**Do You L.E.A.D Well? *By Kris Swiatocho***

***Below is a simple acrostic to help you remember how to lead well.***

**L: LED**Are you being led by the Lord so that, in turn, you can lead others in the Lord? Are you spending enough time with God so that when you lead, it’s coming from him, his spirit, versus only your knowledge? You can easily get distracted with life, taking away that precious time with the Lord. How will you know what God wants you to do, who to lead or minister to, what ministries to start or end, and what direction for the ministry, etc., without time with him first? Take a few minutes and spend time with the Lord, asking for his direction for your next steps.

*Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.*

**E: ENCOURAGEMENT**

Ministry can be tough sometimes. And the people in our ministries can strain your energy, focus, and joy. It can make you question whether you should continue to lead. This is why encouragement is so important. We need encouragement as leaders, but we need also to offer encouragement. It’s easy to complain or point out the problems, the areas of your ministry you don’t like, and the people you wish would leave or wish would change. Don’t forget that sometimes you just need to offer a hug, take someone to coffee, listen, or send a quick text saying I am praying for you. As you encourage, God often encourages you in the same way so that you can keep going!

*1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*

**A: AFFIRM**
Life can easily get in the way of leading. The enemy will whisper comments that lead to doubt of your calling. Maybe you should just get a job as a greeter at the church instead of a teacher, or perhaps you will just set up the chairs and not speak anymore. Sure, you could do those other valuable areas of ministry, but don’t let the enemy cause you doubt. It’s when he does this that you are at your most vulnerable. So, guess what? He does the same to those you lead. Take a few minutes and pray for your team. Send them a message and affirm them in the roles they serve on your team, despite whatever they are going through. God is not done with you or them yet.

*Romans 11:29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.*

**D: DISCIPLESHIP**
We have heard the word discipleship most of our Christian walk. The scripture tells us that we are supposed to be doing this. And while some of us are, that word comes with many expectations, including a huge chunk of our time. Because of this, most people do not disciple, or do they? No Christian got to where they are without someone speaking into their lives. From the pulpit to music to prayer to fellowship to Bible study to one-on-one mentoring—all are forms of discipleship. Challenge your team today to be thankful to those who have spoken into their lives and, in return, to speak into others---no matter what it looks like. Even forwarding a reel or morning devotion, watching a Christian movie with others, attending a Christian concert, retreat, or conference, or a serious talk about accountability can all be aspects of discipleship.

*John 15:8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.*

Keep up the great job, and L.E.A.D. well.

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• [www.TheSinglesNetwork.org](http://www.TheSinglesNetwork.org)

• [www.KrisSwiatochoMinistries.org](http://www.KrisSwiatochoMinistries.org)

• [www.LaborDaySingles.org](http://www.LaborDaySingles.org)

• [www.IntentionalRelationshipSolutions.org](http://www.intentionalrelationshipsolutions.org/)