



Leadership and the Liberal Arts

With Dr. Christopher Perrin

Lecture 7:
Nicomachean Ethics,
Book 1

Outline:

Nicomachean Ethics, Book I

- This is a classic writing on what it means to live an ethical and moral life.
- Book I: *The Human Good*
 - What is it that humans seek? What is the good that we would seek to cultivate for people as leaders?
 - It is the science of politics that is the study of what the human good is.
 - The chief human good is happiness.
 - If you're a leader, what is the good that you are seeking in your school?
 - Living well, flourishing is happiness. What is it that leads to flourishing for you team?
 - Using your reason in virtuous activity (something that you do) brings people delight and is the chief end according to Aristotle.
 - Misfortune can happen to all of us. Aristotle is being a realist here.
 - Christ in the beatitudes speaks about being blessed. What is Aristotle's view of happiness compared with Christ's ethic?
 - Virtuous activity should be pleasant to those who are exercising virtuous activity.
 - Prudence
 - Justice
 - Temperance
 - Courage
 - To exercise virtuous activity is how we are most like the gods.
 - It is important that we look at the happiness of a person over the span of time.
 - The contemplative life is also a source of happiness.