



# Leadership and the Liberal Arts

With Dr. Christopher Perrin

## Lecture 5: Biblical Leadership

### Outline:

#### Biblical Leadership

- There are many passages that talk about the virtue of humility.
- Exodus 18
  - Moses meets with his father-in-law, Jethro.
  - They are celebrating and worshipping.
  - The next day, Moses takes his seat to judge the people.
  - Jethro is watching Moses as he led. Is this process the best way?
  - Jethro thinks that what Moses is doing is not the best way. He thinks that Moses will wear himself out.
  - You need to know where the limits are.
  - We are all tempted to take on more work than we should. Why do we do this? Is there a better way to get things done?
  - Teach them his decrees and instructions (from the Lord). Maybe he needs to give peacetime teaching instruction.
  - What are you doing that is preventive teaching and instruction?
  - Jethro recommends the principle of delegation to the capable people.
  - Get great people on the bus then put them in the correct seat.
  - Do you want a lighter load?
  - Doing something as a team is a virtue.
  - Leadership is a strain. Do you want to be able to stand that strain? Delegate to those who are capable.
  - The judges under Moses grew through their experiences.
  - The more you want to maintain control yourself, the less able the organization is to grow and control.
- Psalm 27
  - This is a poem written by David.
  - David is a king, a busy executive.
  - What poems do you write?
  - What is the war that might break out against you? Are you able to say, “The Lord is my light and my stronghold?”
  - David will be gazing. David is able to engage in a restful pondering.
  - Do you have a sacred space in your life? How do you acquire this?
  - In faith in the midst of tumult, celebrate. This is the disposition of David’s life (to seek the Lord and gaze upon Him).
  - David is concerned about his own soul. A great Christian leader has to emulate this.



- This might be a good Psalm to consider memorizing.
- Be strong, take heart, and wait for the Lord.
- I Kings 3
  - This passage is about Solomon showing wisdom.
  - He is governing a vast nation of people and it is overwhelming him.
  - If you are overconfident, this might need to challenge you a bit. Solomon's sense of self was of humility.
  - What do you do when you are faced with challenges and difficulties? In the Christian tradition, you pray.
  - Do you pray for discernment (faced with something that needs to be sifted) to understand things well?
  - Face the brutal reality of reality.
  - The Lord was pleased that Solomon asks for wisdom. Do you ask for wisdom? Are you proud? Ask for wisdom personally and regularly.
  - God loves to give wisdom to those who ask.
  - Will you walk in obedience and keep God's decrees and commands?
  - You may need to ask God to humble you.
- Matthew 11:25-26
  - Jesus says that who he is has been revealed to little children.
  - We do not want to be foolish like children but we are to be like children who are led by a shepherd and dependent.
  - We must use our gifts and run the race with endurance, but we are dependent like children.
  - "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." We are all in need of rest.
  - "Take my yolk upon you...for my yolk is easy and my burden is light." A yolk is a symbol of work. Jesus will pull for you. He brings us rest even in our labor.
  - Is your soul at rest even when you are busy?
  - Can you enjoy your work?
  - Can you find a restful disposition infused throughout your day?