

To My Brothers in Christ Jesus who God has ENTRUSTED to lead others: Greetings!

The ENTRUSTED Leader's Workbook: "Barnabas" Edition has been customized to meet the needs of the *Men At The Cross* discipleship ministry. Leadership, in all forms, presents unlimited opportunities to make disciples.

The ENTRUSTED Leader development program workbook features a series of lessons on seven core values of Biblical leadership. These seven core values characterize the type of leader I believe God desires all of us to become! Any follower of Jesus Christ who has been, or will be, entrusted with the privilege of leading others in the marketplace represents the ideal participant.

I am a businessman by education (BSBA & MBA) and by profession. My work history includes numerous executive leadership positions. I am currently an investment manager. The lessons contained in The ENTRUSTED Leader program workbook stem from the combination of my time at DTS (MABS & DMin.), years of personal study on the subject, and my practical experience as a marketplace leader. The absolute truth of God's inerrant Word provides the lenses by which my studies and experiences have come into focus.

I recognize that the obstacles a marketplace leader faces when considering participation in either a traditional ministry format or a secular approach to leadership development make consistent participation a real challenge. Pressures from a busy office schedule, travel, early morning meetings, and unexpected problems make regular attendance difficult. Add to these constraints, a long list of family commitments and personal interests, and society has a marketplace leader with little or no capacity for much else. These realities characterize the culture in which we live. My hope is that the flexible, "electronic" platform of the *ENTRUSTED Leader's Workbook* will help busy marketplace leaders find the time to engage these lessons in spite of these obstacles and constraints. Participants should feel free to download these lessons from the *Men At The Cross* website and complete them at whatever pace they desire.

The ENTRUSTED Leader program exists to encourage the development of the core values of a leader. The actual behavior of a leader reveals the core values of a leader and evidence of the true condition of one's inner nature or heart. Core values define what a person believes to be absolutely true about the world in which he or she leads. Behavior follows core values. To change one's long term behavior there must first be a change of core values. The ENTRUSTED Leader program seeks to change a leader's core values in a manner consistent with Biblical truth.

A marketplace leader who claims to be a follower of Jesus Christ defines the target participant of The ENTRUSTED Leader development program. The journey of following Christ involves a life long process of one's inner nature and outward behavior being changed in a manner consistent with how Jesus lived and lead. Every follower of Jesus Christ moves along this path. It does not matter how far one has progressed another step toward the image of Christ lays before us. *The ENTRUSTED Leader's Workbook* strives

to encourage the development of seven core values that moves one closer to the standard of leadership behavior set by our Lord Jesus Christ. These seven core values are:

1. A HEART willing to do all God asks.
2. A MISSION for leading characterized by a faithful commitment to multiplying followers of Jesus Christ that supersedes all other marketplace endeavors.
3. An APPROACH to leadership characterized by denial of self and serving others.
4. The STABILITY for leading created by applying a balance of skills, character and compassion.
5. A LIFESTYLE that is beyond reproach and publicly demonstrates faith, hope and love in the marketplace.
6. The FORTITUDE for leading built upon faith in the love and sovereignty of God and the discipline of prayer.
7. A WORLDVIEW founded on absolute truth and the words of Jesus Christ.

Any potential participant should note that The ENTRUSTED Leader development program makes no attempt to advance the development of a leader's professional, management, or leadership skills. The ENTRUSTED Leader development program assumes a participant already has or is in the process of acquiring the appropriate skills and knowledge required for the profession he or she has chosen. The leadership values and practices taught in the ENTRUSTED Leader development program are designed to complement a leader's professional skills and knowledge, not replace them.

The ENTRUSTED Leader's Workbook contains twenty five lessons:

- * A Prologue entitled: *The ESSENCE of Leadership: Relationships.*
- * A Preface entitled: *How God Prepares a Leader.*
- * An Introduction entitled: The ENTRUSTED Leader. (Where I explain why I coined the term ENTRUSTED Leader)
- * Three lessons on each of the seven core values of an Entrusted Leader.
- * A Summary

Each lesson will include a short explanation of how one or two key verses applies to a leader followed by a few questions designed to stimulate thinking. A participant can expect to spend thirty minutes or less reading a particular lesson followed by as much thinking as the spirit leads. I encourage you to move through the lessons prayerfully and reflectively. Also, please take time to read the Prologue, Preface, and Introduction before beginning the lessons on the core values. These front materials provide significant background to the other lesson.

I am on a mission to mobilize a generation of skilled marketplace leaders who will lead according to two priorities. I intend to encourage leaders to strive daily to display leadership behavior consistent with the seven Entrusted Leader core values. I also intend to encourage leaders to leverage every opportunity for leadership in the marketplace to multiply followers of Jesus Christ. I believe this to be a mission inspired and empowered by the Holy Spirit. I trust God will raise up and conjoin other like minded followers of Jesus Christ who see the potential leaders have to go on the offensive and advance the cause of Christ in the marketplace.

WARNING:

Before you download the initial lesson I must share with you a word of WARNING! I regret that I have to start with such somber and perhaps sobering thoughts. After years of teaching on the subject of biblical leadership and how it applies to followers of Jesus Christ who lead in the marketplace I have found that I have to be very clear on the following warning right up front.

The core values and principles taught in the ENTRUSTED Leader's Workbook make no guarantee that a participant's career and life will be successful from a worldly point of view. This leader development workbook and program does not teach a prescribed path to material gain, prosperity, or greater leadership responsibility. The application of these core values and principles may result in persecution. This persecution may come in a variety of forms that are detrimental to a participant's life and marketplace leadership career. Possible rewards are limited to unspecified spiritual growth and enrichment. Such persecution was spoken of by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in John 15:20 and by the Apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 3:12. I encourage you to read these and other similar passages and to consider the potential costs of following Jesus publicly in the marketplace. As Paul told the Thessalonians in 1 Thessalonians 3:1-4, consider your self WARNED!

Faithfully Serving,

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