

Cohort Group Leader's Guide

The Art of Pacesetting Leadership



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OVERVIEW

1. Group Sessions: 30—60 minutes
2. Get each member of the group involved
3. You may have to respectfully encourage a shy member's participation
4. Do not allow one person to dominate the discussion
5. These are some suggested discussion topics for your cohort group

SESSION 1: QUALITIES OF A MASTER LEVEL LEADER

1. What are some important ways a leader can develop trust?
2. Try to list a few master level leaders you know. What sets them apart from second level or superficial leaders?
3. Discuss the four stages to master level leadership: 1. The anointing; 2. Preparation by study; 3. Preparation by practice; 4. The appointing.
4. Which of the seven pacesetting qualities of master level leadership spoke to you the most?

SESSION 2: PREREQUISITES FOR MASTER LEVEL LEADERSHIP

1. Have you ever known anyone who serves in a way that does not draw attention to him or herself?
2. Have you ever tried to serve in a way you were not called to serve? How did it turn out? How did you feel as you served?
3. Discuss the three legs of the Christian master level leader's stool: 1. Servant's heart; 2. Teachable attitude; 3. Desire to ever draw closer to Jesus.
4. How will you draw closer to Jesus in the days ahead?

SESSION 3: ARE YOU AUTHENTIC OR SYNTHETIC?

1. What is the difference between "working for the Kingdom," and "working from the Kingdom?"
2. Can you think of some authentic ministries you've observed? How about synthetic? Do you notice a difference?
3. Why do you think God's first command to man was to "be fruitful?"
4. Can you think of some ways you may have stunted the growth of your life, project, enterprise, church, or group? What are you going to do about it?

SESSION 4: THE KIND OF LEADER GOD IS LOOKING FOR



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1. Have you ever felt like you are just not “perfect enough” for God to use you? Did today’s session bring hope to your life?
2. Do you have a special “sanctified” spot where you read and study God’s Word and other books? Do you use highlighters and pens?
3. How organized is your study time? Have you developed a plan to organize your knowledge?
4. Why do you suppose that reliability is far more important than ability?

SESSION 5: PROPER ATTITUDES FOR LEADERSHIP

1. Can you think of examples where a person’s inner kingdom eventually became their outer kingdom?
2. Why do attitudes affect every area of life?
3. Look over the list of identifiers of wrong attitudes in your manual. Discuss times you may have exhibited one or more of those behaviors, and tell how you plan to prevent it in the future.
4. Discuss some of the dangers to your mind and tell why it’s critically important to guard against “thought enemies.”

SESSION 6: RENOVATING YOUR MIND FOR SUCCESS

1. Discuss the illustration of your life on auto-pilot and how the programming affects your direction.
2. Can you think of a building that was totally renovated? When you saw it, what did you think? Apply this to renovating your mind.
3. Why do you think it’s important to go after everything like you are going to succeed? Can you think of time when you went after something only half-heartedly?
4. Why do you think it’s important to speak your new thoughts out loud?

SESSION 7: THE DYNAMIC POWER OF VISION

1. True faith sees the invisible. Talk about some times in your life when you actually saw on the inside the results you wanted in a situation.
2. Do you consider yourself to be a creative person? What are some ways of developing creativity?
3. Look at the four types of people listed in your manual. Where do fit in? Why? What category do you plan to fit into in the future?
4. Project yourself out ten years from now. Write down the date. How do you see yourself? What have you achieved? Where do you live? What are you doing? How is your spiritual life, attitudinal life, and practical life? What skills do you possess?

SESSION 8: FAITH GOALS



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1. Go over the top reasons people don't reach their goals. Do you have any of these reasons active in your life?
2. What is the difference between a vision and a faith goal?
3. Have you taken time to set faith goals for your life?
4. Discuss the rules for setting faith goals (found in your student manual) and discuss them as a group.

SESSION 9: DISTRESS SIGNALS

1. Do you have any of the symptoms of being over-stressed? Which ones can you identify with?
2. Do you know anyone who is cynical and negative? Do you think it may be an enormous amount of distress?
3. Look at the methods of coping with frustrations (found in your student manual) and talk about times you faced a stressful situation and how you handled it
4. How have you learned to relax and deal with the distresses of life?

SESSION 10: HOW TO TEACH MOTIVATIONALLY

1. Have you ever thought you could not teach? Have you ever dreamed of being a presenter who impacts people's lives?
2. Why do you think it's important to speak concisely and to the point and end your message in a timely fashion?
3. Have you ever heard a teacher who was really helpful in his or her presentation? Discuss why you think that.
4. Why do you think it's absolutely critical for a teacher to remember the WIIFM acronym?

SESSION 11: BREAKING BARRIERS AND OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

1. Can you think of a time when a problem or challenge came into your life just before a time of enlargement? Describe it.
2. Think of a time you were persistent and it paid off. Tell about it.
3. Discuss some of the barriers you have faced when pursuing a particular goal and how you overcame them.
4. As a cohort group, pray for one another, and together practice casting all your cares upon Jesus.

SESSION 12: THE PRINCIPLE OF EXCELLENCE

1. How can you make yourself more valuable to your employer, your boss, your church, your class, or your circle of friends?
2. Have you ever possessed a "scarcity mentality?" Did it help you?
3. Have you ever known someone with a victim mentality or entitlement mentality? Have you ever fallen into either of these mindsets yourself? How well did it work out?
4. List ways you can put in just 2% more than the average person.

SESSION 13: THE TRUE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH



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1. Can you think of a time when you were in leadership, but in reality you only managed? What's the difference?
2. Why do you suppose speed, accuracy, and dependability are crucial to the successful leader?
3. Discuss why education and delegation can help a church or enterprise grow to new heights.
4. Talk about how today's message speaks to you personally

SESSION 14: AUTHORITY, REBELLION, AND DIVINE DISCIPLINE

1. Talk about a time when you experienced the goodness of God. Now talk about a time when you have suspected the "severity" of God.
2. Talk about the differences between the authority of God and the rebellion of Satan.
3. Can you think of biblical examples where someone came strongly against a man or woman anointed by God? What was the outcome?
4. How can you be a contributor rather than a complainer? How can you help your leader succeed?

SESSION 15: PITFALLS ON THE PACESETTER'S PATH—PART 1

1. Discuss the difference between orthodoxy and orthopraxy.
2. Can you think of a time you lacked focus or were looking for greener pastures? Talk about it.
3. Has anyone ever violated your trust? How did it make you feel? Do you see why trust is "number one" in leadership?
4. Discuss some of the pitfalls that spoke to you most strongly in this session.

SESSION 16: PITFALLS ON THE PACESETTER'S PATH—PART 2

1. Have you ever met any of the "dark" personalities discussed in today's message? Describe your experience.
2. Can you think of ways you can avoid the appearance of evil in your life? Are there areas that seem like "no big deal," yet others may be getting the wrong impression?
3. Have you ever been given bad counsel? What were the results?
4. Why do many people give up so quickly? Have you ever given up before your dream was realized?
5. Discuss with each other how this course has affected your lives.