

Life leadership

= leading your life by proactively making wise choices that matter most to you and to God.

Life leadership

= leading your life by proactively making wise choices of grace & truth that matter most to you and to God.

What is the basic human need that life leadership must fulfill?

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"To love & to be loved"

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"To love & to be loved" must be the governing principle for our everyday life activities and relationships in order for our lives to be healthy, meaningful, and fulfilling.

- "To love" = to give love = to show our love to God & others
- "To be loved" = to receive love = to accept love from God & others

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a. To connect with God (Gen 1:26; 2:16, 18; 3:8-9)
Out of our relationship with God comes our relationship with one another.
When we have right relationship with God, we'll want to have right relationship with people by treating them as God wants us to.

Genesis 1:26-27

²⁶ Then God said, "<u>Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness</u>. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image; he created him in the image of God; he created them male and female.

Genesis 2:16-25

¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die." ¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper corresponding to him." ¹⁹ The LORD God formed out of the ground every wild animal and every bird of the sky, and brought each to the man to see what he would call it. And whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all the livestock, to the birds of the sky, and to every wild animal; but for the man no helper was found corresponding to him.

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Genesis 3:8-9

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ So <u>the</u> LORD God called out to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

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b. To connect with one another (Gen 2:18, 24)

= deeper than companionship; it's unity & harmony deep down in our souls. It's complementing one another yet appreciating our differences.

To talk & to understand;

To be there for one another

Genesis 2:16-25

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²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to come over the man, and he slept. God took one of his ribs and closed the flesh at that place.

²² Then the LORD God made the rib he had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ And the man said:

This one, at last, is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh; this one will be called "woman," for she was taken from man.

²⁴ This is why a man leaves his father and mother and <u>bonds with</u> <u>his wife</u>, and they become one flesh. ²⁵ Both the man and his wife were naked, yet felt no shame.

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- a. To connect with God (Gen 1:26; 2:16, 18; 3:8-9)
- b. To connect with one another (Gen 2:18, 24)

c. To support one another (Gen 2:18, 25)

= total openness but not to be shamed, no guilt, no fear, no separation.

To accept & to be accepted, to encouraged & to be encouraged,

To forgive & to be forgiven

Genesis 2:16-25

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We need to love others & to be loved by others.

Other people need to love us & to be loved by us.

Yet, we need to love in a way that the other person can feel it.

This basic need must be met in order for our lives to be a healthy whole (spiritually, emotionally, mentally, even physically). Life leadership means that we pro-actively make right choices to fulfill this need because it matters most to God and to us.

If what we're doing with our lives is not fulfilling this need for ourselves and for others, then we're going down the wrong path.

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2. "To love & to be loved" needs to be learned & practiced

- a. e.g. Think of an activity that you did in the past week. Did you do it because of loving someone or wanting to be loved by someone? Now, try to think of doing the same activity from the perspective of loving someone or allowing someone to love you. What difference does it make?
- b. Verbally tell people how to treat you.
- c. Verbally ask people how they want to be treated.

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- d. All these are difficult to do because they require us to change our normal ways of life & communication, namely our sinful ways.
 - Jesus Christ's salvation has freed us from sin's power and restored our relationship with God, therefore has empowered us to restore our relationship with one another to love & to be loved again.
- e. e.g."I just love it into him."

Conclusion

Why do we make the effort to do all these?

- Because we're created by God to love & to be loved.
- But, not only you, the other person also.
- He/she also need your love and need you to show him/her how to love you.

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Sharing & Praying Together

Think of an activity that you did with someone this past week (happy or unhappy). What could you have done differently in order to help you connect or support one another better?

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