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Leadership Retreat  
**Quitting Like a Man!**  
I Corinthians 16:13  
July 19, 2003



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Watch ye (keep awake), stand fast in the faith (persevere on the right), **quit you like men** (act manly), be strong (increase in vigor). I Corinthians 16:13

## The Purpose of This Retreat Is

to inspire you!

1. to love God more and more.
2. to be even more manly.
3. to lead people to Christ.
- ☆ 4. to strengthen your local assembly.
5. to organize your life around the Bible.

To inspire your hearts for the things of God, to help you set your affections on things above; viz., that you become a human “driving force” in your local assembly, exalting God, helping to edify the flock, as well as evangelizing and discipling the lost. Also, specifically, that you (and then others) be driving the daily ministrations so that your pastor can better minister to all the flock, feeding and overseeing it, seeing all exalting, edified and equipped, evangelizing and discipling.

### Assumptions

You want to give your life for something which counts for eternity.

You want to be a good and faithful steward.

You want to see people saved and discipled.

You want to be “in the ministry.”

You want to be a good husband, father, son, man, and worker, a strong man, not in self, but in God.

You want to make your local church a delight and a glory to God and to your family and to its people and to this country.

You are willing to give your life to these things!

## Is There Not a Cause?!

I Samuel 17:29

The cause is the Lord, His glory.

The cause is the Lord, His church.

The cause is the Lord, His/your church.

The cause is the Lord, His/your wife, family.

The cause is the Lord, His/your children, parents.

The cause is the Lord, His/your friends.

The cause is the Lord, His/your vocation.

The cause is the Lord, His/your country.

The cause is the Lord, His/your neighbors.

The cause is the Lord, His/your life.

the tool: gps  
**What is “Manliness”?!**

A man is one who consistently does right (I Kings 2:2-3). A man runs to his responsibility. He fulfills obligations. Christ is our example of manliness. (Righteousness is fulfillment of obligations.)

A man runs to the responsibility!

1. He identifies it.
  - a. This is called a goal.
  - b. Where are we going?
2. He strategizes how to get there.
  - a. This is called a plan.
  - b. How do we get there?
3. He connects it with reality.
  - a. This is called a schedule.
  - b. When will we do it?
- (4. He does it.

Influence others for God!  
**Leadership!**  
Genesis 18:19

1. A leader must know (be learning) the right way himself. (“trailblaze”) (I Tim. 4:16)
2. He must communicate that way to others. (teach) (Mt. 5:19)
3. He must want others to go that way themselves. (“tote”) (Hag.1:14; Phil. 2:12)  
He does this through:
  - a) example (I Cor. 4:16)
  - b) words (Heb. 3:13)
  - c) force, if necessary (I Cor. 4:21)
4. He must be motivated by love to God and man and fear of God, duty, and service to God and man (Job 16:5; II Cor. 5:14).
5. He must seek to make others strong and successful, to promote Christlikeness, and to help them find God’s will for their lives (Ps. 28:9).
6. He must seek to permit them as much liberty as possible, and to rejoice in their (true) liberty, except when they depart from the right way. He must seek to give them as much authority and responsibility as possible, to remove himself as much as God will allow, and to have confidence in them (I Cor. 4:14-15).
7. He must have wisdom, self-discipline, courage, humility, humor, anger, patience, and a large capacity for friendship.
8. He must pray, decide, set goals, plan, schedule, initiate, delegate, pray, run to responsibility, follow-up, and be brave (Ps. 78:9) (“decisive, assertive, and humble”).
9. He must be Spirit-filled, have or get vision, and be called of God (Jms. 4:7).

## Who Is to Carry the Load at Your Church?!

whose responsibility is it at your church to see to it that:

the Word is preached  
SS teachers are in place, trained, inspired  
ushers are in place, trained, inspired  
services are organized and effectual  
flock is reading-meditating, praying, witnessing, happy in  
the Lord, corrected, inspired-motivated  
evangelism is occurring individually, corporately  
building is opened for services (and closed), cleaned and  
ready  
lot is plowed (of snow), grass mowed  
men's and ladies' Bible studies, junior church are  
flourishing  
bills are paid on time  
JDC, nursing home ministries are happening effectually  
people are counseled, visitors are welcomed, members are  
called on, contacts are contacted  
missionaries are encouraged, "overseen"; cause of missions  
is spreading  
people are prayed for, loved; prayer is happening  
church paper is sent out  
bulletins, prayer lists are blessing  
board and congregational meetings are organized and  
administrated ("refreshingly")  
pew supplies are purchased, pews are washed  
choir/special music is scheduled and practiced  
materials for SS, other classes, Bible memory are ordered  
tracts ordered – passed out  
baptistry is filled, emptied, cleaned; people being baptized  
are helped  
nursery help scheduled, supplies purchased  
library kept in order  
rooms set up for classes, suppers, missionaries  
communion supplies ordered, set up  
special speakers and missionaries greeted, housed and fed  
all programs are overseen  
time is spent with God in the Word and prayer

to glorify God in local assembly, producing Christlikeness  
man: one who runs to his responsibility

## How to Carry the Load

how to pour in virtue; bear ye one another's burdens  
Acts 6:1-8

What is "load"? time and energy, money and life required to produce something; somewhat interchangeable terms include responsibility (Job 1:1, "upright"), care (I Tim. 3:5), virtue (Mk. 5:30), burden (Gal. 6:2), and life (I Jn. 3:16). It is a giving of your soul and life (Jn. 15:13).

## Step-by-Step Plan to Carry the Load

0. saved and faithful
1. pray fervently
2. identify area
3. set tentative goals, plans, schedules
4. coordinate with total program
5. motivate, encourage, promote, enlist
6. implement: set up, be there, take down, write comments, follow up
7. repeat process

## How to Organize Your Life Around the Bible

and lead your “jurisdictions” for God’s glory and others’ blessing

Proverbs 16:9

God is organized and we should reflect that quality.

### A. Scriptures

1. Pro. 16:9 (vs. 1-9) plans and flexibility
  - a. “man’s heart deviseth...” (ie, set goals, plans, schedule)
  - b. “Lord directeth...” (ie, “be flexible in the hands of the Holy Spirit.”)
2. Pro. 13:19; 29:18 goals
3. Pro. 24:6; 20:18; 15:22 plans
4. Ec. 3:1 (vs. 1-11) schedule (Pro. 14:23)
5. Ps. 90:12 (vs. 1-17). “Number our days.”
6. Eph. 5:16 (vs. 15-17); Heb. 11:32b. “Redeem the time.”
7. Rom. 12:8 (vs. 1-8). “Rule with diligence.”
8. Pro. 10:4; 12:24; 21:5; 22:29. Be diligent (prompt, earnest, thorough).
9. I Cor. 14:33; Ps. 71:1. Avoid confusion.
10. I Cor. 14:40 orderliness (time and place for everything)
11. Mt. 7:7 goals, initiative
12. Pro. 15:22. Without counsel, purposes (plans) are disappointed.
13. Pro. 21:31. Prepare, but trust the Lord – not plans or preparation.

### B. Principles

God is. God is a rewarder of “diligence” (Heb. 11:6).

God wrote out His goals (e.g., Rom. 8:29), plans (II Cor. 3:18), and schedules (Gen. 1:5-31), so why do we think we shouldn’t?!

“In Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28). Man’s relationship to God is foundational. He is our direction and director, our goal and goal-setter, our priority

and prioritizer, our filing system and memory, our scheduler and motivator.

The scriptures are the self-revelation of God. God is known by obedient learning. Ingesting the scriptures leads to faith (Rom. 10:17), which is how reality is grasped (Heb. 11:1). He is trustable, sovereign and good (Heb. 11:34-35). We must die to self (daily) (Job 17:11).

Thoroughness (excellence and diligence) is expected of us by God. Time-money also is an aspect of reality (Heb. 11:32b). Thoroughness and time must both be factored into finding God’s will.

Man’s chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. Man glorifies God by trusting Him, enjoying Him, and working out his own salvation (Phil. 2:12). Organizing time (and space) is the out-working (or application) of God’s self-revelation.

There is no authority but of God (Rom. 13:1).

### C. Method – strategy

1. Be knowing God; i.e., be mastering the Self-revelation of God.
2. Have a functional large-margin Bible.
  - a. Master the Bible: mark, meditate, memorize, master (enjoy – forget not) (Ps. 119:9-16).
  - b. Mark all sections in your Bible pertaining to certain topics in which you have interest. Develop your own marking code\* (Phil. 2:13; Ps. 37:4).
  - c. Mark those things God has taught you in your Bible so that they can be reviewed [for hope, Rom. 15:4, 13] annually (Ps. 78:4-8).
  - d. Cross-reference your life to your Bible by filing in your Bible according to the first verse that pops into your mind (Lk. 12:12).

The scriptures are the warp and woof of your unique life tapestry as you co-weave books, thoughts, people, experiences, etc., throughout life by yielded choices.

3. Have a functional system for organizing.
  - a. Make your system written, simple, and enjoyable: have a notebook with dividers, calendar, goal lists, people lists, post-it notes, follow-up lists.
  - b. Have goals, plans, deadlines.
  - c. Follow-up.

D. Where to begin (proceed and end)

0. “All things by prayer” (Phil. 4:6; Pro. 16:3).
1. Mark-master pertinent scriptures (begin with God) (Josh. 1:8).
2. Identify principles by which you will operate (Dan. 1:8).
3. Set goals (Pro. 16:9) (vision statement) – keep posted.
4. Plan (map out how to accomplish goals) – keep it simple, enjoyable (Lk. 14:28; Pro. 20:21; 24:6).
5. Set deadlines (and follow up) (Ec. 3:1; II Cor. 12:20-21).
6. Meet with people (know, love, and pray for flock).
  - a. Involve them; seek their counsel (II Chron. 20:20-21; Pro. 15:22).
  - b. Position wisely; have job descriptions.
  - c. Make them successful, help them grow.
  - d. Motivate, stir up, provoke (Heb. 10:24-25; II Pet. 1:13; 3:1; II Tim. 1:6).
7. Evaluate all periodically (methodically).
8. Be the driving force – inspire (Hag. 1:1-15 (esp. 13-14)).

E. How to meet with people (two or more people connecting for a purpose constitutes a meeting) (II Chron. 20:20-21; Acts 19:32)

1. Have a stated purpose (goal) for each meeting, understood “up front” (Acts 19:32).
2. Maintain unity of spirit, diversity of perspective (I Cor. 1:10)!

3. See that all participate and contribute and that all go away “win-win” (in the spirit of Joshua 1:8 and wisdom and not Pro. 20:14).
4. Love, be enthusiastic, optimistic, and motivating.
5. Be “ahead-of-time,” punctual at both ends.
6. Have at least a minimal grasp of parliamentary procedure (I Cor. 14:40).
7. Keep accurate, simple records (minutes, policies, procedures, finances-budget, reports).
8. Have minimal but necessary rules (by-laws); the leader needs written (and communicated) philosophies.

\* Bible Marking Code

notice	③ memorized	♫ music
double notice	④ to memorize	⚕ health, medicine
! prayer	○ research	🍷 food
{ separation	g civil government	❤ love, friends
f family	✓ taught my kids	Ⓢ sports
† education: teach, learn	↓ leadership	F faith
Ⓜ money, finances	Ⓜ preaching	ad administration

**“How to”  
Equipping the Students! (Leaders!) [yourself]  
for the work of the ministry**

- A. See “How to” Book Mark**
- B. How to Study** (II Tim. 2:15; Pro. 2:1-5): process mental material for incorporation; application of the mind for the incorporation of knowledge
1. take the time
  2. concentrate
  3. incorporate
- C. How to Think** (Pro. 4:26; Phil. 1:4, 8): problem solve; make connections
1. identify the problem
  2. propose solutions  
or
  1. examine from every angle
  2. list implications or applications
- D. How to Read a Book** (analyze a film; debate; prepare a message): first understand; then evaluate (or appreciate)  
(answer the four questions)
1. What is the point (or plot)?
  2. What are the parts (or episodes)?
  3. Is it true (or beautiful)? What are the truths?
  4. How does it apply?
- E. How to Preach (to your family, class, neighbor):** proclamation of Christ with application; “truth through personality”; “herald the truth”
1. pray: ask God for message – content and delivery
  2. master the text – rightly divide
  3. format the message – incorporate stories and illustrations
  4. (practice delivery); require response
- F. How to Lead:** taking others somewhere; influence with a spirit of servanthood – responsive to others’ needs (diakonos) and responsive to another’s will (doulos); exercise judgment, serving, and faith in your jurisdiction(s)
1. trailblaze: be seeking to go that way yourself
  2. teach: communicate that way to others
  3. tote: motivate others to go that way
- Leadership is most effective when goals, plans, and schedules (under God, Pro. 16:9) are implemented.

**“How to” Book Mark  
How to Acknowledge Him Pro. 3:5-6  
8/5/99; 1/6/02**

0. Pray (Heb. 12:28).

**Hear the Sermon.**

A. Prepare

1. Pray “Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law” (Ps. 119:18) and “Help me to ‘attend upon the Lord without distraction’” (I Cor. 7:35).
2. Contemplate Pro. 1:5-6 and Jms. 1:19-25. (Anticipate with friends and family; pray for salvation of lost, edification of saved, wisdom for preacher, revival; confess and forsake sin; get to bed; get up to have a good Bible time.)

B. Peer

1. “Look at the preacher” (Neh. 8:3-5; Lk. 4:20; 19:48).
2. Have a good attitude: diligent, obedient, enjoying (Job 13:17; Heb. 13:7, 17, 24).
3. Take notes (Rom. 15:4).

C. Practice

1. Review – incorporate into life and Bible (Jms. 1:24).
2. Implement (Jms. 1:22).

**Study the Bible.** Take the time, concentrate/delight, incorporate

A. Goal (Josh. 1:8):mastery (outline) and daily time with God

B. Plan (Ps. 119:9-16)

1. mark (v. 9)-use a pencil/pen and a code
2. memorize (v. 11)-fix words and thoughts in mind
3. meditate (v. 15)-chew the cud and apply
4. master (v. 16)-delight in and forget not

C. Schedule (Ec. 3:1, 11; Ps. 90:12): study first thing (Ps. 88:13; 119:147), regularly (Ps. 1:2), and at all times (Ps. 119:17-24)

**Glorify God (Ps. 29:1-2).**

- A. Acknowledge His glory (“weight” –significance).
- B. Value His glory (and Him) above all.
- C. Display His glory by how you act and speak.
- D. Trust and obey Him.
- E. Appreciate Him and His glory.

**Delight in God (Ps. 37:4).**

- A. Hear the preached Word and study the written word (Ps. 119:25).
- B. Accept God’s goodness, sovereignty and wisdom in providence (Ro. 8:28).
- C. Ask for it (Ps. 119:5, 36).
- D. Set your affections by laying up treasure in heaven (Mt. 5:19-21). This is done by expending time/money and energies in serving God and man.
- E. Quench not the Spirit who produces delight, by sin (I Thes. 5:19).
- F. Taste and see that the Lord is good (Ps. 34:8) by following this “how to” bookmark.

**Find God’s will**

- A. God’s Word (II Tim. 3:16-17; Ps. 37:23,31; Col. 3:16)
- B. Authority (Rom. 13:1; Pro. 16:10; Heb. 13:17)
- C. Godly desires (Ps. 37:4; Pro. 16:1; Phil. 2:13)
- D. Providence (Ps. 103:19; Pro. 3:27)
- E. “Priorities” and counsel (Mt. 6:33; Pro. 11:14; 24:6)