

How to Recognize A Leader To Follow

September 10, 2023

1. **CALLING.** The Bible uses “calling” in several ways

- a. God’s general calling to **all** to repent and believe (Acts 2:38-39)
- b. God’s effectual calling of **some** to belong to Him (Romans 1:6)
- c. God’s specific calling of the saved to sanctification (Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2)
- d. God’s **personal** calling of individuals to serve Him (Romans 1:1)

Noah, Abraham, Moses, Samuel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, the 12, etc.

2. **CHARACTER.** The Department of the **Interior**

- a. Character is **consistent** under stress or calm (Job 1 and 2)
- b. Character is who you **are** when no one is looking (Elisha’s servant, Gehazi in 2 Kings 5)
- c. Character flaws may be neutralized, but never eradicated (Abraham in Genesis 12 and 20)
- d. Character makes a leader **credible** .

Paul lists qualities to be found in an elder’s life 1 Timothy 3:1-7
Of the 14 listed: **12** are character and **2** are competence

3. **COMPETENCE.** The proven ability to perform at a high level.

Both “integrity of heart” (character) and also “skillful hands” (competence) are necessary in a godly leader (Psalm 78:72).

- Joseph was **God’s** man with **God’s** plan (Genesis 41:33-40)

- David had an army of skilled, spiritual, brave **warriors** (1 Chronicles 12)
- Daniel was a godly **intellectual** serving in exile (Daniel 1:17-20)

Is character or competence more important? Why?

Remember: the largest part of competency is working within one’s spiritual gifting for God’s glory and the good of others.

4. **CHEMISTRY.** Someone who improves the outlook, attitude, and performance of those around him on the same team.

- a. Chemistry is most noticeable when it is **absent**
- b. Some **ministry** teams simply do *not* work well (Acts 15:36-41)

Four questions to pray about and consider

Has our prospective lead pastoral candidate (JD) been **called** by God to serve this local church? Is he ready and willing if chosen?

A. _____

How does our prospective lead pastoral candidate evidence the godly **character** of a man who’s following Christ closely?

A. _____

What are some of the **competencies** or skillsets of JD as a tool in the Holy Spirit’s hands? Where is he still learning and growing?

A. _____

Does JD work alongside of others in a positive way that improves the **chemistry** of ministry teams? Does he fit well in our church?

A. _____