



Leadership [L1] Being a Christian Influencer

For an elaboration,

see https://www.a-z.ctn.sg/post/leadership-l1





Opening Prayer - "A Prayer for Catholic Leaders" by <u>Catholic Leadership Centre</u>

Dear Jesus,

We thank you for the gift of our Catholic leaders who have so generously answered your call to labour in your Father's vineyard.

We pray that they will always walk closely with you and have the heart of a servant leader just like you.

We pray that in all things you will grant them wisdom to discern your will, clarity of purpose, a creative mind to find new ways, and courage and fortitude to persevere in the service of your kingdom.

And may the hearts of our leaders be ever filled with joy and peace, entrusting the results of their efforts into your hands, and knowing that they have been faithful to your calling to the very end.

This we ask in your most precious name. Amen.





1. The Urgency of our Evangelization is proportional to the Fervency of our Faith



Authentic conversion leads to Ardent mission

When God converts, He also sends.







Ananias Restoring the Sight of St. Paul by Pietro da Cortona (c.1631)







Upon our conversion, each and every one of us is called to a mission for Christ.





Consider

Have you discerned your mission, and are you currently carrying it out for Jesus?



1. The Urgency of our Evangelization is proportional to the Fervency of our Faith



Urgency & Fervency

Faith	Evangelization
Fervent - Closely connected with the Lord & His desires - In particular, His desire to save souls	 Urgent Strong missionary impulse Irresistible desire to share Christ with others, and minister to their needs
Lukewarm or Cold	Inert / Unmoved / Half-hearted















"A fire can only be lit by something that is itself on fire."

Ecclesia in Asia (1999) at [23], Pope St. John Paul II.





And then mission will necessarily follow





But mission needs leaders





But mission needs leaders

Including and especially, Lay leaders



"Moreover, since the inculturation of the Gospel involves the entire People of God, the role of the laity is of paramount importance. It is they above all who are called to transform society, in collaboration with the Bishops, clergy and religious, by infusing the 'mind of Christ' into the mentality, customs, laws and structures of the secular world in which they live."

Pope St. John Paul II, <u>Ecclesia in Asia (1999)</u> at [22]





2. Humility – a Kenosis of Self, whereby Christ is Identified, and Glorified



The greater is one's humility, the more effective is the leader

Isaiah
St. Paul
John the Baptish
Jesus





Self-emptying (**Kenosis**) is the indispensable foundation for servant leadership





3. Availability - Christian Influencers



What is Leadership?





Leadership is influence.

Influencing others for Christ.





Not reserved for a gifted few.

All are called to be Christian influencers.



As long as we influence just one other person to think, say or do something for Christ, that <u>is</u> leadership.



Influence grows over time.

If one is faithful in little things, this will result in greater responsibility from God gradually and over time.



Conclusion

- •<u>Urgency</u>: Authentic conversion leads to ardent mission, and the more fervent our faith is, the more urgent our evangelization is.
- •<u>Humility</u>: To fulfil the missionary impulse to evangelize, we need to raise up many more leaders, **especially amongst the laity**, servant leaders with Christ-like *humility* to serve, that Christ may be identified, and glorified.
- •Availability: All of us are called to increase our availability to such service and leadership, to influence others for Christ and to help accomplish the missions that He has given to each of us, i.e. to become Christian influencers.



Consider

- •Have you discerned your mission, and are you currently carrying it out for Jesus? If "Yes", share more to encourage and inspire one another. If "No", why not?
- •Name 1-2 practical steps you can take today (or within the coming weeks) to begin to lead, to influence others for Christ, in order to accomplish the missions He has given to each of us, i.e. to become Christian influencers.



Closing Prayer – I will <u>Go</u>, and I will <u>Hold</u> Your people in my heart

"Here I am, Lord

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard You calling in the night

I will go, Lord

If You lead me

I will hold Your people in my heart."

Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

