

Connecting Love and Leadership

Detailed Outline

Part 2 of 6

II. Connecting Love and Leadership

A. Board elder tendencies

1. Sits on committees
2. Attends meetings
3. Makes decisions
4. Implements plans
5. Manages bookkeeping
6. Spends limited time with people

B. Shepherd elder tendencies

1. Loves being with people
2. Available
3. Has a deep sense of responsibility for the sheep
4. Hospitable, visits people in hospital, in the home
5. Knows the state of each sheep
6. Weeps with those who weep, rejoices with those who rejoice
7. Approachable, down to earth, transparent
8. Good people skills

C. Why is this so important a distinction?

1. The world we live in is starved for love; it desires men who are loving, kind, and approachable.
2. People are going to go where they feel loved, whether to us or to the cults.
3. People vote with their feet: they will go somewhere where they are loved.
4. A church can survive without very good preaching, but it can't survive long without love, and without loving leaders.
5. If you minister in love, you can never be considered a failure.
6. We are never more like God than when we are loving difficult people.

D. The results of leading with love

1. This pleases God.
2. Conflict will diminish when we lead with love.
3. Divisions will diminish. Only 2% of church divisions are due to doctrine. Most division results from the fact that we cannot get along with each other.

III. Love: The More Excellent Way (I Cor. 13:1-3)

And I will show you a still more excellent way. (1 Cor. 12:31b)

- A. Even Paul knew that with all his gifting, if he did not minister in love, it would all be in vain. There is something more important than supernatural gifts, being a great orator, or performing in front of your brothers and sisters.**
- B. Jesus told us to love others like he loved us, by laying down his life for the sheep.**

“There’s no use in trying to do church work without love. A doctor, a lawyer may do good work without love, but God’s work cannot be done without love.” D.L. Moody

- C. Imagine the Lord of the universe washing the disciples’ feet. Even more so, he showed his love to us by dying for us.**

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. (1 John 3:16)

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. (1 Cor. 13:1-3)

- D. Without love, even heavenly language sounds annoying (v. 1).**

1. Teaching without love is annoying.
2. Talent without love is annoying.
3. Zeal without love is annoying.
4. Skill without love is annoying.
5. Strategy and vision without love are annoying.