

Agathos Ministries
Hosted at the Guardian Academy
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PRACTICAL SPIRITUAL SERVICE

Definition: Exercise Your Faith to MaPDfO: _____

Make a Positive Difference for Others

Take action based upon what you know is True.

The Obvious: SYC: _____

Serve Your Church

Look for a ministry that needs help and help. Look for a person doing something that could use some assistance, and assist. Look for a person or team that has been doing something and join the team.

And here's an important one: If you see someone doing something you can do - and that person could also do something you cannot do - volunteer to take over their current task to free them to invest themselves in the task that only they can do.

Acts 6:2b - _____

"It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables" - NIV

Motive:

Less Mature: HCILG? _____

How can I look good?

Less Mature: HCIFG? _____

How can I feel good?

More Mature: HCIHfT? _____

How can I help the team?

Even More Mature: HCIMaDfG? _____

How can I make a difference for God?

Ephesians 6:6 - *Not with eyeservice as menpleasers* ("How can I look good?" - the least mature motive), *but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart* ("How can I make a difference for God?" - the most mature motive).

The Less Obvious: SYT: _____

Serve Your Team

Your "Team" might be your Spouse, your Household, your Family, your Work Team... Wherever you have a team to which you owe some responsibility - but you haven't served your role on the team in the way you know you should - then step up your service! Be a better husband, better wife, better parent, better boyfriend/girlfriend, better son/daughter, employee, manager, boss...

THE ENCOMIUM PRINCIPLE: LP: _____

Lavish Praise

Think about how a boy might stand up on the diving board of a pool and shout "Dad! Hey DAD! Watch this!" and then he bounces off the board with all his might to show his dad what he can do. If he doesn't get it quite right, does he get all upset? Not usually. Normally he'll pop his head up out of the water and say "That wasn't it! Keep watching! I'll do it again!" Then he'll go up to the diving board and try again. AND the son will keep trying to learn new things to show his dad.

The Encomium Principle means we Praise God with our singing at church, with our attentiveness to the sermons, with our service to the church, with our Bible Reading, with our Prayer time.... AND we Praise God with how we take care of this Body God Designed and Engineered for us (we only get this one! This one has to die before we get a new one.), how we behave as sons, daughters, friends, husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, employees, employers, how we treat strangers, how we treat customers.... it's all part of our Worship. We Praise God Lavishly when we are Praising God with every facet of our lives!

LSTA: _____

Live So They Ask

1 Peter 3:15: "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence. - NASB

PRACTICAL SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

Definition: Exercise your Faith to HOMaPDfO: _____
Help Others Make a Positive Difference for Others

Take action based upon what you know is True in a way that helps others take action based upon what they know is True.

Your First Test of Leadership: CYLY? _____
Can You Lead Yourself?

If you cannot get you to follow you, why should anyone else follow you?

All our talk about Self-Control, Will Power, Disciplines... that's Self-Leadership.

Second Test of Leadership: WIOFY? _____
What If Others Follow You?

What results do you consistently produce in your own life?

What are the normal and natural results of those who follow your leadership?

1 Corinthians 11:1 - FMaIFC: _____
"Follow me as I follow Christ."

Third Test of Leadership: CYLL? _____
Can You Lead Leaders?

Being in charge of a Team of Leaders is easy. Teams of Leaders get a lot done because everyone is a good example of a team member and every member is focused on achieving the Team Goals.

However - LEADING a Team of Leaders means you need a higher Leadership Number than the Leaders on your Team. (See John Maxwell, *21 Laws of Leadership*: "The Law of the Lid")

The Weak LOTbW: _____
The Weak Lead Others to be Weak.

Matthew 15:14b: *"If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch."*

DwYIBLO: _____
Deal with Your Issues Before Leading Others.

Matthew 7:5b: *"First get the beam out of your own eye, and then you shall see clearly ..."*

The Strong LOTbS: _____
The Strong Lead Others to be Strong.

1 Corinthians 16:13 - *"Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, _____."*

Ephesians 6:10 - *"_____ in the Lord and in the strength of His might."*

2 Timothy 2:1b - *"_____ in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."* Be Strong, Be Strong, Be Strong

Hebrews 13:17a - *"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account..."*

This admonition is given to Followers. In the Agathos Tradition, we look for our responsibilities.

Leaders Must: KWOS: _____
Keep Watch Over Souls.

Based upon our model, Soul is Will, Mind, and Emotions. So we must keep watch over the Will (Choices), Mind (Thoughts, Logic, Learning) and Emotions (consider the Language of Emotions) of those we are Leading.

Followers Should: EL, OLDTJ: _____
Evaluate Leaders, Obey Leaders Doing Their Job

James Warning: James 3:1: "Let not many of you become _____, my brethren, knowing as such we will IaSJ: _____.

Teachers, Incur a Stricter Judgment.

The logic here is that Teachers are responsible for teaching The Truth. For error, we are logically responsible for the normal and natural consequences of our false teaching, and it seems that God will hold us responsible for that.

Acts 17:11 describes "students" Paul taught who had the audacity to question the Apostle...

"For they were more _____ than those in Thessalonica, for they _____, examining the Scriptures daily to see

Noble-Minded, Received the Word with Great Eagerness, Whether Those Things Were So

Checkup On Your Teachers and Leaders: INM! _____
It's Noble-Minded!

Give them the benefit of the doubt. Give credit where credit is due. Ask clarifying questions.

Always be respectful in your disagreement. Deeply and critically consider your own position.

Take it as seriously as a Commander relieving a Captain of duty - since you are teaching yourself.