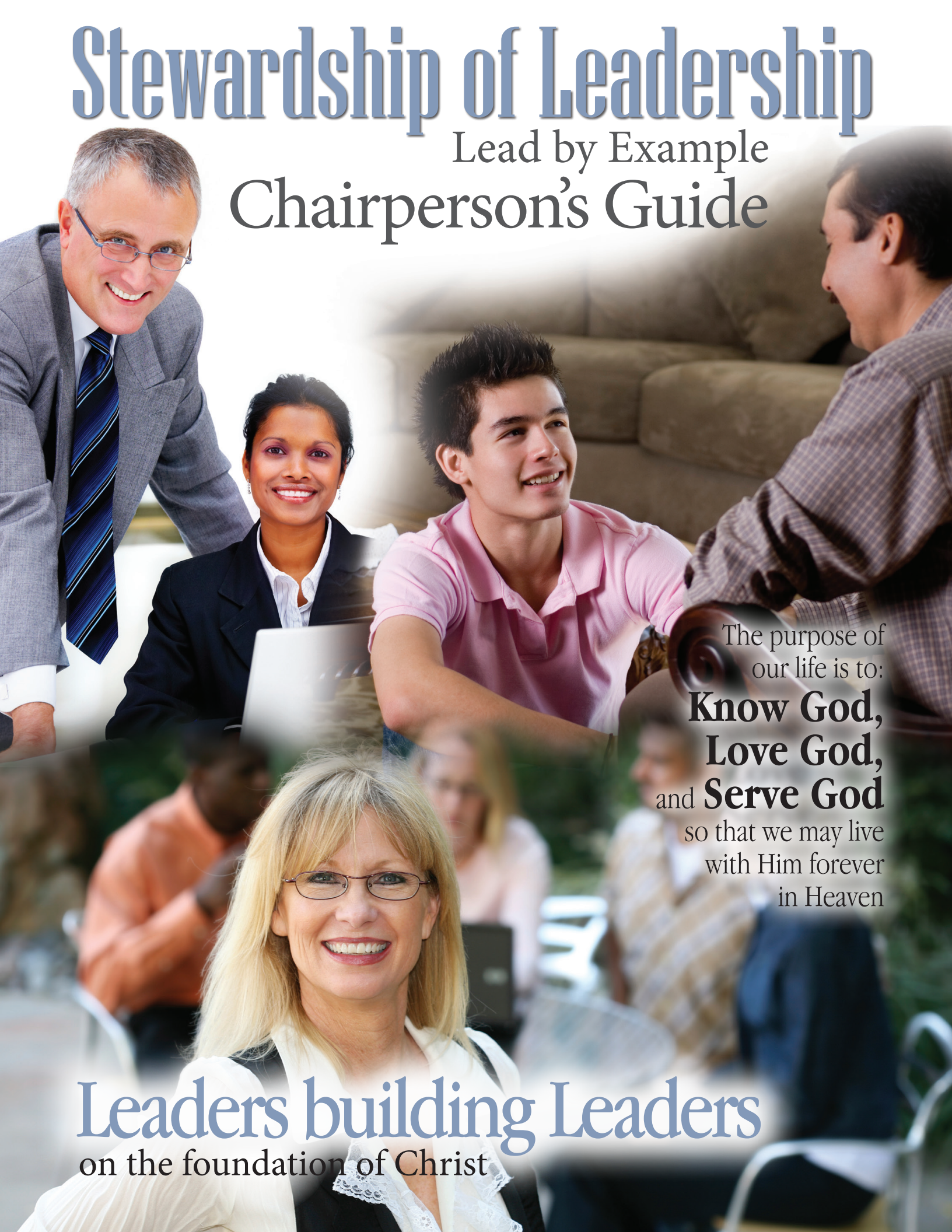


Stewardship of Leadership

Lead by Example
Chairperson's Guide



The purpose of
our life is to:
**Know God,
Love God,
and Serve God**
so that we may live
with Him forever
in Heaven

Leaders building Leaders
on the foundation of Christ

Mission, Vision and Core Values

mission:

Leaders building leaders on the foundation of Christ.

vision:

By applying Biblical virtues, through the intercession of the Holy Spirit, we will:

Build spiritual leaders in the HOME who shepherd their families to the Throne of Christ.

Build spiritual leaders in the WORKPLACE who model the Example of Christ.

Build spiritual leaders in the COMMUNITY who demonstrate the Integrity of Christ.

core values:

Love • Joy • Peace • Patient Endurance

Kindness • Generosity • Faith

Mildness • Chastity

Galatians 5: 22 – 23

The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: a Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
a Spirit of counsel and of strength, a Spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord.

Isaiah 11: 2

The Leadership Group is a weekly gathering of servant leaders, both men and women, who read, contemplate and discuss Biblical Scripture and how it applies to their life. Each piece of Scripture pertains to a monthly topic that all leaders will relate with. The spontaneous discussion that ensues after the Scripture is read each week, comes from each participant's heart, relative to their home, work, and community experiences.

It is important to understand that this is not a Bible study, and the Chairperson is not a teacher. We understand that our one Teacher is the Holy Spirit. The Chairperson facilitates the group discussion, faith-sharing, and prayers. Real life stories, successes, struggles, and events are shared by the participants as the Holy Spirit inspires each individual.

In the spirit of a wholly steward-driven life, and the understanding that everything we have is a gift from God, we must honor God in everything we do with the gifts He has entrusted to us. Each of us has a daily responsibility to reflect on and share our God-given gifts with others. As leaders we are called to serve each other every day in a manner that is God-honoring.

The Leadership Groups are open to all Christians and those searching for salvation through Christ. These groups are to be an instrument in the healing of the One Body of Christ in answer to Christ's prayer while building leaders on the foundation of Christ. Please visit us at our website at www.StewardshipMission.org for instructions on how to start your own Leadership Group.

"May God bless each and every group and group member as we say "YES" to gathering together, united under Christ."

Virtuous Cycle



Vicious Cycle



Role of the Chairperson

step one: establish your group

- A. Identify a location suitable for 10 – 20 men and women to meet each week. A consistent location should be established such as a home, church, office or other meeting place of your choice.
- B. Determine a day of the week and time for the group to meet for 1 to 1½ hours. This should remain consistent each week. Mornings at 7:00am or 7:30am or evenings beginning at 6:30pm or 7:00pm are usually good starting times.
- C. Recruit current and/or potential leaders in all walks of life (i.e. business, church, schools, government, community organizations, etc.). It is highly recommended to keep the size of the group to 10 – 20 people.
- D. E-mail reminders are recommended approximately 2 -3 days before each group meeting. Phone calls can be made to those who do not have e-mail access. The Chairperson may ask another member of the group to volunteer to do this.
- E. Prepare! Before each meeting, read that week's material. Read that month's book. Look for, reference, and, if appropriate, copy pertinent newspaper/web articles pertaining to that month's Leadership topic.
- F. Each month's topic, weekly readings, that month's book, DVD/CD, prayer booklets, binders and more materials to assist with group facilitation are available on our website (www.StewardshipMission.org) and most materials may be downloaded or ordered and shipped to you for sharing with your group.
- G. Refreshments are recommended but not required. Group members could take turns providing refreshments if so inclined.
- H. Chairpersons should always have a Co-Chairperson designated to facilitate group discussion in the event the Chairperson is unable to make a gathering.

Role of the Chairperson

step two: group facilitation

- A. Timing is everything! It is critically important that the meeting begins and ends on time. If this does not happen you could lose good people.
- B. Name tags are very useful, as are oversized index cards folded as table toppers with the participant's name.
- C. Using the template and materials available to you (e.g. weekly Scripture readings, prayer booklets, etc.) are critical to maintain the continuity and consistency across all groups.
- D. If the Chairperson notices someone monopolizing the conversation, he/she must regain control of the discussion and redirect the conversation by encouraging others to share their thoughts.
- E. If the Chairperson finds themselves in the midst of a conflict and/or overly demonstrative discussion, he/she must defuse the situation immediately and impress upon participants that Christ is present in everyone and therefore we must always treat each other with dignity and respect.
- F. If a group member adamantly challenges the Biblical message and/or attempts to turn the discussion into a debate on Biblical relevance, the Chairperson must stop the discussion and remind the participants that this is not a Bible Study group nor are most group members Biblical scholars. The group must be focused on Christ's presence in the everyday journey of our lives and in the lives of those around us. Remind the group that the one Teacher in each group is the Holy Spirit, Who inspires each of us to share our insights and daily struggles with each other in a manner that supports one another's personal walk with Jesus. The Chairperson, or any member of the group, is encouraged to contact the Stewardship office at 717-367-0100 for support at anytime.
- G. All group members should feel welcomed and respected for their input and insights.
- H. Encourage participants to bring their Bibles to the group meetings.
- I. Consider utilizing a conference line/speaker phone for those who are unable to attend a weekly session in person.
- J. Fellowship outside the weekly meetings, such as family picnics, weekend retreats, Christmas gatherings are strongly encouraged to allow entire families the opportunity to get to know each other.
- K. Every group that has followed this simple template has shared amazing stories of conversion, spiritual growth, saved relationships and a closer relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

Meeting Format

(Steps 1-7 should be completed within one hour)

1. Opening Prayer — Volunteer needed to offer a spontaneous prayer.
2. Prayer's for: Unity, the intercession of the Holy Spirit, Litany of Humility and others are encouraged.
(*From the Stewardship of Leadership Prayer booklet and spontaneous*)
3. Scripture Reading — Volunteer needed to read. All members are invited to write down all inspirations they receive from the Scripture reading on the provided worksheet.
4. 1–3 Minutes of Silence — A short period of quiet reflection is requested after the reading allowing the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and spirits to the reading.
5. Group Contribution — All members are invited to contribute what impacted them in this Scripture reading, sharing inspirations, personal stories and how they relate to their lives. During this time the optional book, DVD or CD of the month could also be included in the discussion.
6. Request for Prayer Requests/Intentions — All members are welcome to share prayer requests to be offered up by the group. Please feel free to write these down on the provided worksheet.
7. Closing Prayers
 - Volunteer needed to pray for the requests/intentions.
 - Prayers for a peaceful spirit (*from the Stewardship of Leadership Prayer booklet*)
 - Spontaneous Thanksgiving prayer for our time together
8. Break — A brief break could be taken before the short break-out session.
9. Group Accountability Session (Up to ½ hour) — The group could break out into groups of 3 to 4 if they choose, or remain as a group. This will be a time for each participant to delve into specific areas of self-growth related to the topic being discussed. Each participant is invited to document, on the provided worksheet, specific action items they plan to accomplish over the next week. These Action Items could be reviewed at the following week's break-out session.
10. Closing Prayer — Volunteer needed to offer a closing prayer.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q What is a Stewardship of Leadership Group?

A A Stewardship of Leadership Group is a weekly gathering of humble leaders, both men and women, where Biblical Scripture is read, contemplated, and discussed. Each piece of Scripture pertains to a monthly topic that all leaders can relate to. The spontaneous discussion that ensues after the Scripture is read each week comes from each participant's heart, relative to their home, work, and community experiences.

Q Are Leadership Groups Bible Study Groups?

A Leadership Groups are not Bible Study Groups. Though the Leadership Group discussion is centered on a weekly Scripture passage, the focus is on recognizing Christ's presence in our everyday journey and His presence in those around us. There is one Teacher in each Group: The Holy Spirit, who inspires group members to share their experiences and struggles with each other as we support one another's own personal walk with Jesus.

Q How do I join a Leadership Group?

A All Leadership Group locations can be viewed by visiting our website at www.StewardshipMission.org. Please drop us an e-mail or call us at 717-367-0100 and we'll put you in touch with the group Chairperson closest to you.

Q Are Groups open to all Christians?

A Yes, every group is open to all Christians and all those searching for salvation through Christ. The groups are an instrument of healing of the one Body of Christ in answer to Christ's prayer while building leaders on the foundation of Christ.

Q How long are the meetings?

A For the first three weeks of every month, the meetings are broken out into two sections: an hour-long Scripture reflection on the topic of the month and then a half hour smaller group breakout discussion with accountability partners. On the fourth week of each month, in addition to the hour of reflection discussion and the half hour accountability partner period, there is an optional additional hour for deeper reflection on the book/DVD/CD of the month.

Q What role does the Chairperson play?

A The Chairperson specifies meeting location and time, ensures the group has the appropriate materials, and facilitates group discussion. Specific information about a Chairperson's role is documented in the Chairpersons Guide which may be accessed by visiting our website at www.StewardshipMission.org.

Q What supplies are needed to begin a Leadership Group?

A All materials needed to begin and facilitate a Leadership Group may be accessed by visiting our website at www.StewardshipMission.org or calling us at 717-367-0100. These include: weekly Scripture readings, monthly book suggestions, prayer booklets, monthly topics and the meeting template.

Q Typically, what are the best times to meet?

A We've found that mornings between 7 AM and 7:30 AM are the best times to begin the meetings. Some groups have found evenings at 6:30 PM or 7 PM are also good times to begin.

Testimonials

“ Leaders building leaders on the foundation of Christ; that’s awesome! I’ve been waiting 27 years for something like this!”

— Jerry

“ After many years of experience as a team and leadership consultant, I have found the emerging programs at Stewardship of Leadership to fit perfectly into the workplace with the true spirit of personal growth and development embedded within them. This is truly needed in our workplaces today. There is really no way to develop a leader much less a team without individual growth in the spirit of each person.”

— Dolores

“ What a wonderful opportunity for men and women to experience the Holy Spirit leading us into a deeper understanding of the inspired Word of God and its application in our lives. This is not Bible study, but faith-sharing, as the same Holy Spirit who inspired the Biblical writers also inspires us today to enter deeply into the Word of Grace that is the Sacred Scripture.”

— Father W. K.

“ We are not here to train leaders to DO something; but rather to BE something.”

— Keith

“ I had read all the great books on leadership but failed to read the greatest book of all, the Bible. From now on whenever anyone asks me what is the best book on leadership, I will not hesitate to tell them, it’s the Bible. Thank you to this group for opening my eyes to the Truth.”

— A Group Participant



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