strong. These include Gideon (Judg. 7:23–8:32), Samson (Judges 16), King Asa (2 Chron. 14:1–12), and

<sup>1</sup> Mike Bonem, *In Pursuit of Great and Godly Leadership: Tampering the Wisdom of the World for the Kingdom of God* (San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass Network Series, 2012), 6.

King Uzziah (2 Chron. 26:5–16). Five, leaders possessed both character and competence. Six, all biblical leaders have some common hallmarks such as calling from God, commitment to and dependence on God, humility, faithfulness, and being sacrificial and selfless. Finally, biblical leadership was not led by a committee but by God.

Leaders in the Bible fit a wide variety of profiles that reflect their specific contexts and unique personalities. The only absolute is that biblical leadership is obedient to God and brings glory to Him. It is all about God. We should be cautious before pronouncing any model or style of leadership as the one and only biblical model. Rather, a proposed model was chosen because it is appropriate to a particular context.

## *A Divine Appointment, not Assumed nor Appropriated by Self or Human Efforts*

Biblical Leadership is a divine appointment. It carries with it the heaviness of authority and responsibility. What endears a biblical leader to the flock is authenticity in words and in deeds. A Church leader's behaviour must be consistent with his belief. Otherwise, his leadership is hollow and futile. He will get assent from the flock but not from God. The result is a dysfunctional leadership that leads the church nowhere.

Leading God's people is a noble task. God will lead His leader, to lead His flock. Start by praying and asking God to lead you; for, no Christian leader can lead God's people unless God is leading the leader.

*Serving with Co-Labourers in Christ,*

*Rev. Dr. Bobby Lee*

**Executive Director**

## *Bearing Much Fruit*

*Andrew Tjang, Mission Director*

*This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

*John 15:8 (NIV)*

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### *Mission Work in Riau Islands, Indonesia*



The work in the Riau islands of Indonesia continues to bear much fruit as the Holy Spirit is still very much at work in the lives of His people to this day. We are excited whenever people indicate their interest in partnering with us. Many have testified that God has spoken to them, while others say they have “fallen in love” with God’s people who are working in the Riau Islands.

We are thankful to God for giving us an opportunity to meet with such people, namely Reuben and Carrie from Hong Kong. The result of this fruit produces joy, unity, and fellowship among us through missions.

Join us, so that together we may bear much fruit for Jesus today!

