

Fail Proof Spiritual Leadership

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-6.
- B. There is a great need for good leadership.
- C. There is a path for effective leadership.
- D. The principles of leadership relate to Paul's view of God.

II. Paul was confident in God's power.

- A. This gave Paul tenacity.
- B. Paul had the courage to speak the truth regardless of reception.
- C. The preacher's job is not to make comfortable--it is to expose sin, which creates conflict.
- D. Paul's boldness came from God. (Ephesians 6)

III. Paul was committed to God's truth.

- A. This gave Paul integrity. Paul was a guardian of truth. (1 Timothy 6, 2 Corinthians 2:17)
- B. Paul spoke with purity. (1 Peter 2)
- C. Paul did not speak with deceit. (Jeremiah 23, 2 Corinthians 11:13-15, Psalm 78)

IV. Paul was commissioned by God's will. Paul was not doing the mission on his own. He had been entrusted with the gospel. (Acts 9, 1 Corinthians 7:25, Ephesians 3:8, 1 Timothy 1:11, Titus 1:3)

V. Paul was compelled by God's knowledge.

- A. This means that God's omniscience motivates and is a great accountability.
- B. Paul was no man pleaser--he spoke to please God. (Galatians 1:10, 1 Corinthians 10:33, 1 Thessalonians 1:4)
- C. God examines hearts. (1 Corinthians 4:1, 1 Chronicles 28:9, Proverbs 26)

VI. Paul was consumed by God's glory. This gave him humility. (1 Corinthians 9:16, 2 Corinthians 4:5)

Application Questions:

1. How can a person become more bold in sharing his faith?

2. How would you assess your own commitment to God's truth? How can you grow in this area?

3. Which principle for leadership strikes you the most? What stands out to you about it?
