



## HELPING CHURCH LEADERS TRANSITION FROM THE PRESENT TO THE FUTURE

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### ARE YOU A "DREAM RELEASING" LEADER?

Last week, more than 1,200 church leaders from across the nation gathered in San Antonio, TX to celebrate the emergence of the "Equipping Church" at the New Century New Church conference sponsored by the Leadership Training Network. Equipping churches focus their leadership development efforts on the equipping and releasing of God's people for service and ministry. Audiotapes of the conference are available through Convention Cassettes at 800-776-5454. One of the featured presenters was Wayne Cordeiro, pastor of the New Hope Christian Fellowship in Oahu, Hawaii, who spoke on the characteristics of leadership.

A leader is a servant who takes the initiative to serve and serve well. We all have different roles but roles have nothing to do with importance. I've been called to the pastorate of this church but my calling is not greater than your calling to come and be a part of this church.

1. A Leader has a passion to keep learning and improving. They are dissatisfied with the status quo and have a passion to improve and grow. Leaders always raise the bar of excellence otherwise they will never reach potential.
2. A leader is someone who can spot potential in others. They can look at someone and see the dreams inside of them, of what they can become for Jesus Christ. A lot of times the dreams are locked for some reason, perhaps character flat spots or immaturity. What they need are people who will help them unlock their dreams for Kingdom potential. Pastors are given for the equipping of the saints. Our church has all the gifts necessary to do what God has called us to do.
3. A leader is someone who can dream or envision what can be accomplished. What kind of people live in your church? The way you see them is the way they will be. Dream and envision the best the church will be. Believe the best of people.
4. A leader is not easily defeated. Pioneer something or color outside the lines and you will get shot at. Don't be easily defeated, never take the path of least resistance, take the path that Jesus is walking on.
5. A leader has the ability to act. They don't just sit there, they celebrate and take action toward a God-given goal.
6. A leader takes risks. C.T. Studds said, "The gamblers for gold are many but the gamblers for God are few."
7. A leader has the ability to bond with people and mobilize them toward a common purpose. We forget the things we should remember and remember what we should forget. Leaders have to learn to forget because God forgets.
8. A leader stewards their authority well. They use their authority for building people up not tearing people down.
9. A leader is resilient and has an ability to bounce back from defeat and setbacks. We will all hit speed bumps but defeat occurs when you fail to get back up. Be resilient, and learn to leave things behind. Keep going forward.
10. A leader is compelled by a passion. If the Why behind what you are doing increases, your creativity will increase. When we don't have the energy, our Why isn't strong enough. Go back to the foot of the cross. We only have a few years to do what He is asking us to do. We will have all of eternity to talk about it.

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