



**Course Name:** Why Men Do Not Lead Part 4

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**Course description:**

The church today needs men who desire to serve in leadership. This course focuses on the final two reasons expressed by men who do not want to lead. While we cannot exhaust the possibilities, this provides a foundation for understanding the reasons given and how we can overcome them.

**Course Objectives: By the end of this class students will have...**

- A. Examined two additional reasons men do not lead in the church today and reasons behind these occurrences.
- B. Described two ways we can overcome these hindrances.

**Outline of the class:**

- A. Continue to look at the list made in previous weeks that described reasons men do not lead in the church today.
- B. Take a few moments to review the two areas we focused on last week and the ways we can overcome those hindrances. Ask the class to identify the ways to overcome these hindrances as discussed previously.
  - 1. Lack of ability
  - 2. Fear
  - 3. Too busy
  - 4. Lack of experience
  - 5. Lazy
  - 6. Indecisive
- C. The lesson today will focus on two additional areas described:
  - 1. Pessimism
    - a. Describe leaders who are pessimistic: what do they say or do?
      - 1) They say things like, “It can’t be done.”
      - 2) They claim, “we’ve tried that before and it did not work.”
      - 3) They put a negative spin or cloud over every activity and suggestion.
      - 4) They allow a defeatist mindset to exist and they promote it.

- b. What causes someone to be pessimistic? Ask for suggestions:
  - 1) Previous failures
  - 2) Disappointments in life
  - 3) Being around other negative people
  - 4) Little faith at best, no faith at worst
  - 5) No vision, goals, or plans
- c. Consider the results of pessimism
  - 1) Discouragement
  - 2) Bad attitudes (which become contagious)
  - 3) Nothing gets done
  - 4) Influences people to quit
- d. The challenge is dealing with this mindset and how to overcome it to promote a more positive atmosphere.
  - 1) Focus as much as possible on the positive things that have happened, the successes, goals achieved, etc.
  - 2) Pull the pessimistic influencer aside and strongly encourage them to stop, because of how it affects others.
  - 3) Eliminate negative words such as “can’t, never, hasn’t, won’t, etc.”
  - 4) Assign the negative person to a team of positive and enthusiastic players.
  - 5) Promote the cause and connect them to that cause.
  - 6) Focus on the possibilities (prevent discussion of impossibilities).

2. Walk by sight

- a. Ask for a discussion of what it means to walk by sight.
  - 1) Rely only on the senses: hear, see, taste, touch, smell
  - 2) Live by the appearance of things
  - 3) Worry or anxiety
  - 4) Trust our emotions over facts
  - 5) Strive for perfection rather than faithfulness
- b. The opposite of walking by sight is walking by faith. How can the church promote greater opportunity to walk by faith? Ask for discussion.

- 1) Encourage others that all things are possible with God.
- 2) We need to be reminded that we cannot make it on our own.
- 3) Does counting the cost mean that we are walking by sight?

**Conclusion:**

- A. We have discussed several areas over the last few weeks that hinder men from leading: the lack of ability, fear, too busy, lack of experience, lazy, indecisiveness, pessimism, and walking by sight.
- B. We need to consider a plan for how we can move beyond these hindrances, address the challenges that exist, and overcome them in ways that promote greater leadership development.
- C. While we have expressed ways to overcome each of these reasons, next week, we will take time to specifically focus on developing a plan that will assist the congregation in overcoming the hindrances we have discussed.