

Create



✓ Prepare in Advance

- Provide pens/pencils and paper for the writing option or keep an ongoing journal for participants to return to or take home each week.
- Provide and keep a collection of art supplies for each week including but not limited to: crayons, chalk, color pencils, markers, glue, tissue paper, colored construction paper, paint brushes, watercolors, finger paints, scissors, and a variety of scrapbooking paper and old magazines.
- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.

✓ Breath of God

Ask someone to read **1 Thessalonians 2:9-13**. Then, show the *Bible Background Video*.

Say: In today's text, we hear a great deal about leadership and what Paul feels it means to be a leader in one's faith community. What do you think this text can teach us about leadership? Do you agree or disagree with any part of the text?

Distribute copies of this page. Invite each participant to choose either the **Writing** or **Visual** approach and spend the next 20-25 minutes with that experience.

✓ Create-Writing

- What are characteristics of good (effective) leaders and bad (ineffective) leaders? Create a chart comparing the two types of leaders. Why are you drawn to certain leaders in your community, school, workplace, church, etc.? Are you a leader? How do you lead? Is it effective or ineffective for your followers? Circle characteristics from either list that you recognize in yourself.
- Do leaders have to be perfect to be effective? Explain. What does the "perfect" leader look like to you? Is there a difference in spiritual "leaders" than civic/social "leaders"? Draw or list characteristics.
- Draw a huge question mark and answer the following question inside the question mark. Is it ever okay to question the leader? What are situations where questioning is perfectly okay? What happens when people blindly follow the leader?



✓ Create-Visual

- Using the art supplies provided, create:
- A piece of art containing names, images, and symbols of great leaders throughout history. Include great leaders in your own communities, schools, neighborhoods, church, etc.
- Answer the question, "What makes a great leader?" with your artwork. Try not to use any words in the art, at the very least don't use complete sentences.

✓ Share

Call the group together. Ask participants to share their creations and their meaning.

✓ Close

Offer a prayer thanking God for the positive, effective leaders in your life. Ask God to teach you how to be a more positive, productive leader in your own circles.

(After the session, consider finding a way to share the creations of the group-post pictures on Facebook, on a church website, or in a portfolio/frames kept either in a public place in the church or in your group's special gathering place.)

By Carra Hughes Greer

Church Websites

Get FaithLab to develop your new church website and help support FaithElement.



faithlab.com