



LEAD IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY

Mentee Module

Version 1.6



www.mentorlink.org

WARM GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST!

Welcome to LEAD IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY. This module is one of 7 modules that make up the MentorLink Institute. This project is designed to serve leaders around the world as they seek to lead more like Jesus with the people they serve and to build other leaders who will do the same.

We trust this will be a life-changing experience as you grow to be more like Jesus in the way you serve. It is part of a process to take you and the others in your Mentor Group into the heart of what Jesus wants from those who lead in His Kingdom.

This is the resource module for both Mentees and Mentors to use as a guide for the Mentor Group experience. As you prepare for each session, you will glean new understanding of what it means to lead like Jesus. Then as you discuss the session, the Spirit will have opportunity to shape you more into the image of Jesus in the way you lead and how you treat people. You will be challenged by what others in your Mentor Group are seeing and learning from the Spirit as well.

Our heart is that you will grow to lead more like Him and to develop others who will do the same.

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INTRODUCTION

This module, *LEAD IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY*, is one of 7 modules available in the MentorLink Institute. There is no intended order in these except we highly recommend starting with either ***Leaders Follow Jesus*** or ***Lead in Light of Eternity***. This series of modules builds leaders who conform to Jesus in heart, character, and ministry leadership through the mentoring process and equips them to develop other leaders who do the same.

WHO IS THIS MODULE FOR?

This module is for those who are serious about living and leading according to the principles of Kingdom leadership given by Jesus and applied in the early Church. The MentorLink Institute is for men and women who are marketplace leaders, ministry organizational leaders, church leaders, Bible study leaders, house church leaders and anyone who wants to learn how to mentor others for Kingdom work and leadership.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Jesus said that many leadership practices are common and acceptable – the world’s way of doing business and getting things done... “but it shall not be so among you” (Mark 10:42-45). Leadership in His kingdom is vastly different. It is a distinctive way of viewing yourself as a leader and how you impact and invest in others for His sake.

Here are some of the goals and benefits of participating in the Lead in Light of Eternity module:

1. You will grow in your sensitivity and discernment for the motivation, attitudes and practices that have eternal value and that bear lasting fruit in Christ’s kingdom.
2. With the Holy Spirit as your ultimate guide, you will personally develop in Christ-centered leadership as you examine at how Jesus lead, interacting with a facilitating mentor and the members of your mentor group.
3. You will receive help in investing in others in practical ways so that they may lead like Jesus.

WHAT IS RECOMMENDED?

It is recommended that mentees participate in a Mentor Group of 3-6 developing leaders facilitated by a mentor who will guide the process. This is not a Bible study – as such, it is not a body of material or content to be mastered. It is an experiential process that works best in the context of a group.

Mentor Group Meetings:

1. We recommend that the Mentor Group meet for weekly sessions for consecutive weeks.
2. We recommend that each session last for at least 1½ hours.

Two guidelines:

1. It is expected that each participant complete the preparation prior to the actual Mentor Group session.
2. If someone misses the Mentor Group twice, we recommend that they drop out for the rest of that module.

Distance Mentor Groups:

1. The ideal Mentor Group meets face-to-face.
2. However, for security, financial or logistical reasons, Mentor Group members may not be able to meet face-to-face. In our orientation material, we provide suggestions for distance mentoring, such as using potentially free services like Skype.

WHAT IS OUR VISION FOR EACH MENTOR GROUP MEMBER?

This module and the entire MentorLink series is designed to help us grow as Christ-centered leaders and treat others in a way that honors His work in their lives, builds them up in grace, and releases them to follow Him. This module will also provide a practical way, through the Mentor Group process, for a mentee to “Pass It On” to others. This will happen quickly for some. Others will grow to mentor others to “Pass It On” at a slower pace.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

We do not charge for the materials. Your mentor will not charge for his or her time. But there are real costs. Dying to self to grow in Christ is costly. Your time is costly. Some will choose to be part of a “Distance Mentor Group”. Many in the Distance Mentor Group will have Skype or another free telephone service. But some in Distance Mentor Groups will not have Skype or even reliable internet service. Your mentor may have to call you on your cell phone to connect.

Perhaps you will have a face-to-face mentor group. Great. This is the ideal. Still there may be costs in traveling to a location where your group can meet—perhaps on the other side of the city or a neighboring town.

HOW SHOULD THESE MODULES BE USED?

Jesus modeled developing leaders in the context of what we call a mentoring group. Each module is designed to be used in the context of a Mentor Group. As you process what God is doing in your heart through this module and hear what He is doing with others in your group, you will be encouraged, supported, and challenged to become a Christ-centered leader. This module does not reflect content to be mastered intellectually, but rather embraced in your heart, life, and leadership. The goal is to change hearts in leaders becoming more like Jesus.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

If you received this as material from someone, please register on the MentorLink web site. This will allow us the opportunity to better serve you with resources to help you find a mentor group and connect you to a mentor. Also we will forward additional mentoring resources to you via e-mail. Register at <http://www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/global-mentoring-project/join-a-group/>

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE FACILITATING MENTOR?

The mentor is neither an expert nor a teacher. He or she is merely a facilitator of the Mentor Group process. The mentor will have a discussion guide that allows freedom in directing the group's discussion. Both mentor and mentees will learn and grow together.

Overview: Lead in Light of Eternity

In This Module You And Your Mentor Group Will . . .

1. Better understand the criteria by which Jesus will evaluate our ministry.
2. Evaluate and purify our motives in ministry.

Responsibilities . . .

1. Complete assignments for sessions before you meet together.
2. Meet with your Mentor Group weekly.
3. Pray for each other daily.

Sessions . . .

1. Judgment Ahead
2. Cost/Benefit Analysis
3. Rewards: Good, or Bad?
4. False Leaders' Judgment #1
5. False Leaders' Judgment #2
6. Jesus as Judge

Session Goals

1. Judgment Ahead

The goal of this session is to help each Mentor Group member begin to see the importance of evaluating their lives and ministries in view of the scrutiny their work will receive when they stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

2. Cost/Benefit Analysis

The goal of this session is help each Mentor Group member understand that God intends to reward his servants for their service, and to begin to develop biblically based criteria to apply in making personal and ministry decisions.

3. Rewards: Good or Bad?

The goal of this session is help each Mentor Group member develop a biblical understanding of the appropriate role promised rewards have in providing Christians with the perspective needed to make wise choices between temporal and eternal benefits.

4. False Leaders' Judgment #1

The goal of this session is to help each Mentor Group member understand the danger of being "earthly minded" in contrast to "heavenly minded." Losing focus on eternity to focus on temporal benefits can corrupt a leader and will result in fruitlessness.

5. False Leaders' Judgment #2

The goal of this session is to help each Mentor Group member distinguish between false teachers/prophets and leaders who may be true believers but whose earthly mindedness may corrupt both their character and ministry, and may cause them to lose rewards they would otherwise receive The Day Jesus rewards his people.

6. JESUS AS JUDGE

The goal of this session is to help each Mentor Group member develop standards for leaders from Matthew 23, to review the module, and then to specifically apply what has been learned to himself and his or ministry.

Judgment Ahead

SESSION GOAL

The goal of this session is to help each Mentor Group member begin to see the importance of evaluating their lives and ministries in view of the scrutiny their work will receive when they stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

1 Read the following letter from Baghdad

Dear Friends,

We are in dust storm season, and yesterday was our worst and longest this year. I asked one of my classes if they remembered it being this bad before, and they said not since 2003. I reckoned that it was no coincidence that they chose the year the war began here. When I asked, “What about the 90s? Do you remember any really bad storms in the 90s?” Immediately they indicated another bad series of storms occurred at the time of the First Gulf War. No one in class ever said directly the Americans were to be blamed—they didn’t need to. That is just standard fare in these parts. In past years we have heard some people say that the American tanks caused the dust storms.

As for my personal opinion about the dust storms, all I know is that this morning I washed off my roof and all around my house, which is quite a feat for a single feller. I was feeling quite pleased with myself, until I went out the door and was greeted by yet another sand storm. Living in Baghdad these days makes one think he is living on the Red Planet!

The situation here continues to be tense. My students have all been depressed as the security situation has regressed. There have been quite a few assassinations in our area recently. Two of the people targeted were men we know quite well. However, the boys continue to do well as they continue in His Word. I read 1 Peter chapter 1 with Wally this past week. As you know, the chapter is theologically loaded. One of which was 1 Peter 1:1: “From Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those temporarily residing abroad Then later, in 1:17, “and if you address as Father the one who impartially judges accord to each one’s work, live out the time of your temporary residence here in reverence.”

Wally readily agreed with me that people here love to talk about this world being our temporary residence. They pontificate about the subject ad nauseam. Nevertheless their attachment to this present world is so manifest it's impossible to believe they give "the world to come" (Hebrews 2:5) any serious thought.

Living overseas for 20 years in some ways provides a special opportunity to feel how temporary our residence here is (having to get one's residence renewed annually contributes to that). And yet I never stop feeling the struggle to say focused on "the world to come."



Thank God for His Spirit is living in us, which gives us the longing for our permanent residence. It is certainly not a longing we can conjure up.

Your partner from Baghdad

2 Reread the letter. Then answer the questions below. Include as many reasons as you can before going on to page 9.

Why might it be easier to treat Baghdad as a temporary residence?

Why might it be harder to treat where you live as a temporary residence?

Go on to page 9.

3

Below you'll find three passages describing final judgment. Compare and contrast these passages, noting in each where the judgment takes place, who is judging, who is being judged, what is being judged, any criteria for judgment, the outcomes of the judgment, etc.

EVALUATION OF BELIEVER'S WORKS

Each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on that foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the day will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.

—1 Corinthians 3:10-15

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each of us may receive what is due him from the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

—2 Corinthians 5:10

CONDEMNATION OF NON-BELIEVERS

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the book. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone's name was not found in the book of life, he thrown into the lake of fire.

—Revelation 20:11-15

"Judgment Seat: A raised platform used for public proclamation. Winners of athletic games were announced from a *bema*. Civic officials pronounced judicial sentences and public commendation from such a platform. Paul's statement, "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ" (2Corinthians 5:10) would have stirred not only fear but also enthusiasm. The judgment seat in Corinth was a large, centrally located platform. When someone appeared before the *bema*, it was sometimes for condemnation, sometimes for commendation.

With the Christian's sins paid for by Christ and no longer an issue, appearance at Christ's judgment sea will be to receive rewards (see Ephesians 6:6; Revelations 22:12)

Record comparisons and contrasts here

Then go on to page 11.

Use This Page To Take Notes During The Group Discussion.

Cost/Benefit Analysis

SESSION GOAL

The goal of this session is help each Mentor Group member understand that God intends to reward his servants for their service, and to begin to develop biblically based criteria to apply in making personal and ministry decisions.

- 1 Picture yourself as an oil company executive. You are evaluating opportunities for your company. What are the plusses and minuses of each of the following opportunities? Your company has the resources to take only one of the opportunities. Which will you recommend that your company go with?
 - A. The government of Venezuela has invited your company to supply experts and equipment to restore the productivity of older oil fields. They are offering to pay costs monthly, plus a 20% profit.
 - B. The government of Russia has invited your company to partner in the development of a new oil field in Siberia. They expect you to put up 50% of the cost of developing the field, and offer you 50% of the profits. However, recently Russia has forced BP to sell Gazprom, the state oil company, most of the major stake in the oil field BP was originally promised.
 - C. Another major American oil company has asked you to be a 50/50 partner in development of a potentially giant oil field located 80 miles off the coast of Florida. You are confident that the technology developed during the last 40 years has reduced the risk of an oil spill to almost zero, but you know that despite the county's need for energy independence, your company will be vilified initially.

Which Opportunity Will You Recommend? A B C

2

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Other: _____

3

Read the two passages from Matthew's Gospel quoted below . Then list criteria these passages suggest that we should apply when making choices in our daily lives and ministries.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul. Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?*" For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done.*

–Matthew 16:24-27

***In this passage "soul" is used as a reflexive pronoun, a familiar Hebrew and Aramaic usage. Jesus' point is that by holding on to the things we value in this life rather than lose those things in a life lived for Jesus we lose the self we would otherwise become.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, "Who then can be saved?"

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Peter answered him, "We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?"

Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first. – Matthew 19:23-30

Criteria For Christian Decision-Making:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Other: _____

4 How Do You React To The Following Statement?

"Christians should be just as thorough in evaluating the cost/benefit of their choices as are oil company executives of their opportunities?"

5 Read Matthew 6:1-21 in your own Bible and underline all references to treasure or reward. Copy the references here.

6 In a couple of sentences summarize your conclusions.

7 Respond to the following: "Kingdom servants are expected to be motivated by treasures and rewards. The issue isn't treasures. It's where they are stored."

Rewards: Good or Bad

SESSION GOAL

The goal of this session is help each Mentor Group member develop a biblical understanding of the appropriate role promised rewards have in providing Christians with the perspective needed to make wise choices between temporal and eternal benefits.

1 Look at each of the situations described below in which a parent rewards a child.

Determine in which cases the rewards are used wisely, and in which unwisely. **Be prepared to explain your thinking when the group meets.**

- A. Josh is doing poorly in school. So dad promises to pay him \$10 for each C, \$20 for each B, and \$50 for each A on his report cards.

- B. Hanna has worked summer jobs to help pay for college. When she graduates from high school mom reveals that she's saved enough to pay for college, and Hanna can use her money to buy a new college wardrobe.

- C. Eric and his parents sat down when he graduated from high school. The parents explained they didn't have enough money to pay for college. But they promised that if Eric would work and save a specified amount during the next two years, they would match that amount so he could go on to school.

Wise uses of rewards ____ ____ ____

Unwise use of rewards ____ ____ ____

EVALUATION OF "A"

EVALUATION OF "B"

EVALUATION OF “C”

2 Study the following New Testament passages that reflect a leader’s looking forward to a reward.

Hebrews 11:24-26

By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

1 Peter 5:1-4

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ’s sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed. Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be, not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

2 Timothy 4:6-8

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous Judge, will award me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his coming.

3 Record your observations and any conclusions here about God's use of rewards.

5 Given the New Testament's teaching on rewards, what are possible implications of the following verses?

1 Corinthians 15:58

Always give yourself fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 13:3

If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

1 Corinthians 9:23

I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

2 Corinthians 9:6

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

6 Add at least three additional verses that may have added implications given the New Testament's teaching on rewards.

7 Make a list of decisions that you have made that involved a choice between something valuable in this world and your understanding of God's will for your life.

As a teen I chose . . .

. . . instead of . . .

As a young person I chose . . .

. . . instead of . . .

As a spouse and parent I chose . . .

. . . instead of . . .

As a leader I chose . . .

. . . instead of . . .

In this past month I chose . . .

. . . instead of . . .

Right now, I choose . . .

. . . instead of . . .

False Leaders' Judgment #1

SESSION GOAL

The goal of this session is to help each Mentor Group member understand the danger of being "earthly minded" in contrast to "heavenly minded." Losing focus on eternity to focus on temporal benefits can corrupt a leader and will result in fruitlessness.

1 Make a prediction. The three year old grabbed an empty glass from the table, ran to the sink, and threw it in. Naturally, the glass broke. "Bad, that's bad," her older sister said. How did her mother react, and why?

2 In 2 Corinthians 11:12-15 Paul has some harsh words for persons he calls false apostles, who in other passages are called false teachers or false prophets. Here's Paul:

And I will keep on doing what I am doing in order to cut the ground from under those who want an opportunity to be considered equal with us in the things they boast about. For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder; for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. So it is not surprising then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.



The following are two New Testament passages that warn against false teachers and/or false prophets. Examine each carefully. How can the true nature of these counterfeit leaders be distinguished? Record what you find below:

Philippians 3:17-21

Join with others in following my example brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you. For as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious bodies.

2 Timothy 3:1-13

But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.

They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth. As Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these men oppose the truth—men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

Philippians 3:17-21

2 Timothy 3:1-13

3 Read the following. Do you agree with the writers' conclusions, or not?

The apostle James has a word for those who want to be leaders. He writes, "Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. We all stumble in many ways." (James 3:1,2)

Let's go back to the story of the 3-year-old girl. If you predicted the mother would hug her little girl and might even praise her, you were probably right. The little girl was trying to help with the dishes. Her motive was good; only understanding and ability were lacking.

When James says we "all stumble in many ways" he's stating something we all know. As human beings we all are deficient in understanding and often in ability. But God supplies both understanding and ability as we grow in him. What's essential is the desire to please God, expressed by having our "minds on heavenly things" as is right for those whose "citizenship is in heaven."

God can work in and through the person whose mind is on heavenly things.

But the New Testament warns against those who "live as enemies of Christ." Philippians describes them as persons whose "god is their stomach" and whose "mind is on earthly things." In 2 Timothy Paul pictures them as "lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power." These are "religious" people whose orientation and passion for control is to what is valued in this world. Their orientation leads inexorably to the corruption of their character.

Only those who lead with eternity firmly in view, concerned only with what pleases the Lord and fully committed to the rewards awaiting them on That Day, will avoid the powerful and corrupting attraction of the things of this present world.

Jot down your thoughts here:

4 Read what God said through the prophet Ezekiel to the spiritual leaders of the Jewish people just before the Babylonian captivity.

This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Woe to the shepherds of Israel who only take care of themselves. Should not shepherds take care of the flock? You eat the curds, clothe yourselves with the wool and slaughter the choice animals, but you do not take care of the flock. You have not strengthened the weak, or healed the sick or bound up the injured. You have not brought back the strays or searched for the lost. You have ruled them harshly and brutally. So they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and when they were scattered they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep wandered over the mountains and on every high hill. They were scattered over the whole earth, and no one searched or looked for them.

Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord. As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, because my flock lacks a shepherd and has been plundered and has become food for all the wild animals, and because my shepherd did not search for my flock but cared for themselves rather than for my flock, therefore, O shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am against the shepherds and will hold them accountable for my flock. I will remove them from tending the flock so that the shepherds can no longer feed themselves. I will rescue my flock from their mouths, and it will no longer be food for them. —Ezekiel 34:1-10

5 What is the motivation of the shepherds that the Lord condemns? And how are they like the pseudo-leaders condemned in the New Testament?

6 At the close of your last session together you applied the New Testament's teaching on rewards by recalling and writing down choices you made that reflect your commitment to eternal rather than temporal rewards.

This week think of one choice you made in your personal life or ministry that was intended to gain a worldly benefit at the expense of an eternal benefit. Briefly describe the choice in writing, including your reasons for making that choice and the outcome.

False Leaders' Judgment #2

SESSION GOAL

The goal of this session is to help each Mentor Group member distinguish between false teachers/prophets and leaders who may be true believers but whose earthly mindedness may corrupt both their character and ministry, and may cause them to lose rewards they would otherwise receive The Day Jesus rewards his people.

- 1 Read the following New Testament passages concerning false teachers/prophets.

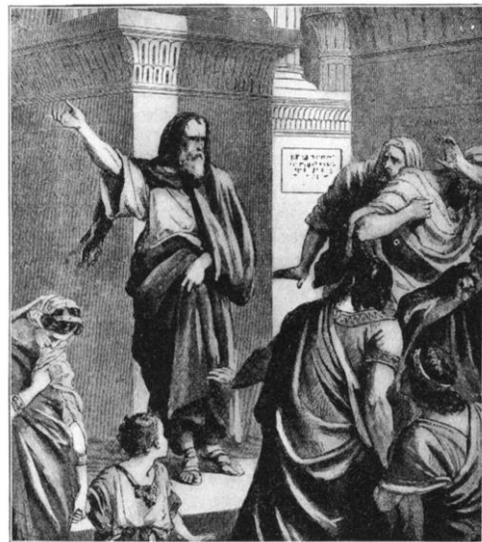
2 Peter 2

But there are also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves. Many will follow their shameful ways and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. In their greed these teachers will exploit you with stories they have made up. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping.

. . . the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment, while continuing their punishment. This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the sinful nature and despise authority.

Bold and arrogant, these men are not afraid to slander celestial beings, yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not bring slanderous accusations against such beings in the presence of the Lord. But these men blaspheme in matters they do not understand. They are like brute beasts, creatures of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and they will perish.

They will be paid back with harm for the harm they have done. Their idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad daylight. They are blots and blemished, reveling in their pleasures while they feast with you. With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable, they are experts in



greed—and accursed brood. They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the wages of wickedness . . .

These men are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them. For they mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful desires of sinful human nature they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error. They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity—for a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him. If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled and overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning. It would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then turn their backs on the sacred commandment that was passed on to them. Of them the proverbs are true: "A dog returns to its vomit," and "A sow that is washed goes back to wallowing in the mud."

Jude

Certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord. . . . These dreamers pollute their own bodies, reject authority and slander celestial beings. But even the archangel Michael when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" Yet these men speak abusively against whatever they do not understand and what things they do understand by instinct, like unreasoning animals—these are the very things that destroy them.

. . . . These men are grumblers and faultfinders; they follow their own evil desires; they boast about themselves and flatter others for their own advantage.

From Revelation 2

You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality. . . . Repent, therefore.

You tolerate that woman Jezebel who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways.

2 Three things mark the false teachers described in the passages:

- Theological mark: they deny Christ
- Character mark: they seek personal advantage and behave immorally
- Ministry mark: they produce immature believers who follow the dictates of their old nature

3 Go back over the passages above . Using three different symbols identify any additional theological, character, or ministry marks of false teachers. Then add these to the columns below:

Theological Mark	Character Mark	Ministry Mark
Deny Christ	Seek personal advantage Behave immorally	Produce immaturity Produce immorality

Do any individuals you know of display all three characteristics? If so, name them.

4 Do you know of any “Christian leaders” who display all three marks? If so, who?

5 Do you know of any Christian leaders who have been found to display the Character Mark only? If so, who?

6 What valid conclusions can you draw from this week's study so far?

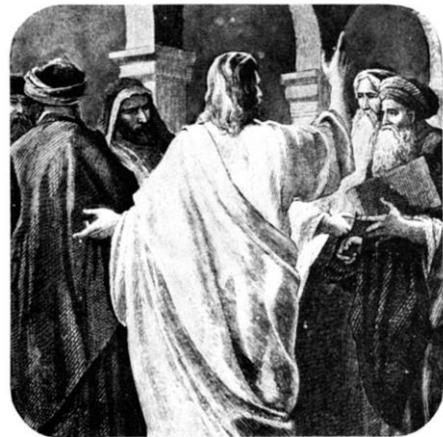
7 How are we to apply what we've discovered in this week's study?

Jesus as Judge

SESSION GOAL

The goal of this session is to help each Mentor Group member develop standards for leaders from Matthew 23, to review the module, and then to specifically apply what has been learned to himself and his or ministry.

- 1 After closely observing the Pharisees of his day, Jesus publicly evaluated their leadership. His judgment of them is recorded in Matthew 23. Work through the passage (below), and from his evaluation determine Christ's standards for leaders.



Jesus' Evaluation

v.3,4 *But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. They tie up heavy loads and put them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.*

v 5-7 *Everything they do is done for men to see. They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels of their prayer shawls long, they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; they love to be greeted in the marketplaces and to have men call them Rabbi.*

Standard(s)

Be humble (v 8-12)

Be a servant (v.8-12)

v13-14 *Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let them enter who are trying to.*

v15 *Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single disciple, and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as you are.*

v16-22 *Woe to you, blind guides! You say, if anyone swears by the temple, it means nothing; but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath. You blind fools! Which is greater, the gold, or the temple that makes the gold sacred? Therefore he who swears by the altar swears by it and by everything on it. And he who swears by the temple swears by God's throne and by the one who sits on it.*

v23-24 *Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees; you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy, and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter without neglecting the former. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel!*

v25,26 *Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees; you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisees! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside will be clean.*

v27-28 *Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees; you hypocrites! You are like white-washed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.*

v29-36 *Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You build tombs to the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous. And you say, "If we had lived in the days of our forefathers we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets. So you testify against yourselves, that you are the descendants of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of the sin of your forefathers.*

You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell? Therefore I am sending you prophets and wise men and teachers. Some of them you will kill and crucify, others you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town. And upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, which you murdered between the temple and the altar. I tell you the truth, all this will come upon this generation.

- 2 Go back over the passage and the standards for leaders you've drawn from it. What do you see among leaders around you that reflect the ways of the Pharisees rather than Christ's standards for leaders?

3 Go back over the first five sessions. Jot down the theme(s) of session.
(This isn't a test. You can use your study material and notes.)

Session	Main point(s)
1. JUDGMENT AHEAD	<hr/> <hr/>
2. COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS	<hr/> <hr/>
3. REWARDS: GOOD OR BAD?	<hr/> <hr/>
4. FALSE LEADERS' JUDGMENT #1	<hr/> <hr/>
5. FALSE LEADERS' JUDGMENT #2	<hr/> <hr/>

Which of these sessions has been most significant to you, and why?

4 If Jesus was sending a message to you as he did to the seven churches of Revelation, what would he be likely to have the Apostle John write? Follow the pattern of the letters, first characterizing Christ, then commending strengths, then expressing a criticism, and closing with an exhortation. (see Revelation 2:12-17 for the pattern.)

These are the words of . . .

I know your . . .

Nevertheless . . .

I . . .

In Closing

Dear Fellow Worker in the Kingdom,

We count it a privilege to serve you in your growth toward leading in light of eternity. We trust this experience has been valuable for you and through you, the people you influence. We also trust He has laid on your heart the simplicity and purity of leading in light of eternity.

Our heart is to continue to serve you through other resources available. But our greatest hope and prayer is that you will intentionally “Pass It On” to others so that they also grow in their heart to lead in light of eternity.

May you continue to grow as a leader who is leading in light of eternity.

Dr. Stacy Rinehart for the MentorLink Institute



What is your vision for “passing it on”?

You are now a steward of the heart issues in LEAD IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY. To whom will you pass this on? We encourage you to form another Mentor Group and facilitate others through what you have just finished.

“Passing it on” is not about mastering content, being an expert or a teacher. It is about being available to guide others through the mentoring experience. Will you continue to pass it on?

For additional help in “passing it on,” go to
<http://www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/passing-it-on/>

What’s next?

We encourage you to join another Mentor Group for another module. Other MentorLink modules are a good place to start. You may also want to form your own Mentor Group.

Want to facilitate another module?

There are two options – bring together your own local group, or simply sign up to mentor a group. We have a Mentor Orientation for new mentors. Go to the MentorLink website for links.
<http://www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/global-mentoring-project/facilitate-a-group/>

ABOUT THE AUTHORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

The outline of this module was originally developed by Dr. Stacy Rinehart based partially on his books, *Upside Down: The Paradox of Servant Leadership*, (NavPress 1998) and *Living In Light Of Eternity* (with

his wife, Paula, NavPress 1986). This message has been tested, refined and shared by the global MentorLink community.

We are indebted to Dr. Larry Richards, the foremost expert on Christian education of our day and author of over 200 theology and Bible related books, who took the original material and added additional material to bring it into its current form.



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MentorLink Modules

NOTE: THERE ARE MENTOR PROCESS GUIDES AVAILABLE FOR EACH MODULE



LEAD LIKE JESUS

The model of leadership in the world is clear. But Jesus calls His followers to a different model of leadership for the Kingdom. This module will assist you and your group in discovering this reality and in beginning to apply its implications to your lives, leadership, and mentoring.



LEAD IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY

Jesus had much to say about how He will evaluate leaders who serve Him. He also had many harsh words for false leaders. Jesus promises to reward those who serve Him faithfully. This module will provide understanding regarding the leader's personal advantage to having this eternal perspective.



BUILD HIS KINGDOM

Jesus came preaching the Kingdom. His Kingdom is the ultimate reality in this life and the life to come. However, many build their own empires, thinking they are building the Kingdom, while their very means and motives are actually at odds with His Kingdom. This module will assist you and your group in seeing the difference between building for the Kingdom and a leader building for his own empire. This module also will assist you in mentoring others regarding this awareness.



BUILD GRACE ENVIRONMENTS

How we mentor and treat people flows from our understanding of what Christ has done and is doing in us. This module will assist you and your group in a deeper understanding of the depth and riches of the Gospel of grace and its applications in your leadership and mentoring.



COLLABORATE AS LEADERS

Jesus mentored those he chose and was with them. Paul was always with someone who co-labored with him, mentoring him in the process. This module will assist you and your group in developing a practice of leading and mentoring in the context of partnership and community.



LEADERS FOLLOW JESUS

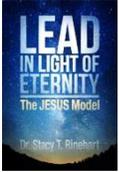
This module is intended for Christians operating in church, para-church ministries, Christian organizations, and the marketplace. Its intent is to help leaders evaluate the style of leadership exercised in their organization and bring it into harmony with the New Testament pattern. In this module, participants come to understand both the foundational concepts and the learning process which underlies MentorLink training.



LEADERS ABIDE IN JESUS

Some of the last words of Jesus to His Disciples were, "Abide in Me". The Apostle John reflects the importance of this, "whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked." This module opens the door for mentors and mentees to look at their own walk with Jesus. It is from this "center" that we fellowship with the Son and with one another. It is also from this center that we bear fruit for His Kingdom.

ADDITIONAL MENTORLINK RESOURCES

-  **LEADER'S COVENANT**
A simple, yet profound description of true spiritual leadership in ten aspirational statements with Scripture passages.
-  **DAYS WITH JESUS**
Journey with Jesus to draw closer to His heart and discover how He wants us to live, lead and influence people. This video-based discipling tool uses The JESUS Film and thought-provoking questions for reflection and discussion.
-  **PASSING IT ON**
This seminar and manual are used for training groups in transformational mentoring. It will transform how leaders develop leaders.
-  **MENTORLINK INSTITUTE**
Learn to lead like Jesus and mentor others while participating in mentor groups. The MentorLink Institute is a tested and proven strategy that works through a network of partners and mentors.
-  **LEAD IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY**
This book by Dr. Stacy Rinehart is about Jesus and leading in His kingdom. *Lead in Light of Eternity: The JESUS Model* is for anyone who aspires to live and lead like Jesus in the workplace, the church, the mission field, or the world.
-  **TRANSFORMATIONAL VALUES**
Jesus' ways are to be our ways. The focus is on changing leaders from the inside-out and on the leader's character and heart. Five values shifts needed for leaders who want to move away from leading in the way of the flesh to leading more like Jesus.
-  **BLOGS AND BOOKS**
Check out blogs and books focused on the heart and development of servant leaders. Find practical mentoring tips, personal stories and solid biblical advice.

All resources can be found at www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/