

Striving**Together**Publications



Spiritual Leadership Lessons from Dr. Paul Chappell

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Volume: **10** Lesson: **12**

Lesson Title:

**Local Church Leadership in a
Tough Economy**

Introduction: _____

Luke 14:28-30

For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.

I. The Principle of Effective _____

A. Labor diligently

Proverbs 18:9

He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

B. Labor joyfully

II. The Principle of Effective Servant

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

A. Caring for needy in the church

B. Showing hospitality

1 Timothy 3:2

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

C. Providing financial seminars

III. The Principle of Encouraging

2 Timothy 4:1-2

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

A. Bear burdens

Galatians 6:2

Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

B. Bolster hope in the Lord

C. Build faith

Mark 11:22

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

IV. The Principle of Faithful _____

A. Teach biblical giving

2 Corinthians 8:1-4

Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

B. Practice biblical giving

1 Chronicles 29:3

Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, which I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house,

V. The Principle of Fervent _____

A. For wisdom

James 1:5

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

B. For provision

John 15:7-8

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

VI. The Principle of Spiritual _____

Romans 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

- A. He uses recession to expose hidden sin and bring us to repentance.
- B. He uses recession to make us aware of the constant depression and recession of the developing world.
- C. He uses recession to relocate the roots of our joy in His grace rather than in our goods, in His mercy rather than our money, in His worth rather than our wealth.
- D. He uses recession to advance His kingdom in the world.
- E. He uses recession to show how the church can

care for its hurting members.

- F. He uses recession to teach us the value of “intangible assets” like family, church, and friends.
- G. He uses recession to test our faith and demonstrate His power.

VII. The Principle of Planned _____

Proverbs 21:20

There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.

- A. Maintenance of all facilities
- B. Preventive maintenance of all facilities
- C. Guard utilities usage
- D. Utilize volunteers as able

VIII. The Principle of Strategic _____

Psalm 26:7

That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works.

- A. Do not cut all because of economy.
- B. Do evaluate the most effective means for advertisement.

1. Do a survey amongst your membership to see how they heard of church.
2. Do a survey of staff and doorknockers to sense what is working well in community.

IX. The Principle of Program _____

Psalm 27:12

A prudent man foreseeeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished.

- A. Reduce discretionary spending.
- B. Reduce seasonal bonuses or training events.
- C. Reduce ineffective programs.
- D. Limit capital expenses.
- E. Study medical insurance for options.
- F. Reduce the budget on special days.
- G. Consider a condensed Christmas musical.

X. The Principle of Staff _____

- A. Hold on hiring.
- B. Replace positions only when exceptional people come available.

- C. Constantly assess productivity of all staff.
- D. Be willing to hire a significant addition even in a down time.
- E. Look for cheaper perks to boost morale.
- F. Care for staff even in a down time.

XI. The Principle of Wise _____

Psalm 28:20

A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

- A. Seek counsel before making any major financial decision.
- B. Stay conservative with God's money.
- C. Begin building projects with 50% or more.

XII. The Principle of Planned _____

Proverbs 11:16

A gracious woman retaineth honour: and strong men retain riches.

- A. Maintain emergency savings.
- B. Maintain missions savings.

XIII. The Principle of Conservative

- A. Extend mortgage payments.
- B. Refinance.
- C. Reduce staff.
- D. Cut bus fleet and go to more Saturday routes.
- E. Reduce media advertising or broadcasts.
- F. Sell assets.

XIV. The Principle of Walking by _____

- A. Walk in wisdom.

James 1:5-6

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

- B. Walk by faith.

2 Corinthians 5:7

For we walk by faith, not by sight:

Conclusion: _____

Philippians 4:19

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.