



My Leadership Presuppositions_What are Yours?

CRCC Leadership Discussion, Aug 3, 2016

- *"If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalms 11:3)*
- *"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it." (Matthew 7:24-27)*

Presupposition Definitions and Synonyms:

- *A thing tacitly assumed beforehand at the beginning of a line of argument or course of action.*
- *An implicit assumption about the world or background belief relating to an utterance whose truth is taken for granted in discourse.*
- *Synonyms: source, core, underpinning, principle element, footing, essential, heart, backing, bedrock, crux, root.*
- *Presuppositions aren't Core Values or Vision. Values/Vision flow FROM Presuppositions.*

This is Important for Five Reasons:

1. **Every** leader leads based on something or a collection of somethings.
2. Underneath the outworking of leadership, there are a set of core **convictions**/assumptions about life and leadership.
3. The strength and endurance of the leader is connected to the strength of his/her Presuppositions. They are the leader's "bottom floor"... the leader's **foundation**.
4. Understanding a leader's Presuppositions will help those who follow... **follow**. :)
5. As the leader matures, he/she will eventually **impart** these convictions through his/her leadership.

As an example, here are my Leadership Presuppositions:

1. Jesus alone is holy; I'm a sinner saved only by His grace. (Rev 3:7; Eph 2:8)
2. Jesus is Sovereign; I know very little. Therefore I must cling to Him, saying and doing what He did. (1 Tim 6:13-16)
3. Jesus is the authority of leadership. I can only lead well if I do so according to His will. (Col 2:9-10)
4. Jesus' Word is absolutely true and is sufficient for life (personal and family) and ministry. (2 Tim 3:16-17)
5. Jesus' Great Commission includes both the Gospel and obedience to His commands. (Matt 28:18-20)
6. Jesus is Lord over all things, including the *Home*, the *Church*, and the *State*. (Col 1:15-18)
7. Jesus loves us and knows what's best for us. (John 15:9-10)
8. Jesus wants lost people found and disciplined. (Luke 19:10, Matt 28:18-20)
9. Jesus will hold the leader accountable for his/her leadership. (Matt 12:36; James 3:1)
10. Jesus will one Day judge the living and the dead. (Acts 10:42; 2 Tim 4:1-4)

Questions for the Leader:

What are your Leadership Presuppositions? What are the fundamental, non-negotiable, core-convictions that you will never compromise? I encourage you to think and pray this through. This is not a trivial exercise. Leadership Presuppositions will make or break your leadership.