



2.04 - UPSIDE DOWN versus TRADITIONAL LEADERSHIP

(2.04 - UPSIDE DOWN versus TRADITIONAL Leadership)

1. The Pyramid Principal.

(Scriptures from KJV)

A. Basic TRADITIONAL Leadership structure in the World.



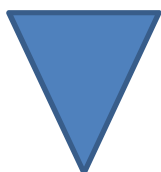
1. CEO (Employer)
2. Managers
3. Supervisors
4. Employees

B. Basic TRADITIONAL Leadership structure in the Church.



1. Bishops
2. Senior Pastors
3. Pastors
4. Body of Christ (Believers)

C. UPSIDE DOWN Leadership as designed by the Word of God.



1. Body of Christ (Believers)
2. Pastors
3. Senior Pastors
4. Bishops

The Foundation scripture from The Word of God for confirming - UPSIDE DOWN Leadership as follows;

Eph.4:11-12

¹¹ *And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,* ¹² *for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, (AMPC)*

The Fivefold Ministry.

1. The original design by God and His Word was that the Fivefold ministries positions were put into ministry to “train and equip” the “Body of Christ” (the Believers) to do the work of the ministry.
2. To be effective and fulfil Eph.4:11-12, the Fivefold ministries must take the example of the UPSIDE DOWN Leadership structure found in “(C) to serve and not to be served”.
3. The apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers have been equipped with “Talents and Abilities” by God and not by self, and then empowered with the “Anointing” for one reason and that is to develop and mature the believer.
4. Jesus was and is the true example of Leadership – He came to serve and not to be served. He trained and equipped His twelve Apostles to do the work of the ministry. He came under His team and lifted them up to their full potential.



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- Our thinking as ministers must change from the traditional view point of “reigning over the Body of Christ – (B)” to “serving and coming under to lift up – (C)”, this requires a servant heart attitude of humility and a breaking of pride within ourselves.

2. Becoming a Person of No Reputation – the Key to Ministry!

- If you want to go up in the kingdom of God, you must first go down, the higher the position the greater degree of humility that is required to serve in that position, it is also called “dying to self”– John 3:30; Mar.9:35; Phil.2:7-8!
- A leader in the world (public servant) is put into position and empowered by the people on behalf of the people whereas a Leader in the Body of Christ (servant of God) is put into position and empowered by God to do His will, serve the Body of Christ, and to build His Kingdom – in both cases both Leaders are still servants.

In Germany they have a saying that when a person is classed as a “nobody” they are called a “Null” meaning a “zero” - a person of no reputation. Becoming a person of no reputation is the Key to serving God as well as advancing in His Kingdom.

We see the perfect example of this in three places, 1st in the ministry of John the Baptist and 2nd in the Ministry of Jesus

John the Baptist Exalts Christ.

John 3:30

³⁰ *He must increase, but I must decrease. (KJV)*

Who Is the Greatest?

Mark 9:35

³⁵ *And he sat down, and called the twelve, and said unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all. (KJV)*

The Humbled and Exalted Christ.

Phil.2:7-8

⁷ *But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. (KJV)*

- Keeping a position of no reputation in our heart keeps us in a position of humility and prevents us from going into pride. Through the position of humility God can trust us with more responsibility and power without those things corrupting us. God does not humble us, we are to do this.

1 Pet.5:6

⁶ *Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: (KJV)*

Jam.4:10

¹⁰ *Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. (KJV)*



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3. How to Become a Person of no Reputation!

Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane:

Matt.26:39

³⁹ *And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as you will. (KJV)*

- Jesus only did and said what His Father said and did.
- Jesus did the will of His Father and not His own will!

Personal Testimony:

I can remember a situation where I had just completed teaching in a bible school and then went back to my room to put my notes away. As I turned back towards the door to leave my room the Holy Spirit spoke into my spirit, in that still small voice (not an audible voice to my ears) and said, "Will you make yourself of no reputation" and nothing more. I said Lord I have trying to build a reputation up for years in ministry and you just want me to drop it and become of no reputation? I had trouble for some minutes to accept what the Lord wanted as I could not see any sense in the request. Finally the Holy Spirit spoke again and said, "Jesus did!" I said yes Lord I will make myself of no reputation! Then again the Holy Spirit spoke to me and said, "now you are free, and I can work through you more than before". I then received revelation of what He meant, I was now free from the works and pressure of trying to build up my reputation and then to keep it keep up, there was no more competition of trying to be like another minister, He would build it up and keep it up for me! Secondly He could now flow through me in ministry because I was now coming back to be as He had created me to be – flowing in harmony with His will.

Phil.2:7-8

⁷ *But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:* ⁸ *And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. (KJV)*

4. True Unity through having No Reputation!

In every city throughout the world often there are Ministers or Pastors with a mind set to be the number "1" minister or Pastor, to have the number "1" church, or to be the number "1" ministry. This sounds good but in reality, it is a block to God, His plans in a city and the working of His Holy Spirit.

Often it is said that Jesus is number "1" but in reality everybody else is trying to be number "1" in their city. True unity of the Body of Christ will occur when all ministers (servants of God) become a "0", of no reputation and let God have His way.

How can Jesus be number "1" if everyone else is trying to be number "1", it is not possible! It is only as we become a "0" that He can truly take His place and become number "1".

Example:

1+1+1=3= (Jesus + Pastor + Pastor) - Pastors building their own reputation.

1+0+0=1= (Jesus + Pastor + Pastor) - Pastors taking the new position of no reputation.



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When we become a “0” we are given true value as we stand next to Jesus, our worth is not trying to be a number “1” but by becoming a “0”!

“1”+0 =10 --- “1”+0+0=100 --- “1”+0+0+0=1000 --- as more ministers stand beside each other of no reputation, their value grows.

Results of no reputation:

- Jesus takes His place as Head of the Church on the earth.
- The Holy Spirit can speak to all ministers/Pastors and co-ordinate the one plan of God.
- There is no more competition in the Body of Christ.
- Every minister can be themselves as God meant them to be.
- Our strengths, talents and abilities can be united to serve each other.

5. Ministers to bring others into their God given Plans!

Jer.29:11

¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. (KJV)

- All people have a God given plan within themselves, a vision, a hope and a future. They are discovered when a person is “Born-again” where God reveals to the person what they are.
- As ministers of the Gospel we often think that people are sent to our churches to fulfil our vision first but in reality God sends them to our church so that we can train and equip them, discover their spiritual gifts, and to allow them to practice their ministry gifts.
- We are to bring them into their vision first and in time our own vision will be fulfilled by God as we are faithful to fulfil theirs **Gal.6:7**.
- As pastors of a church we must remember that the sheep (believers), belong to God and He directs when and where they should go, pastors are in reality managers of His sheep.
- God will speak directly to the believer first and if necessary give a confirmation through another person or the pastor. **John 10:3-5**
- As ministers we are not to hold believers back from coming into their callings, but with guidance and good advice, give them every opportunity possible to come into and to do ministry – again Jesus is the example.
- Often Ministers may feel that their positions and ministries are threatened by younger believers but be assured that the position and vision that God has given to the minister can not be copied or duplicated but can be given away or transferred to somebody else if the minister does not want it. The following scripture shows what does happen in the minds and hearts of some servants of God – **this should not be!**



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3John 1:9-10 (The Apostle John)

⁹ I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, **who loves to have the pre-eminence (first) among them**, does not receive us. ¹⁰ Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church. (NKJV)

6. The Vision!

The Jigsaw Puzzle - A vision given to me by the Lord some years ago to explain the above principal.

The Lord showed me a picture of a large Jigsaw Puzzle that was divided into billions of pieces, very similar to that of a children's jigsaw puzzle. The picture I received was the "Plan of God" that He had made and that we as believers and ministers were to follow and do.

The pieces of the puzzle were unique, single and one of a kind and could not be copied, duplicated or stolen. The puzzle was then broken up in the vision into pieces for 1st continents, 2nd countries, 3rd cities, 4th churches, 5th ministries, 6th ministers, 7th finally believers. Finally every believer and ministry had pieces or a piece of the puzzle.

Then the Lord gave me the revelation and meaning of the jigsaw puzzle vision as follows;

- The JIGZAW PUZZLE vision was His Plan for the earth – the one & only plan and no other!
- As ministers it is not up to us to develop our own idea or vision but to simply ask God for our piece of the puzzle, His plan for our lives and ministry that we are to fulfil.
- Attached to our piece of the puzzle are all the provisions needed to make it successful, we just need to pray it and the provisions into the natural by FAITH.
- Because our piece of the puzzle is unique and can not be copied, duplicated or stolen then there is no more competition in the Body of Christ, I can not do your ministry and you can not do mine. What God gives He will protect!
- As the pieces in a child's jigsaw puzzle inter lock to the next adjacent piece, above and below also, so our piece of God's plan has been designed to inter lock to other ministries – in other words we all fit together to help each other achieve God's plan for the earth and not our own man made plans.
- It is called "networking" – a term that is used often in the world and in business. In this system people and companies join their strengths, talents, abilities and even finances and network together to increase their chances for success. The more they network together the greater the strength.



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- So it must be in the Kingdom of God, believers and ministries must “network together” to increase in strength to accomplish the plan of God here in the earth as no one person or ministry has it all.
- A house divided will fall but the opposite is also true – a house that is not divided will stand and not fall.

Mark 3:24-25

²⁴ *And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand. (KJV)*

A Final Word about UPSIDE DOWN versus TRADITIONAL Leadership.

This style of leadership may be very difficult for many church leaders to accept let alone conform or change to, but it is necessary as Jesus showed by His example in ministry and the Word of God says that we are to be conformed into the image of His Son (Rom.8:28-30).

The mind-set of a minister of the Gospel no matter what level of leadership he or she is in from a Bishop to a Pastor to a home group leader to a Sunday school teacher, should be from the view point of how they can make their ceiling level (present position) of their ministry become the floor level (starting point) of another believer or new believer. This takes courage, humbleness of the heart and mind together with trust in the Lord!

Have you the courage to make the change?

Then “TEACH” more than you preach the Word of God!

This is how we, THE CHURCH, GROW!

JESUS IS LORD!