

STAYING ON TARGET

INTRODUCTION

Today we will be talking about “staying on target”. This is a key issue and I am glad to share it with you: **Staying on target**. God has a very specialized target for each person. A specific task that He wants you to accomplish with your life, but there are destructive forces here in this world. Sin and satan constantly make us deviate from God’s plan for us, God’s desire for us. We are constantly sidetracked into other areas. Sometimes we are simply satisfied to do that which is good, but it eliminates us from being able to do the very best. We constantly need to be encouraged and challenged to re-focus on the target. We need spiritual help. We need the Holy Spirit to help us stay on target. We need the help of the angels to protect us so we stay on target, and to do things for us that we are not even aware of, so we can stay on target. We need help and encouragement from spiritual leaders, older, mature men who are Godly and have a holy character so we stay on target by being obedient to them.

New Life for Churches presents many areas of training; Training for church leaders; Training to Plant New Churches, Training in Family Relationships; training for preachers; Training for Committed Spiritual lifestyles; Training in Time Management; Training for godly leadership; Training for new believers; and many other areas. Lectures and courses are written for a specific purpose. They are novels. It’s not for pleasure. It’s something that you don’t use all the time, but it is specifically written to help you with some difficulties that maybe otherwise you would not know how to handle. That is what we want to talk about right now. I hope this lecture will help you as we look at some of the warnings that we face, or need to face regularly, in order to stay on target.

I. AS A CHIEF OR PASTOR YOU ARE GOD’S MAN

You are God’s man. That’s why you are in that position. What does it mean to be God’s man? I’ll give you several short points here. Jesus main work was training 12 evangelists; 12 church planters. The apostle Paul demonstrated it in many ways and stated it clearly in 2Tim 2:2. Yet preparing others, mentoring, training remains a struggle for most spiritual leaders and it is one of the most neglected spiritual activities.

A. You have the vision

A vision to accomplish something, to reach out. You wanted to do something in your province. You saw the need for better equipped church leaders and you wanted to see that happen. Maybe a vision to make big changes in your church. Maybe a vision to start a group with unbelievers. But **you** had the vision. You had the vision, and if you don’t have a vision, don’t begin. Don’t even think about beginning.

B. You have the burden

If you don’t have the burden, you better quit real quickly. The apostle Paul said he was burdened with all the cares of the church. I may cry about the sins of the world sometimes but I cannot cry about the details or some of the problems in a certain province here. That’s your problem. They are your burdens and you should feel that spiritual burden.

C. You have the responsibility

As the pastor there is nobody else responsible but you. Once you have the vision it means you have the burden. The burden is the physical element of the vision. It involves your time. You need to give time to being an overseer. It involves commitment. It involves material commitment. It involves financial commitment. It involves a commitment to your team. It’s a burden to work with other people and have other people involved and looking at you. Ultimately the ministry will grow or it will die, and you are responsible. Ultimately there will be good spiritual leaders or there will be weak spiritual leaders, and you are responsible.

D. You are the leader

You are the person who is ahead of other people. You have the vision. They didn't see that. You have the burden. They did not feel that. You have the responsibility. They are asking you: What should I do? You are supposed to be one step ahead of the administrator and several steps ahead of the team or members. If you don't have a plan, probably nobody will have a plan. If you are not prepared for the fall ministry in the month of May, I can guarantee that in September not much will happen. You are the leader; you are the one that needs to make it happen. If you want to have two groups more, then you need to go after those places and those students and those churches, or you won't get two more groups. You are the leader. You are ahead of the others. You are calling them to follow you. And they are the followers



E. Get involved

Sometimes there is a tendency among the leaders to talk about it, to give instructions: "You do this, you do that. Our plan is so and so." That's not the idea. Jesus did it Himself. There are a number of managers who think that their job is to direct, like a choir director. All he does is pick up his baton, raise it and then wiggle it around a little bit and there is a beautiful choir. Maybe, or maybe not. What if there are four chairs missing? What if one of the musicians forgot to bring his instrument? What if several people came fifteen minutes late? There is a lot more to being an organizer than just making some nice motions like a music director. It's even much more complicated and involved for a lead pastor. It is--get on the road, talk to pastors, have at least a monthly meeting with the superintendent, and much more. Make some of your assistants successful. Visit some members and help them. Throughout the Gospels we always see that Jesus was the central person. He was the one that was involved, and the disciples or the followers were participants. You get involved. You do it yourself.

II. YOUR JOB IS SPIRITUAL

Sometimes we forget that our job is spiritual. So many physical elements are involved: car repair, maintaining an office, keeping records. But your job is spiritual.

A. You teach what you are

A number of New Life ministries have difficulties because the example of the leader is not what it is supposed to be. He doesn't have his personal life together. You teach what you are. Let me give you a couple ideas.

1. Prayer time

What kind of a prayer relationship do you have with Jesus Christ? How important is His blood in your prayers? You can only get people to pray as much as you pray. You can only get people to fast as you fast. If people see it in your life, they are convinced.

2. Bible

Listen to what it says, "Great peace have they that know Your law." Wow! If you know this book you will have great peace. Lack of Bible knowledge is one of the biggest problem our church members have. They are frustrated in the Christian lifestyle, they are negative, they are afraid, they have problems, and it's mostly because they don't know the Bible principles. "Great peace have they that know Your law and nothing shall offend them." This is what the Bible says: "Great peace have they, that know Your law and nothing shall offend them." Most of our offences, frustrations, troubles and struggles come from not knowing the Scripture. The more we know the Scriptures the more relaxed we are in our ministry. The more we understand God's promises, understand His power and His authority, and understand He will carry things to success the more we can relax. So you need to know God's Word. If you know it, your people will desire to emulate you and also know the Word of God.



3. Soul winning

Soul winning is a special term. It is winning the souls. It is not doing an evangelistic outreach. It is not just telling people about Jesus. It is helping people to lay aside their old form of life, to reject their former lifestyle, to turn around and come to Jesus and say: "Yes! I want to be a child of God. I was on the way to hell and now I'm going to ask Jesus to redeem my soul for all eternity. And I can sing Him praises, according to the book of Revelation." Do you see that you teach what you are? **Your job is spiritual.**

B. A coach's job description:

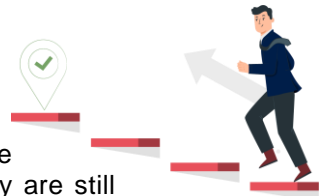
1. **To lead a group of men in bi-weekly training sessions .**
2. **Teaching them through discussion to verbalize their faith.**
i.e. to learn to express themselves spiritually.
3. **Encouraging them personally in developing a Christ like character.**
i.e. assisting them in being a continuously growing believer.
4. **Providing opportunities for practical spiritual success in their respective ministries.**
i.e. being a measurable blessing to other people.

III.TO DO IT RIGHT –GO BY THE MANUAL

One of the biggest tendencies of human nature is to want to invent something yourself. Try it yourself, do it different. "Obedience" is not a favorite word and yet it's one of the biggest ingredients of the Christian faith. If you follow the manuals and the handbook and some other materials, you will be doing it right. If you go by the manual, you will be successful.. The beauty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is that it is so simple. It works for everyone and everyone can do evangelism. It is so simple. Discipleship is so simple. Here is the problem. The problem is that most leaders do not want to be obedience-oriented leaders. Obedience-oriented leaders means organizers , administrators or foremen that obediently follow the manuals. Most problems and difficulties people struggle with can be traced back to not following and applying the things stated in the manuals or in some of the lectures. Go by the manual! If you have a problem look into the manual to see how you may solve that problem. To do it right--go by the manual.

IV. BE CONSISTENT

Consistency is another one of these human problems. The angels are consistent the demons are not, they changed authorities, they changed leadership. From that they are still pestering us not to be consistent. "Right now I don't have time to do it that way or there are some other problems." Consistency is a difficult characteristic for many people and yet, consistency is so important. Think of consistency in courtesy. I'm thinking right now of a couple that went to seek counseling and the counselor asked the man, "Do you love your wife?" He said, "Yes." The wife replied, "He never tells me so." The husband said, "I told you on our wedding day in the marriage ceremony. What else do you want?" He told her once. But she was looking for consistency and that's not easy. It's only through consistency that you have high quality. Students appreciate consistency. There is nothing worse for a student than not knowing if his coach is going to come this week or not. Will there be a seminar or will there not be a seminar? All of these are elements of consistency. Consistency doesn't happen automatically. Consistency requires commitment.



V. HAVE AN OUTLET FOR SERVICE

Being an administrator is a spiritual service. But on the other hand it is also your job. I have found that it is very helpful if a person tithes his time to another little project. I really recommend getting involved in some other small spiritual activity that you would like to do. Something that is not hard work for you, something that doesn't take a lot of preparation, something that comes easy. Thus you can express yourself in a whole different way. Let's say you are a fairly good musician and you have the opportunity to be the assistant choir director in your church. It's not all the time but you have an opportunity to do just something extra. It brings a thrill to your soul. It is totally different from all the burdens and the difficulties of being an administrator .

VI. DON'T CARRY MINISTRY PROBLEMS INTO CHURCH

When you are in the deacons' room, don't say, "Well, last week when I was in that other church we had a real problem there." Don't take your ministry problems into the church. The church is to minister to the flock of Jesus Christ. That's not a place to take personal problems and burdens from your ministry. That doesn't mean that you cannot ever ask anyone to pray for you or for a student but you want to be careful how you present that. You probably have enough problems that you could complain every week about something. Satan will probably see to it that you are going to have problems. Let me say this, "If you want an easy life don't become an organizer of training ministries .

VII. CREATE NO CONFLICTS BETWEEN YOUR MINISTRY AND CHURCH

Perhaps the superintendent has just organized a provincial council meeting. You are going to have a meeting on that same day Coaches That's just one example. You can take a similar example in the local church. The pastor wants to do something and you just want to do something else. Be very careful about not creating conflicts between the church and the Training Ministry . Some heads of ministries forget that they need the church. Jesus said that he would build His church. Give priority to God's chosen church leaders. Do not create conflicts. The students come from the church; they don't come from the hospital or the university. You have an opportunity to train them for just a few years. When you are finished training your students, they don't become pilots. They will not become members of parliament or become politicians. Your goal is that they serve in the church! To minister and serve God as preachers, elders and deacons, as leaders within the church. They come from the church, they are for a few years in your hands and then you have prepared them to go back into the church on much a higher level. So be careful not to create conflicts. Give deference to the church leaders.

VIII. DON'T VOICE DISAGREEMENTS PUBLICLY

Yes there will be disagreements. It is normal because we are created differently. We have different characters and so we like and dislike different things. We are physically different so we have different tastes and appetites. We fit into different clothes. Therefore we simply do not, simply cannot humanly, agree on everything. So don't voice your disagreements with other people, and especially not publicly from the pulpit or in public meetings. But focus on the solution. God has a solution, God's plan is often that through friction and problems creation would propagate itself and would grow and would balance itself out (some seeds only sprout after a forest fire). You will see it all through nature in the forest, with weeds, in sea life and in other areas. So disagreements are not necessarily bad. Learn to accept them, learn to have the peace of God, rejoice in God. That's what David did and he was successful.



IX. DON'T COMPLAIN

Why not? If you don't like it, go get another job. Easy, isn't it? Let someone else be chief . Go and do something else. You are on the top, so all the problems come to you, all the burdens come to you, all the responsibilities come to you and the whole vision is yours. That's why we began with "You are God's man". You always wanted to be God's man. Now you are God's man. Don't complain. It is a characteristic that is against the Word of God. God is very strongly opposed to complainers. He has killed millions of people for complaining. He has kept millions of people from ever being successful in their lives. Millions of people have died early simply because they've complained. One of the primary examples is the Jewish people in the wilderness but it is not the only example by any means. It is exhibited throughout history. If you want to have a successful ministry, stay on target and stay away from complaining.

X. DON'T TAKE PROBLEMS HOME AND TALK IN FRONT OF THE CHILDREN

I think it's rather self-explanatory. It would create a very negative sour attitude in your home. You've just talked about a problem in front of your children but they didn't understand it and possibly a week later this man comes and your little daughter says, "Oh, you are that bad man that daddy was talking about." Good-bye spiritual work. You can quietly ask your wife to pray about certain situations but sometimes you don't need to give all the nitty-gritty details.

XI. KNOW RULES ON DISCIPLINE

Discipline is needed to operate A discipleship ministry Coaches work by themselves with a different kinds of groups. Therefore NLC has many guidelines and they serve for you to fall back on for discipline. There are guidelines on selecting students, and also standards for students. There are job descriptions for pastors and for administrators. There are similar guidelines for coaches: what to do and what not to do. All of these things are important and you should follow them. You should become an obedience-oriented leader. That will help you to stay on target. If you follow them you will stay clean and clear. You will have a clear conscience before God. You don't have to apologize for making mistakes, for being inconsistent. Follow these guidelines and know them. Know the rules on discipline.



XII. DEMAND AS MUCH OF YOURSELF AS YOU DO OF YOUR STUDENTS

It's amazing what we demand of other people. The students have to get up early in the morning. The majority of brothers that train have to do some chores and then they go to a factory or a place of work. They work all day and return home to do some more chores. Then they usually minister in their church at least all Sunday long and some of them on Saturday and during the midweek service or a choir meeting or something else. And now you've come along and you've asked them to study a course with you. Six hours of solid study every week. It means every night of the week one hour to prepare themselves to be better, more effective, blessed servants. Of course, it works. We know that. But it's a fantastic commitment we are asking them to make. Then you come in a nice car, you drive around, you get out of your car and say: "How are you doing?" He has been walking two kilometers. Your hands are clean. You took a little nap before you drove because you wanted to be sure you were refreshed before the meeting. He is dog-tired. You had a little snack with you in the car. He just came straight from work and hasn't eaten for four hours. Sometimes we forget how much we demand from a student, "Uh, that's only a little homework assignment. Yes, you have five already but this little extra one--you can do that." Sometimes we are not realistic. Be sure that you are a hard working person, that people know that you demand as much of yourself as you do of your students. Be willing to set a good example.

XIII. YOU ARE THE LEADER--ACT LIKE IT

You are a leader, act like it. Be ahead of your team . As a chief , be sure that you minimally have a two-year plan of where you want to go . And that should be written down. I have a five-year plan written down for my life. And yes, sometimes I need to change it because I'm not God. I don't always know the future exactly 100 %, so I need to change--but I have the plan. As a manager you should have a plan at least for one full year showing what you want to do personally with your life, your family, and what you intend to do with your students. How many groups you want to lead, what spiritual success you want them to have in the different ministries that they are doing and so on. You are the leader--act like that and then see how many people follow you. People love to follow a stable, mature leader.

XIV. NEVER DISCLOSE A CONFIDENCE

There is an abundance of confidences. They abound everywhere. They are necessary. People need to share certain information but it cannot be shared with everybody. Sometimes things need to be shared in sequence. It needs to be shared with you first before they can share it with the next person. There is a time element involved and that means confidence. Each person in this chain of events is expected to keep this confidence and not to share it. Somebody has lifted you on the pedestal of respect and they want to share a confidence with you. Maybe a sin has incurred in their life and they want to confess it to you and have you pray them through to spiritual victory. Maybe a blessed event is happening but there are some ifs and buts and they don't want to tell everyone yet. So never disclose a confidence, never betray a trust.



XV. LOVE THEM — SHOW IT — TELL THEM

You need to love people. It's a vital requirement of any spiritual leader in any position. As a coach, if there is one student that you don't love, he will probably drop out. The same is true if you are a pastor or an administrator. The foreman you pay least attention to, or get along with least of all, will ultimately become your problem person. Love people. Love is something that can be learned. Love is something that you can do by will. You can through self-control do nice things for people. Say nice things to them. Respect them for certain accomplishments. You are the overseer. Love your administrator; love his wife in an appropriate way. Love your group leaders. Love your students. Love the pastors. Love the superintendent. Love churches. Love unbelievers. Listen to this, "Love them, show it, tell them." Just loving them is not good enough. You need to **demonstrate it**. Basically love is giving something to someone and you need to tell him or her as well. Love is something that needs to be communicated. It builds security. It builds peace, joy and confidence. What did Jesus say? "I have loved you," and He said that many times.

XVI. DON'T EXPECT A TRAINEE TO TURN OUT WRONG

People live up to your faith. People often tend to perform according to the expectancy of the group leader. Don't expect a person to turn out wrong. I'm reminded of one person who just wanted to study in early days and nobody really recommended him. He was a poor-quality church member. Other people did not like him. The pastor was not for him and did not see any prospective possibilities for him. He started to study. He started to grow. He started changing his attitudes, his character. He started sharing. And pretty soon people noticed it. People were amazed; people began to appreciate it. His pastor saw that his attitudes in the congregation were changing, and people were beginning to respect this person. The pastor began to appreciate this new element in his church and he thanked us saying, "I had never thought this would happen to this man." People act according to how much you believe in them. Don't expect a person to turn out wrong. Realize he is struggling more than some other people and find ways that you can help him. It's an opportunity. Yes, he is going to grow a little bit slower. Yes, he is not going to study as much as some others. I think of one man who never could study the material well, and he couldn't pass some of the exams, but today he is a superintendent. So don't expect a student to turn out wrong.

XVII. BE FAITHFUL TO CHURCH

Be faithful to church. You have church leaders, denominational leaders. Sometimes they have requirements and you must fulfill those requirements. You need to meet with the superintendent. You need to share with your superintendent every time you see him. There should be so much to share from your own life, from the life of the students, from their ministries, from the lives of the people you've ministered to. There is an abundance, and you ought to honor the church with it. Be faithful to its services. Be faithful to your denomination. Don't criticize the other denominations or run them down either. But keep your love for your own denomination. Keep your heart for your own denomination. Appreciate its standards; appreciate its doctrines.

And then, of course, be faithful to New Life for Churches. New Life is a special organization focusing on church leadership training. It is one of the best formats of preparing church leaders worldwide. It's the only way that both Jesus and the apostle Paul demonstrated to us. But how? The way you do it is to be an obedient servant

leader, obeying the instructions from your leaders. Sometimes they revamp, sometimes they revise to make adjustments to present cultural and economic conditions. You need to obey those instructions. You need to not only obey them, but also long for them, be eager to implement them, try them out, even when you don't understand them. That is what it means to be faithful. Not just do the minimum, but with a loyal heart do it. And you will **stay on target**.

XVIII. TEACH LOVE AND RESPECT FOR THE MAN OF GOD

The men of God are the spiritual leaders in your church. Basically deacons and pastors in the churches are the men of God. They need to be respected because God respected them, and God chose them to become leaders. He could have picked someone else but He chose them. Yes, we know that some may still have an unpleasant character. Yes, we know that some are doing certain things that may not be exactly right. Maybe they are not totally above the board. Yes, there may be some negative or sinful elements they still have not been able to get rid of in their lives or in their ministry or in their habits. But, and this is a **big BUT**, but God raised him up to be the man of God, to be the leader of the flock, to be the physical leader of the physical and visible body of Jesus Christ. That pastor or deacon is the person you ought to love and you ought to respect him for the position that God had entrusted to him. You are, through love and respect, to help him be a better leader. You make him more Christ-like. He can only be more Christ-like to the extent that people in the congregation are upholding him and following him with love and loyalty and respect.

XIX. WATCH FOR KEY PROBLEMS

A. Coaches who prefer to teach



Watch for trainers who do all the talking at the seminars and there is no discussion happening. Class time is more like an exam, more like a question and answer time. That's one of the big problems. Watch for coaches who don't know how to lead a discussion. In the local group or seminar time everything rises or falls on whether a coach can lead a good discussion with the learners. We are not just talking about one topic. We are talking about really covering a lesson and week after week making progress, , and helping students to have new capabilities afterwards. One reason this

happens is that there is not enough training and experience. Be sure you train all your group leaders in how to lead a discussion and give them lots and lots of supervised practice. Do you know something about learning to drive a car? Almost all new drivers smash up their first car. Almost all of them. Lack of experience. So this is a key problem when trainers prefer to teach. Help them change that.

B. Administrators who prefer to innovate

It's hard to be the second man in command and, because of that, many administrators somehow want to show their own personality, their own feelings. So they begin to do things differently than what the manuals recommend. Some of it looks good, and in the beginning maybe it works better. It may even be faster because a discipleship ministry is very slow, but in the end it doesn't work. It almost invariably deviates from the target and that is what we are talking about, **'staying on target.'** This a key problem area with administrators, and pastors or directors need to pay close attention to it.

These are the two main problems and there are others. But remember these two specifically.



XX. BE LOYAL. LOYALTY — FAITHFULNESS

Two words to deal with here. Loyalty and Faithfulness.

These two words, loyalty and faithfulness, imply a close personal relationship that is steadfast even in temptation. Of course a relationship is easy when everything goes smoothly and there are no problems. During their

honeymoon usually people do not work and they have no other obligations. That time is set aside to learn, to discover their new partner and everything is beautiful. But as time goes on, the relationship is stretched and stressed and tested. This very same thing is true when you hire new staff and train new people, or when working with people in a new position. It's a fact of life.

Let us look more closely at these two words, loyalty and faithfulness. Loyalty means to want to belong to something, to be excited about it. It has an element of positive, joyful longing to make a contribution. So it has an element of hope in there and is based on reverence and respect. It is part of the citizen's nature to be loyal to their country, to their flag. Then you have the word "*faithfulness*." Faithfulness is close to loyalty but it carries more the meaning of being steadfast, sticking to the task even when it is mundane, even if it is not easy or comfortable. It is not giving up and is a longer-term sacrificial type of care. For instance, in our wedding vows we have for better and for worse. Loyalty would be the 'for better' part while faithfulness would see us through the 'or for worse' part, even if your wife ends up in a wheelchair. We can use those two words in another phrase "*observance of duty*." Take a day to analyze the commitments you have deep down in your heart to your wife, to each member of your staff and to the various pastors of the flock of God. How loyal are you? How faithful?

A. Observance of duty

Our lives are full of duties, opening the door for someone, stepping back and letting someone else go first, saying "thank you" and a multitude of little things. Loyalty and faithfulness imply a close relationship that is steadfast, that is strong even in temptation. If you want to have a good spiritual ministry that's the relationship you should have with your administrator and with some of your trainers. Observe duty even when tempted to renounce a worker. We all have temptations occasionally to renounce a friend. Sometimes we just think, "Huh, it was better without this guy." As foreman even then do your duty and pay him on time. As an office worker even then make sure things are tidy. As a secretary even then keep his files up to date. As an administrator even then take care of your manager.

B. Not to break your word

One of the qualities of loyalty and faithfulness is to not break your word.

We make promises so lightly. Promises are an everyday element of life. We use them everywhere. Without it you can't even live. You promise your wife something when you leave. You promise when you'll be back, for instance. You make appointments with other people; you promise to do certain things. The whole world is put together by promises because our lives are interactive and we are depending on each other. So we all need to know something about expectations for the future.



Now God does not change. He has made promises, and He keeps all of those promises. He created us in His image. He wants us to be exactly like Him, keeping all of our promises. That's why He makes such a strong statement about punishing people who break their promises or their vows before God. Eccl. 5:4-6 and our promises as Christians are made before God, because they are meant to be made in truth.

Promises are meant to be made in honesty. The other person expects you to fulfill them. And every time you change your word, you break your word, and you show disrespect to the other person. Your life is more important, your schedule is more important. This is not right. Honoring your word and not breaking your word means that you respect other people. You are lifting them up and you become a person that is serving them. What a beautiful Christian virtue it is not to break your word.

We can do a number of things that will make us more virtuous people. One thing is to have a good schedule written down. Have your yearly schedule, have your monthly schedule, have your weekly schedule and then have your daily assignments that you need to fill. Another key is to write your promises down. In your notebook there should be a section for action points. Write things down that you need to do for other people. When you travel it is called a trip report. When it is a conference, it is called an 'after action' report. You come home and have a whole list of things you promised to people. Now praise God, you can do them and you become a virtuous person. All you have to do is become an obedience-oriented leader, a leader who is willing to fulfill his own promises and do the things that God has given him to do. What a way to become a virtuous person

XXI. LOYALTY — A SHORT DESCRIPTION

A. Loyalty — defends — supports

Loyalty is needed at a time when it is not easy. When somebody disagrees or when there is some criticism or friction, and that is almost daily. That's when loyalty defends. It stands with the person who is criticized. Have you ever-noticed how loyal wives are. Just try to criticize her husband in front of the wife and see how angry and upset she gets. She defends that husband of hers. She stands with him and she supports him. This is a good example to use in other areas. We need to stand with people in their weaknesses. Loyalty defends and supports.

B. A loyalty that is silent is none

In other words you cannot be silently loyal. Let's say, a pastor receives criticism or something nasty is being said to him, and the administrator just stands there besides him, totally quiet and never saying anything. Everyone wonders, what does the administrator think about it? The pastor is afraid to ask him because he thinks that he is probably in agreement with the critic. The critic thinks the administrator must agree with him because he didn't say anything to back up his pastor. So a loyalty that is silent is no loyalty. Loyalty must be verbally expressed. It must be expressed in front of other people. It requires a choice. And it requires a "yes" for one side and it requires, unpleasantly enough, a "no" for the other side. Without it you cannot be loyal.

C. Disloyalty

Disloyalty criticizes and complains. Just remember that. Whenever you criticize or complain about another colleague or about some leadership in the church or deacons, you show disloyalty. A loyal person goes directly to that person and prayerfully talks to him about the problem.

But there is another better way to handle your differences and that is through Loyalty — faithfulness. Loyalty is such a positive thing that builds people up. Faithfulness is such a positive thing that makes people depend on you, to carry them through. Perhaps there is sickness and you need to take the ball and run with it. It gives the wonderful knowledge that you are taking care of all the little daily routines.

CLOSING

These are crucial things. These are vital things. They keep you on target. They kept King David on target. He was a man of God and he stayed on target his whole life. Yes, he made mistakes. But he was a man after God's own heart. Why? Because he stayed on target. He always kept praising God. He always kept saying: but my confidence is in You, I know You will never reject me. You will come and rescue me. I will trust you. I will adore you. Let's praise God together. David stayed on target through praise and trust. I hope you practice this too. It will help you to stay on target.

This time let us close with the famous song "**Loyalty to Christ**"

O hear, ye brave, the sound that moves the earth around ,
'Tis loyalty, loyalty, loyalty to Christ
Arise to dare and do, ring out the watch-word true
Of loyalty, loyalty,
Yes, loyalty to Christ
Come, join our loyal throng, we'll rout the giant wrong,
'Tis loyalty, loyalty, loyalty to Christ
Where satan's banners float we'll send the bugle note,
Of loyalty, loyalty,
Yes, loyalty to Christ

Blessings to you, our dear friends!

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Practical assignment

Completed

- Over the next six months focus on one of the following items each week. Spend time in prayer about it and consistently work on staying on target in that area. Check off the item after you have focused on it for a week.



I. As Pastor or Facilitator you are God's man	
II. Your job is spiritual	
III. To do it right –go by the Training lectures	
IV. Be consistent	
V. Have an outlet for service	
VI. Don't carry Training Ministry problems into church.	
VII. Create no conflicts between the Training Ministry and church.	
VIII. Don't voice disagreements publicly	
IX. Don't complain	
X. Don't take the problems home and talk in front of the children	
XI. Know rules on discipline	
XII. Demand as much of yourself as you do of your students	
XIII. You are the leader--act like it	
XIV. Never disclose a confidence	
XV. Love them — show it — tell them.	
XVI. Don't expect a student to turn out wrong	
XVII. Be faithful to church and New Life for Churches	
XVIII. Teach love and respect for the man of God	
XIX. Watch for key problems	
XX. Be loyal. Loyalty — Faithfulness	