

Need more leaders?? Doesn't every church??

What would it look like to have enough faithful servant leaders to serve the local church and other leaders prepared to release into other works as the Holy Spirit led? Faithful servant leaders are very critical for effective ministry multiplication. There never seems to be enough! Ephesians 4 makes it very clear that the training and preparing of God's people for works of service is one of the main callings of the pastors and teachers, which would certainly include the training of servant leaders. Therefore, we as, pastor, teachers, and leaders need to be raising up and discipling servant leaders continually.

Faithful servant leaders are followers of Jesus who personally know God and how to accurately handle His Word, are living and maturing in Godly Christ-like character, and are competent in their needed ministry skills. The key to their maturity is transformation by the Holy Spirit through training in a disciple-making relationship. Let me share some tools that I have found helpful. To know God and his word, there is no substitute for personal time in the Bible itself with discussion. Discovering the Bible by Gordon Addington is a good tool to get people going through the Bible annually. The Leader's Guide is very helpful to lead effective group discussion. Leadership as an Identity by Crawford W. Loritts, Jr. shares some very practical principles that God uses for personal character transformation that will grow up the servant leaders, and keep them faithful in God's service. Church Based Training (CBT) is a good option to assist your development of leaders and their training in ministry skills competencies. Two that I have found very helpful are the Center for Church Based Training www.ccbt.org and BILD International www.bild.org. Some churches are using this material as equipping training which assists in growing a new leader's pool.

Servant leadership multiplication is very important for the advancement of the Kingdom of God. Pastor, what men are you pouring your life into regularly so that you can reproduce yourself? How much of your time is spent in disciple-making relationship with these future leaders?