LEADING ACCORDING TO GOD'S PURPOSE

A Spiritual Leadership Training Curriculum

Based on Biblical Principles of Spiritual Warfare and Godly Leadership

By Edward-t Moises

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Title

LEADING ACCORDING TO GOD'S PURPOSE

Subtitle:

Spiritual Warfare, Character, Wisdom, and the Responsibility of Leadership

PROGRAM PURPOSE

This leadership training curriculum is designed to develop leaders who understand that leadership according to biblical principles requires more than:

- authority;
- influence;
- intelligence;
- popularity;
- position;
- power.

A leader must possess the spiritual and moral character necessary to carry responsibility faithfully.

The central principle of this curriculum is:

Before a person can responsibly lead others, that person must first learn to be led by God.

This program teaches leaders how to:

- govern their own spirit;
- recognize the true nature of conflict;
- distinguish people from problems;
- confront evil without becoming evil;
- seek wisdom before making decisions;
- exercise courage with humility;

- govern with justice and compassion;
- develop spiritual discipline;
- lead through service rather than personal pride.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

This curriculum can be used for:

- pastors and ministry leaders;
- church elders and deacons;
- youth leaders;
- community leaders;
- political and civic leaders;
- business leaders;
- parents and family leaders;
- emerging leaders;
- ministry teams;
- leadership students.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Recommended Format

10 Training Sessions

Each session may be conducted over:

- **60 minutes** for introductory training;
- **90 minutes** for standard leadership development;
- **2 hours** for an intensive workshop.

Recommended Components for Each Session

1. Opening prayer
2. Scripture reading
3. Teaching presentation
4. Biblical case study
5. Leadership discussion
6. Practical exercise
7. Personal reflection
8. Group application
9. Leadership commitment
10. Closing prayer

MODULE 1: THE SPIRITUAL NATURE OF LEADERSHIP

Theme:

LEADERSHIP IS RESPONSIBILITY UNDER GOD

Key Scriptures

- Joshua 1:1–9
- Micah 6:8
- Proverbs 3:5–6

Learning Objectives

By the end of this session, participants should understand:

- the difference between power and responsibility;
- the spiritual responsibility of leadership;
- why character is essential to leadership;
- why submission to God must precede effective leadership.

Core Teaching

Leadership is not merely the ability to influence people.

Leadership is responsibility for the welfare of others.

A person may possess:

- authority without wisdom;
- influence without integrity;
- courage without compassion;
- intelligence without humility.

But leadership according to God's purpose requires the integration of:

CHARACTER + WISDOM + RESPONSIBILITY + SERVICE

Discussion Questions

1. What is the difference between authority and responsibility?
2. Why do some people desire leadership positions?
3. What dangers occur when a leader seeks power without character?
4. What does it mean to be led by God before leading others?

Training Exercise:

THE LEADERSHIP MOTIVE ASSESSMENT

Participants should reflect on:

- Why do I want to lead?
- Am I seeking to serve or to be recognized?
- What personal weaknesses could affect my leadership?
- Who benefits from my leadership?
- Am I accountable to anyone?

Leadership Principle

Leadership according to God's purpose begins not with the desire to rule, but with the willingness to serve.

MODULE 2: THE FIRST BATTLEFIELD — LEADING YOURSELF

Theme:

RULE YOUR OWN SPIRIT

Key Scripture

Proverbs 16:32

“He that ruleth his spirit [is greater] than he that taketh a city.”

Core Teaching

Before leading:

- people;
- organizations;
- ministries;
- communities;
- nations,

a leader must learn to lead himself or herself.

The leader's greatest internal challenges may include:

- pride;

- anger;
- fear;
- greed;
- insecurity;
- ambition;
- resentment;
- uncontrolled emotions.

The Self-Government Model

1. GOVERN YOUR HEART

Do not allow bitterness to become leadership motivation.

2. GOVERN YOUR WORDS

Words can either build or destroy.

3. GOVERN YOUR EMOTIONS

Do not make permanent decisions from temporary anger.

4. GOVERN YOUR MOTIVES

Examine whether decisions serve the people or serve personal ambition.

5. GOVERN YOUR ACTIONS

Integrity requires consistency between private character and public leadership.

Practical Exercise:

THE PAUSE–PRAY–PROCEED MODEL

When facing conflict:

PAUSE

Do not react immediately.

PRAY

Ask God for wisdom and self-control.

REFLECT

Examine the situation and your own emotions.

PROCEED

Respond with truth, wisdom, and discipline.

Leadership Principle

A leader who cannot govern himself may eventually misuse authority over others.

MODULE 3: KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PEOPLE AND THE REAL BATTLE

Theme:

FIGHT THE PROBLEM, NOT THE PERSON

Key Scripture

Ephesians 6:12

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood…”

Core Teaching

Not every disagreement is an enemy.

Not every critic is a threat.

Not every difficult person is attempting to destroy leadership.

A wise leader learns to distinguish:

- people from problems;
- disagreement from rebellion;
- criticism from hostility;
- accountability from personal attack;
- correction from humiliation.

Practical Scenario

Situation:

A leader receives strong criticism from a member of the organization.

Wrong Response:

“This person is against me. I must remove or destroy their influence.”

Wise Response:

“What is the actual concern? Is there truth in the criticism? What problem must be addressed?”

Training Exercise:

PERSON VS. PROBLEM ANALYSIS

Participants identify a recent conflict and create two columns:

THE PERSON	THE ACTUAL PROBLEM
Who is involved?	What specific issue needs to be addressed?

The objective is to train leaders to address problems without automatically treating people as enemies.

Leadership Principle

A wise leader does not confuse disagreement with hostility.

MODULE 4: CONFRONT DARKNESS WITHOUT BECOMING DARKNESS

Theme:

OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD

Key Scripture

Romans 12:21

“Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Core Teaching

A leader may begin by opposing corruption, injustice, or dishonesty but eventually become influenced by the same practices.

Therefore, leaders must ask:

“Am I becoming like the problem I am trying to solve?”

Warning Signs

A leader may be losing moral direction when leadership begins producing:

- hatred;
- dishonesty;
- cruelty;
- revenge;
- manipulation;
- humiliation of opponents;
- abuse of authority.

Training Exercise:

THE MIRROR TEST

Ask:

“What methods am I using?”

Then ask:

“Would I accept these methods if they were used against me?”

Leadership Principle

The methods used to fight evil must remain consistent with the values the leader claims to defend.

MODULE 5: SUBMISSION TO GOD BEFORE RESISTANCE

Theme:

SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY BEGINS WITH SPIRITUAL SUBMISSION

Key Scripture

James 4:7

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil…”

Core Teaching

The biblical order is:

SUBMIT FIRST

RESIST SECOND

Before confronting external problems, the leader must submit:

- thoughts;
- motives;
- fears;
- anger;
- ambition;
- decisions

to God.

Personal Reflection

Participants should ask:

- Am I acting from pride?
- Am I seeking justice or revenge?
- Have I prayed before making this decision?
- Am I willing to accept correction?
- Am I listening to wisdom?

Practical Exercise:

THE LEADER'S DAILY EXAMINATION

At the end of each day, ask:

1. Did I act with integrity?
2. Did I control my anger?
3. Did I listen?
4. Did I treat people with dignity?
5. Did I make decisions wisely?
6. What must I submit to God?

Leadership Principle

Spiritual authority without spiritual submission becomes dangerous.

MODULE 6: WISDOM AND DISCERNMENT IN LEADERSHIP

Theme:

SEEK WISDOM BEFORE MAKING DECISIONS

Key Scriptures

- James 1:5
- Proverbs 3:5–6
- 1 Kings 3:9

Core Teaching

Information is not the same as wisdom.

Intelligence is not automatically discernment.

Power is not proof of good judgment.

A leader must learn to ask:

- What is true?
- What is just?
- Who will be affected?
- What are the long-term consequences?
- Am I responding emotionally?
- Have I heard multiple perspectives?

Decision-Making Model

P.R.A.Y.

P — PAUSE

Do not make major decisions impulsively.

R — REVIEW

Examine facts and consequences.

A — ASK

Seek Godly wisdom and trusted counsel.

Y — YIELD

Remain willing to follow truth rather than pride.

Leadership Principle

A leader should seek what is right—not merely what is popular or personally advantageous.

MODULE 7: COURAGE WITH HUMILITY

Theme:

STRENGTH UNDER GOD'S AUTHORITY

Key Scripture

Joshua 1:9

“Be strong and of a good courage…”

Core Teaching

Godly courage requires leaders to:

- confront injustice;
- reject corruption;
- speak truth;
- protect the vulnerable;
- make difficult decisions.

But courage must remain connected to humility.

Courage without humility can become:

- arrogance;
- recklessness;
- domination.

Humility without courage can become:

- passivity;
- fear;
- avoidance.

Therefore:

COURAGE + HUMILITY = RESPONSIBLE STRENGTH

Biblical Case Study:

DAVID

David demonstrated courage.

But David's life also teaches the importance of repentance.

The leader must possess the courage to say:

“I was wrong.”

Training Exercise:

THE COURAGE TEST

Participants identify one difficult leadership situation and answer:

- What truth must be addressed?
- What am I afraid of?
- What would courage require?
- What would humility require?

MODULE 8: JUSTICE AND COMPASSION

Theme:

STRONG LEADERSHIP WITH HUMAN DIGNITY

Key Scripture

Micah 6:8

“Do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God.”

Core Teaching

Leadership decisions affect real people.

Therefore, a godly leader must balance:

JUSTICE

Doing what is right and fair.

COMPASSION

Recognizing human dignity and suffering.

The Leadership Balance

JUSTICE WITHOUT COMPASSION

May become harshness.

COMPASSION WITHOUT WISDOM

May become irresponsibility.

JUSTICE + COMPASSION + WISDOM

Produces responsible leadership.

Practical Scenario

A leader must discipline someone who has violated organizational rules.

The leader must:

- investigate the facts;
- avoid favoritism;
- apply fair standards;
- preserve dignity;
- correct appropriately.

Leadership Principle

A leader's authority must protect people, not merely protect the leader's position.

MODULE 9: THE ARMOR OF GOD AND SPIRITUAL PREPAREDNESS

Theme:

STAND FAITHFULLY

Key Scripture

Ephesians 6:11–18

The Spiritual Preparation of a Leader

BELT OF TRUTH

A leader must reject deception.

BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

A leader must protect moral character.

SHOES OF PEACE

A leader should seek peace where possible.

SHIELD OF FAITH

A leader must not allow fear to dominate decisions.

HELMET OF SALVATION

A leader must protect the mind and spiritual identity.

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

The Word of God provides spiritual and moral guidance.

PRAYER

The leader continually seeks God's wisdom.

Training Exercise:

PERSONAL ARMOR ASSESSMENT

Participants evaluate:

Spiritual Area	Personal Question
Truth	Am I honest?
Righteousness	Does my private character support my public leadership?
Peace	Do I create unnecessary conflict?
Faith	Do I act primarily from fear?
Mind	What influences my thinking?
Word	Do I seek biblical wisdom?
Prayer	Do I regularly seek God's direction?

MODULE 10: SERVANT LEADERSHIP AND THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE

Theme:

AUTHORITY IS A RESPONSIBILITY TO SERVE

Key Scriptures

- Mark 10:42–45
- Micah 6:8
- Proverbs 31:8–9

Core Teaching

The purpose of leadership is not self-glorification.

A godly leader asks:

“How can my leadership contribute to the welfare of the people?”

The leader must consider:

- families;
- children;
- vulnerable persons;
- communities;
- future generations;
- the consequences of decisions.

THE FIVE-FOLD SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP MODEL

1. RECOGNIZE

What is really happening?

Identify the true problem.

Do not automatically make people the enemy.

2. SUBMIT

Bring yourself under God's authority.

Pray.

Seek humility.

Surrender personal ambition.

3. EXAMINE

Search your own heart.

Ask:

- Is pride influencing me?
- Is anger influencing me?
- Is fear influencing me?
- Is personal ambition influencing me?

4. RESIST

Stand against evil without adopting evil methods.

Remain:

- truthful;
- just;

- compassionate;
- self-controlled.

5. RESPOND

Lead with wisdom, courage, and integrity.

Take responsible action.

Protect the people.

Remain accountable.

ESSENTIAL SPIRITUAL QUALITIES OF A GODLY LEADER

HUMILITY

Walk with God and remain teachable.

WISDOM

Seek understanding before acting.

COURAGE

Do what is right despite fear.

JUSTICE

Treat people fairly.

COMPASSION

Recognize human dignity.

INTEGRITY

Remain honest and upright.

SELF-CONTROL

Govern yourself before governing others.

FAITH

Depend upon God.

DISCERNMENT

Recognize the real problem.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Use authority to serve.

FINAL PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT

At the conclusion of the program, participants should reflect on the following questions:

SELF-GOVERNMENT

Can I control my emotions under pressure?

HUMILITY

Can I accept correction?

WISDOM

Do I seek counsel before major decisions?

COURAGE

Will I do what is right when it is difficult?

JUSTICE

Do I treat people fairly?

COMPASSION

Do I consider how my decisions affect others?

INTEGRITY

Does my private character support my public leadership?

SUBMISSION

Am I willing to submit my leadership to God?

LEADERSHIP COVENANT

I DECLARE:

I will seek God's purpose before seeking personal power.

I will govern my own spirit before attempting to influence others.

I will seek wisdom before making decisions.

I will confront problems without unnecessarily treating people as enemies.

I will confront darkness without becoming darkness.

I will exercise courage without cruelty.

I will pursue justice without abandoning compassion.

I will speak truth without abandoning love.

I will protect integrity even when compromise is easier.

I will remain humble in success and faithful during difficulty.

I will understand authority as a responsibility to serve.

I will seek to lead according to God's purpose and God's will.

FINAL COMMISSIONING PRAYER

Father God,

Thank You for every person You have entrusted with influence and responsibility.

Give us leaders who are humble in heart and courageous in action.

Give us wisdom greater than our own understanding.

Teach us to govern our own spirit before attempting to govern others.

Protect us from pride, corruption, hatred, revenge, and the misuse of authority.

Give us discernment to recognize the real problems facing the people entrusted to our care.

Help us to confront injustice without becoming unjust.

Help us to confront darkness without becoming darkness.

Teach us to lead with truth, wisdom, courage, justice, compassion, integrity, humility, and self-control.

May we seek Your purpose before our personal ambition.

May our leadership protect rather than exploit.

May our influence heal rather than destroy.

May our decisions contribute to peace, justice, dignity, and responsible flourishing.

Above all, teach us to remain submitted to You.

In the name of Jesus Christ,

Amen.

FINAL PROGRAM MESSAGE

THE TRUE TEST OF LEADERSHIP IS NOT MERELY THE ABILITY TO OBTAIN POWER.

IT IS THE ABILITY TO CARRY RESPONSIBILITY WITHOUT LOSING CHARACTER.

LEAD WITH HUMILITY.

DECIDE WITH WISDOM.

STAND WITH COURAGE.

GOVERN WITH JUSTICE.

SERVE WITH COMPASSION.

WALK WITH INTEGRITY.

RULE YOUR OWN SPIRIT.

REMAIN SUBMITTED TO GOD.

TRUE LEADERSHIP ACCORDING TO GOD'S PURPOSE BEGINS WITH A LEADER WHO IS WILLING TO BE LED BY GOD.

By Edward-t Moises