

### Theme: Leadership

**Day 1** Deuteronomy 1:9-18  
(Moses) Leading means dividing the tasks and carrying the burden together

<sup>9</sup>At that time I said to you, “You are too heavy a burden for me to carry alone. <sup>10</sup>The LORD your God has increased your numbers so that today you are as numerous as the stars in the sky. <sup>11</sup>May the LORD, the God of your ancestors, increase you a thousand times and bless you as he has promised! <sup>12</sup>But how can I bear your problems and your burdens and your disputes all by myself? <sup>13</sup>Choose some wise, understanding and respected men from each of your tribes, and I will set them over you.”

<sup>14</sup>You answered me, “What you propose to do is good.”

<sup>15</sup>So I took the leading men of your tribes, wise and respected men, and appointed them to have authority over you—as commanders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens and as tribal officials. <sup>16</sup>And I charged your judges at that time, “Hear the disputes between your people and judge fairly, whether the case is between two Israelites or between an Israelite and a foreigner residing among you. <sup>17</sup>Do not show partiality in judging; hear both small and great alike. Do not be afraid of anyone, for judgment belongs to God. Bring me any case too hard for you, and I will hear it.” <sup>18</sup>And at that time I told you everything you were to do.

**Day 2** Mark 10:42-45  
(Jesus) Leading means setting the example in serving

<sup>42</sup>Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. <sup>43</sup>Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup>and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

**Day 3** 1 Corinthians 9:24-27  
(Paul) Leaders are goal-directed and stick to the rules

<sup>24</sup>Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. <sup>25</sup>Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

<sup>26</sup>Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. <sup>27</sup>No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

**Day 4** Revelation 1:5-20  
Christ as the Sovereign Leader is present and active in the midst of the congregations

<sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

<sup>7</sup>“Look, he is coming with the clouds,” and “every eye will see him, even those who pierced him”; and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.” So shall it be! Amen.

<sup>8</sup>“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

<sup>9</sup>I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup>On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, <sup>11</sup>which said: “Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.”

<sup>12</sup>I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup>and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup>The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. <sup>15</sup>His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. <sup>16</sup>In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

<sup>17</sup>When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup>I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

<sup>19</sup>“Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later. <sup>20</sup>The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Day 5 <sup>BS</sup> Acts 20:17-38

(Paul) Elders are shepherds and overseers

<sup>17</sup>From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. <sup>18</sup>When they arrived, he said to them: “You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. <sup>19</sup>I served the Lord with great humility and with tears and in the midst of severe testing by the plots of my Jewish opponents. <sup>20</sup>You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house. <sup>21</sup>I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.

<sup>22</sup>“And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. <sup>23</sup>I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. <sup>24</sup>However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.

<sup>25</sup>“Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again.

<sup>26</sup>Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of any of you. <sup>27</sup>For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God. <sup>28</sup>Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. <sup>29</sup>I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. <sup>30</sup>Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. <sup>31</sup>So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

<sup>32</sup>“Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. <sup>33</sup>I have not coveted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing. <sup>34</sup>You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. <sup>35</sup>In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

<sup>36</sup>When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. <sup>37</sup>They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him. <sup>38</sup>What grieved them most was his statement that they would never see his face again. Then they accompanied him to the ship.

Day 6 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

(Paul) Elders must walk in front in serving others

<sup>12</sup>Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. <sup>13</sup>Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. <sup>14</sup>And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. <sup>15</sup>Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray continually, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

Day 7 Isaiah 8:5-20

(Ahaz) Leaders must not make plans together with the wrong allies

<sup>5</sup>The LORD spoke to me again:

<sup>6</sup>“Because this people has rejected the gently flowing waters of Shiloah and rejoices over Rezin and the son of Remaliah,

<sup>7</sup>therefore the Lord is about to bring against them the mighty floodwaters of the Euphrates—the king of Assyria with all his pomp.

It will overflow all its channels, run over all its banks

<sup>8</sup>and sweep on into Judah, swirling over it, passing through it and reaching up to the neck. Its outspread wings will cover the breadth of your land, Immanuel!”

<sup>9</sup>Raise the war cry, you nations, and be shattered! Listen, all you distant lands.

Prepare for battle, and be shattered! Prepare for battle, and be shattered!

<sup>10</sup>Devise your strategy, but it will be thwarted; propose your plan, but it will not stand, for God is with us.

<sup>11</sup>This is what the LORD says to me with his strong hand upon me, warning me not to follow the way of this people:

<sup>12</sup>“Do not call conspiracy everything this people calls a conspiracy; do not fear what they fear, and do not dread it.

<sup>13</sup>The LORD Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy, he is the one you are to fear, he is the one you are to dread.

<sup>14</sup>He will be a holy place; for both Israel and Judah he will be a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall. And for the people of Jerusalem he will be a trap and a snare.

<sup>15</sup>Many of them will stumble; they will fall and be broken, they will be snared and captured.”

<sup>16</sup>Bind up this testimony of warning and seal up God’s instruction among my disciples.

<sup>17</sup>I will wait for the LORD, who is hiding his face from the descendants of Jacob. I will put my trust in him.

<sup>18</sup>Here am I, and the children the LORD has given me. We are signs and symbols in Israel from the LORD Almighty, who dwells on Mount Zion.

<sup>19</sup>When someone tells you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? <sup>20</sup>Consult God’s instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn.

Day 8 Isaiah 30:1-5  
(Hezekiah) Leaders must not make plans without consulting God (cf. Isaiah 31:1-3)

<sup>1</sup>“Woe to the obstinate children,” declares the LORD,

“to those who carry out plans that are not mine, forming an alliance, but not by my Spirit, heaping sin upon sin;

<sup>2</sup>who go down to Egypt without consulting me; who look for help to Pharaoh’s protection, to Egypt’s shade for refuge.

<sup>3</sup>But Pharaoh’s protection will be to your shame, Egypt’s shade will bring you disgrace.

<sup>4</sup>Though they have officials in Zoan and their envoys have arrived in Hanes,

<sup>5</sup>everyone will be put to shame because of a people useless to them, who bring neither help nor advantage, but only shame and disgrace.”

<sup>1</sup>Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, or seek help from the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>Yet he too is wise and can bring disaster; he does not take back his words. He will rise up against that wicked nation, against those who help evildoers.

<sup>3</sup>But the Egyptians are mere mortals and not God; their horses are flesh and not spirit.

When the LORD stretches out his hand, those who help will stumble, those who are helped will fall; all will perish together.

Day 9 2 Chronicles 20:11-23  
(Jehoshaphat) Leaders who depend completely on God may count on God’s victory

<sup>11</sup>See how they are repaying us by coming to drive us out of the possession you gave us as an inheritance. <sup>12</sup>Our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.”

<sup>13</sup>All the men of Judah, with their wives and children and little ones, stood there before the LORD.

<sup>14</sup>Then the Spirit of the LORD came on Jahaziel son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite and descendant of Asaph, as he stood in the assembly.

<sup>15</sup>He said: “Listen, King Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and Jerusalem! This is what the LORD says to you: ‘Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God’s. <sup>16</sup>Tomorrow march down against them. They will be climbing up by the Pass of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the gorge in the Desert of Jeruel. <sup>17</sup>You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the LORD will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the LORD will be with you.’”

<sup>18</sup>Jehoshaphat bowed down with his face to the ground, and all the people of Judah and Jerusalem fell down in worship before the LORD. <sup>19</sup>Then some Levites from the Kohathites and Korahites stood up and praised the LORD, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice.

<sup>20</sup>Early in the morning they left for the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the LORD your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful.” <sup>21</sup>After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the LORD and to praise him for the splendor of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying: “Give thanks to the LORD, for his love endures forever.”

<sup>22</sup>As they began to sing and praise, the LORD set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated. <sup>23</sup>The Ammonites and Moabites rose up against the men from Mount Seir to destroy and annihilate them. After they finished slaughtering the men from Seir, they helped to destroy one another.

Day 10 Daniel 6:1-11

(Daniel) Leaders must be irrepachable, even when they are under attack

<sup>1</sup> It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom, <sup>2</sup> with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss.

<sup>3</sup> Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.

<sup>4</sup> At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. <sup>5</sup> Finally these men said, “We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God.”

<sup>6</sup> So these administrators and satraps went as a group to the king and said: “May King Darius live forever! <sup>7</sup> The royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisers and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to any god or human being during the next thirty days, except to you, Your Majesty, shall be thrown into the lions’ den.

<sup>8</sup> Now, Your Majesty, issue the decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered—in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed.” <sup>9</sup> So King Darius put the decree in writing.

<sup>10</sup> Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. <sup>11</sup> Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help.