

**INJOY
LIFE
CLUB™**

Listening to Leaders. . .

Learning from their Lives

Dr. John C. Maxwell

Vol 14 No 8

February 1999

The Law of Reproduction:

"It Takes a Leader to Raise up a Leader"

~ *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*

We Teach What We Know. But We Reproduce What We Are.

Advice from *Challenge 1000* Leaders:

Johnny Hunt: "Initiate — don't react. Don't wait for your church to be what you want it to be . . . make it what you are."

Ken Alford: "God will make up the difference. Any old bush will do if God is in it."

Conrad Lowe: "Be a life-long learner."

Dan Relland: "Take time to build the team."

Tom Mullens: "Every game is a big game!"

Wayne Schmidt: "The Wisdom Principle: 'Good planning always costs less than good reacting.' You never have to recover from a good start."

Bill Sullivan: "God has great plans for you. His belief in you should be the motivation to keep you going and growing."

Gerald Brooks: "Every level of growth calls for a new level of change."

Jim Garlow: "Creativity will capture the attention of your city."

Mike Burns: "You do the possible. Let God do the impossible."

Ron Stewart: "The price of change is determined by the process of change."

Bill Purvis: "If you do what you can with what you have where you are . . . God won't leave you where you are, and He will increase what you have."

**For Information on *Challenge 1000* or the *Young Leaders' Conference*,
Call 800-333-6506, Ext 305.**

Common Characteristics of the Challenge 1000 Speakers:

Every Leader . . .

1. Sensed a Definite _____ To Their Church.

"You have to steer a career, but a calling drives you.

~ Unknown

"A calling is the truth that God calls us to himself so decisively that everything we are, everything we do, and everything we have, is invested with a special devotion to his summons and service."

~ Os Guinness, *The Call*

Characteristics of a Called Leader:

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| (1) _____ | (6) _____ |
| (2) _____ | (7) _____ |
| (3) _____ | (8) _____ |
| (4) _____ | (9) _____ |
| (5) _____ | (10) _____ |

"The final aim of life is placed beyond life."

~ Alexis de Tocqueville, *Ages of Faith*

"The thing is to understand myself, to see what God really wants me to do; the thing is to find a truth which is true for me, to find the *idea for which I can live and die.*"

~ SorenKierkegaard

Every Leader . . .

2. Had a _____ for His Ministry.

"You are nothing unless it comes from your heart. Passion, caring, really looking to create excellence. If you perform functions only and go to work only to do processes, then you are effectively retired. And it scares me—most people I see, by age 28, are retired . . .

"If you go to work only to fulfill the processes and functions then you are a machine. You have to bring passion, commitment and caring—then you are a human being."

~ Horst Schultze, COO of Ritz-Carlton Hotels

"Have you ever passed through the furnace and been taught by the Spirit of God that your natural gifts go for naught unless you have the fire of heaven in your soul? You can't go on heavenly missions without heavenly fire."
~ Unknown

Passion Is The Difference-Maker.

Passion Has Allowed Me to . . .

- (1) _____ things I would never have believed.
- (2) _____ things I would never have felt.
- (3) _____ things I would never have attempted.
- (4) _____ things I would never have accomplished.
- (5) _____ people I would never have met.
- (6) _____ with people I would never have connected with.
- (7) _____ people I would never have motivated.
- (8) _____ people I would never have led.

"Don't put live eggs under dead chickens."

~ Howard Hendricks

Every Leader . . .

3. Possessed the Gift of _____.

Leadership that believes God is a common characteristic of growing churches.

"Jesus said, 'According to your faith will it be done for you.'"

~ Matthew 9:29

The Faith Factor:

Many factors influence your leadership which you have no control over: your background, nationality, age, giftedness. These were determined by the sovereignty of God. *But there is one important factor you do have control over: How much you choose to believe God!*

God Puts No Limitation on Faith; Faith Puts No Limitation on God!

Every Leader . . .

4. Continued their Ministry in Spite of _____.

"And let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up."

~ Galatians 6:9

"Being defeated is often a temporary condition. Giving up is what makes it permanent."

~ Marilyn vos Savant

"The power to hold on in spite of everything, the power to endure— this is the winner's quality. Persistence is the ability to face defeat again and again without giving up—to push on in the face of great difficulty, knowing that victory can be yours. Persistence means taking pains to overcome every obstacle, and to do what's necessary to reach your goals."

~ Unknown

In 1862, in the midst of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln was under attack from all sides: the enemy, the North, the press, his own cabinet, the populace. But in those dark days, Lincoln said, "I expect to maintain this contest until successful, or 'til I die or am conquered, or my term expires, or Congress or the county forsakes me."

**The Major Difference Between Achieving People and Average People
Is Their Response to Failure.**

5. Placed a High Priority on their Personal _____.

"Many church size barriers are really self barriers."

~ Wayne Schmidt

How to Be a Life-Long Learner:

(1) Start with your _____.

The heart is mentioned more than 700 times in Scripture. Life-long learning begins with a heart that desires change, wisdom, and application. Are you inviting God to change you, or do you resist change because it's uncomfortable?

(2) Ask _____.

Learners ask good questions. They possess an insatiable curiosity — a longing to know, discover, inquire. Ask questions that get below the surface. Examine your **assumptions and beliefs; place them under the scrutiny of Scripture.**

(3) _____.

Learning should be a team sport, not an individual quest. Collaborative learning — in classes, small groups, with friends and colleagues — allows us to benefit from diverse perspectives and approaches. People are a gold mine of learning that is tapped through conversation.

(4) Check out the _____.

Take time to examine and understand another point of view, even if it radically contradicts yours. You may see things in a new light, or you may have your old convictions strengthened. Personal convictions that have never been tested remain flabby.

(5) Buy into the value of _____ growth.

The Law of Process: Leaders Develop Daily, Not in a Day.

(6) _____ what you learn.

Our depth of understanding is often directly related to our ability to apply what we've learned. Application takes knowledge from the head to the heart.

"Most of us plateau when we lose the tension between where we are and where we ought to be."
~ John Gardiner

Every Leader . . .

6. Experienced a Time of _____ in His/Her Life.

"The man God chooses to use, He must first hurt him very deeply."
~ A.W. Tozer

We Relate to God on Four Different Levels:

(1) The _____ Level

(2) The _____ Level

(3) The _____ Level

(4) The _____ Level

"God is not found in the soul by adding anything, but by a process of subtraction."
~ Meister Eckhart, quoted in *Sacred Moments*

Treasures
by Martha Snell Nicholson

One by one He took them from me,
All the things I valued most,
Until I was empty-handed;
Every glittering toy was lost.

And I walked earth's highways, grieving,
In my rags and poverty.
Till I heard His voice inviting,
"Lift those empty hands to Me!"
So I held my hands toward Heaven,
And He filled them with a store
Of His own transcendent riches
Till they could contain no more.

And at last I comprehended
With my stupid mind and dull,
That God *could* not pour His riches
Into hands already full!

"Breakthrough happened around me when break-up happened within me." ~ Jack Hayford