

LEADERSHIP

Reflections of a Christian Military Leader

**John 15:13 – Greater love has no one
than this, that someone lay down his
life for his friends**

My Military Journey

- ▣ Royal Military College - commissioned in the Royal Canadian Artillery in 1967.
- ▣ Commanded units at Troop, Battery, Regiment level.
- ▣ Commander Combat Training Centre in New Brunswick.
- ▣ Commander Land Forces Central Area in Ontario
- ▣ Retired as Major-General



Christian Leadership

- ▣ Leadership gives an organization its vision and its ability to translate that vision into reality
- ▣ Christian leadership also calls for a “servant” approach. Jesus modeled this approach “Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28).
- ▣ Leaders Must Be Able to Deal with Failures



SANNAH IRELAND

God Encourages Us

Joshua 1:9.

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Wisdom From a Sgt Major

- ▣ Listen to your soldiers
- ▣ Instill pride - never degrade
- ▣ Never lie to your soldiers
- ▣ Be hard but fair
- ▣ Be as good as your word
- ▣ Train hard; your life depends on it
- ▣ Keep your soldiers informed
- ▣ Be honest about all things
- ▣ Respect all soldiers



Biblical Strategists

1. Moses led the nation of Israel out of Egypt. Jethro, his father-in-law taught Moses how to set up a plan by delegating work to spread out the load to use his resources more effectively.
2. Joshua faced the strong city of Jericho. God gave him a strategy that involved his people. Marching around the city walls once a day for 6 days and 7 times on the 7th day.

Biblical Strategists

3. Nehemiah rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem. Assessed the damage, secured resources, established leaders, and distributed the assignments among them.
4. Jesus recruited his leadership team, developed them, then sent them to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). Public teaching, miracle working. He knew the plan to provide redemption for all of mankind.

Dimensions of Leadership

1. Confidence in Oneself

Key to success is self-confidence and trust in yourself. An important key to self-confidence is preparation. Example – Nehemiah rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem

2. Confidence in Peers. Soldiers helping soldiers

Having a battle buddy can be a life-saver beyond the battlefield because not all wounds are visible.

3. Confidence in Leaders

Generally, when a leader exhibits confidence, it makes it easier to trust that leader, and people want to work with leaders they trust.

VIGILENCE



Trust Yourself

- ▣ Philippians 4:13. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me
- ▣ Joshua 1:9. Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened and do not be dismayed for the Lord God is with you wherever you go
- ▣ Psalm 118:6. The Lord is on my side. I will not fear. What can man do to me?



Confidence in Peers as Christians

- ▣ Trusting your peers can save your life in a critical situation
- ▣ Their skills are as good or better than yours
- ▣ They are motivated to make the team successful
- ▣ Sharing experiences and helping each other
- ▣ Willing to take risks for the success of the team



Confidence in Leaders

- ▣ Leaders will not ask a soldier to do something they would not do themselves
- ▣ Leaders are confident in their skills and experience
- ▣ Leaders set a good example without being aggressive or abusive
- ▣ Leaders recognize success

Confidence In The Team Leader



Nature of Leadership

Physical and moral courage, decisiveness, responsibility, integrity, accurate judgement, loyalty, selflessness, and the ability to communicate.

Professional ethos of a soldier;

- Mission before self
- Service, through duty and responsibility
- Discipline, through obedience and loyalty
- Honour, through justice and integrity

Conclusion

- ▣ The uniqueness of Christian leadership is that the entire process happens within the will, plan, priorities and purpose of God as revealed in the Bible, and is grounded and operates under the lordship of Jesus.
- ▣ **Matthew 19:26. With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible**

Prayer

Father, Allow me to serve others with a joyful heart; never keeping score; always giving; Never expecting to receive.

Allow me to give of myself, to give of my talents, and of my goods, to give of my heart and of my soul

Help me to understand the needs of others, you have been so gracious to me, always loving , always forgiving, always restoring.

Prayer

Allow me to serve others as You serve, with gentleness, compassion and tenderness, never diminishing the worth of another, choosing to extend mercy to the broken-hearted, like you have repeatedly shown it to me.

Amen