

Becoming a Bible-Reading Leader

Lecture Outline

Part 1 of 3

I. H_____ S_____ and the Elders' Q_____ for Eldership

This is why I left you in Crete so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you. . . . He must h_____ f_____ to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in s_____ d_____ and also to rebuke those who contradict it.
(Titus 1:9)

1. To qualify as an elder, a person must "hold firm to the t_____ w_____ as taught."

2. This starts with reading the w_____ of Scripture.

II. Holy Scripture and the Elder's P_____ G_____

1. Scripture r_____ Christ! We know nothing of Christ outside the Bible.

2. Scripture t_____ us into C_____.

A. It does this by the n_____ b_____.

B. It n_____ the new life in Christ.

Becoming a Bible-Reading Leader (continued)

Lecture Outline
Part 2 of 3

III. Holy Scripture and the Elders' W_____

1. P_____ the flock by the Word of God.

2. F_____ the people the Word of God.

3. L_____ God's people by the Word of God.

4. C_____ for the flock by the Word of God.

IV. P_____ H_____ for Reading Holy Scripture

1. Develop a p_____ for regular, d_____ Bible reading and study.

2. Create a p_____ and a t_____.
 - A. Have a r_____ place to read and study.

 - B. Have a q_____ place to read and study.

Becoming a Bible-Reading Leader, Part 3

Lecture Outline

Part 3 of 3

IV. P_____ H_____ for Reading Holy Scripture

1. Create a place and a time.

A. Establish a regular t_____ for your Bible reading.

2. Use a good, r_____ Bible and become f_____ with it.

3. R_____ -m_____ on the Bible.

Thomas Watson: *"The reason we come away so cold from reading the Word is because we do not warm ourselves on the f_____ of m_____."* *"The tree of your spiritual life thrives best with m_____ because it helps you absorb the w_____ of God's Word."*

4. Use Bible reading p_____.

5. L_____ to the Bible.

6. Have someone hold you a_____ for your Bible reading.

7. P_____ the Bible.

8. Be d_____ of the Word and not just r_____ of the Word.

Be doers of the word and not hearers only, d_____ yourself. If anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he's like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror, for he looks at himself and goes away and at once f_____ what he is like. (James 1:22-24)

Becoming a Memorizing Leader

Lecture Outline

Part 1 of 2

I. Introduction

Acts 13:22 (ESV) *"I [God] have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will."*

II. King David Provides the Greatest Motivational Example of Meditation

A. King David was a man who consistently centered his life on God's _____ - Ps. 19:7-14 (ESV)

B. The Word r_____ our soul (v. 7a)

C. The Word makes us w_____(v. 7b)

D. The Word anchors us to that which is e_____(v. 9a)

III. Specific Benefits of Memorization for Elders

A. Memorization allows the Word to dwell in us – r_____.

B. Memorization renews the mind – t_____.

C. Memorization helps us captivate "every thought" - o_____.

D. Memorization brings Scripture into our life and ministry – p_____.

E. Memorization fosters self-control in other areas of life – e_____.

Becoming a Memorizing Leader

Lecture Outline

Part 2 of 2

IV. Suggestions for the Discipline of Memorizing Scripture

- E. Take it with you when you go – Deuteronomy 6:7.
- F. Select appropriate Scripture.
- G. Review passages until you can remember them by heart. Don't give up.
- H. Set up accountability.

V. Road Blocks to Overcome

- A. I'm too old.
- B. It requires too much discipline.
- C. No time to fit in memorization.
- D. I forget what I memorize after a while.
- E. Sounds like a lot of work.

VI. Conclusion

Becoming a Praying Leader

Lecture Outline

Part 1 of 3

But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word. (Acts 6:4)

Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all persistence and sincerity. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints. (Eph. 6:18)

I. Always Be Committed in Your Prayer Life.

1. Pray often.

2. Watch and pray.

3. Pray Sincerely back to God.

4. Pray specific prayers.

5. Use a prayer g_____ or a prayer b_____.

6. Use h_____ and Christian s_____.

Becoming a Praying Leader (continued)

Lecture Outline

Part 2 of 3

II. Always Be in a S_____ of Prayer.

1. We are to be g_____ t_____ for all things at all times.

2. We are to c_____ s_____ right away.

3. We are to ask for w_____.

4. We are to i_____ for o_____.

5. We are to be in c_____ c_____ with God.

II. Always Be Praying in the P_____ of the S_____.

IV. Always Be W_____ and Pray.

To that end, keep a_____ with all perseverance and petition. (Eph. 6:18)

Becoming a Praying Leader (continued)

Lecture Outline

Part 3 of 3

V. Always Be Praying for O_____.

VI. Always Be Praying for M_____ and the G_____.

1. Paul wants to proclaim the mystery of the gospel with c_____ and with the right w_____ and c_____ (v. 19).

2. Paul wants to proclaim the mystery of the gospel with b_____ and c_____ (v. 20).

**VII. Practical Suggestions for Improving the Elders' P_____ Time
T_____:**

1. Use a p_____ g_____ for elders' meetings.

2. Appoint a prayer f_____.

3. Pray s_____ prayers.

4. Be a_____ and p_____ during the prayer time.

5. Use prayer r_____ c_____.

6. Break into s_____ g_____.

7. S_____ together.

8. Be s_____.

9. Be c_____ and e_____ in your prayer time.

10. E_____ your prayer time together.

*“When a man is speaking to God, he is at his very a_____. It is the highest achievement of the human soul and therefore it is at the same time the ultimate t_____ of a man’s true spiritual condition. There is nothing that tells the truth about us as Christian people so much as our prayer life. Everything we do in Christian living is e_____ than prayer.” (D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Studies in the Sermon on the Mount*, 2 vols., 2:46)*

An Elder's Personal Life and Growth

Lecture Outline

Part 1 of 3

Pay careful attention to y_____ and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. (Acts 20:28)

I. Guard Yourself.

Keep a close watch on y_____ and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will s_____ both yourself and your hearers. (1 Tim. 4:16)

1. Guard what you r_____.
2. Guard who you l_____ to.
3. Guard your p_____ l_____.
4. Guard against u_____ s_____.
5. Guard your life from w_____ that will i_____ the Christian race.

Lay aside every w_____, and s_____ which clings so closely, and let us run with e_____ the race that is set before us. (Heb. 12:1)

6. Guard your s_____ life, your m_____, and your c_____.

7. Guard your l_____ for God.

8. Guard your g_____ in Christ: always be g_____, l_____, and constantly m_____.

II. The Biblical M_____ to G_____ in Christ

1. 1 Timothy 4:7-8

Rather t_____ yourself for g_____; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in e_____ w_____, as it holds the promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

2. 1 Timothy 4:15

Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that a_____ may see your p_____.

An Elder's Personal Life and Growth (continued)

Lecture Outline

Part 2 of 3

II. The Biblical Mandate to Grow in Christ (cont.)

3. 2 Corinthians 4:16

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.

4. Philippians 3:13-14

But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

5. 1 Peter 2:2

Like newborn infants, long [or crave] for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow up into salvation.

6. 2 Peter 3:18

But g_____ in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

7. Hebrews 5:11-12

About [Christ's high priestly ministry] we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become d_____ of h_____. For though by this time, you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need m_____, not s_____ f_____.

III. Growing Christians I_____ O_____ for God.

Oswald Chambers: "Leadership is i_____."

An Elder's Personal Life and Growth (continued)

Lecture Outline

Part 3 of 3

IV. Practical Ideas for a Leader's Growth in Christ

1. Pray for a d_____ to grow and mature.

2. Protect your p_____ life.

But we will devote ourselves to p_____ and to the ministry of the w_____. (Acts 6:4)

3. Protect your B_____ time.

Let the word of Christ d_____ in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another. (Col. 3:16)

4. Listen to a_____ m_____.

5. Go to good c_____.

6. Raise your c_____ about the world around you.

Therefore, be a_____, remembering that for three years I did not see night or day to admonish each one with tears. (Acts 20:31)

7. Watch for d_____.

8. Be concerned about your ongoing e_____ as a Christian leader and an eldership group.

The Elder's Spiritual Life

An Elder's Motivation

Lecture Outline
Part 1 of 2

Introduction

I. The Motivating Power of Christ's Love and Sacrifice

For the love of Christ c_____ us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for t_____ but for h_____ who for their sake died and was raised. (2 Cor. 5:14-15)

So that you . . . may have strength to c_____ with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of Christ's love], and to k_____ the l_____ of C_____ that surpasses knowledge. (Eph. 3:17-19)

You are not y_____ o_____, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. (1 Cor. 6:19-20)

An Elder's Motivation

Lecture Outline

Part 2 of 2

II. The Motivating Power of the V_____ of God's F_____

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for [to shepherd] the c_____ of God, which he obtained with his o_____ b_____. (Acts 20:28)

1. It is the C_____ of G_____.

2. It was obtained with C_____ o_____ b_____.