

## *The Five Tests of Leadership*

Bill Hybels 8/03

### **Luke 5:1-11 NIV**

*1 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the people crowding around him and listening to the word of God, 2 he saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. 3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. 4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." 5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." 6 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. 7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. 8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" 9 For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, 10 and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men." 11 So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.*

**A great leader, like the Apostle Peter, passes the following 5 tests:**

- 1. The "bias toward action" test (vs. 3-4). Is he or she a "make it happen type person?" COURAGE**
- 2. The "can you follow directions" test (vs. 5). Peter replied, "Because you say so, I will." OBEDIENCE**
- 3. The "who deserves the credit" test (vs. 8). Watch out for the "I'm the man" mentality. Remember, Jesus "is *the* man." HUMILITY**
- 4. The "grander vision" test (vs. 10). Does he or she understand that life is not about them but about God and His Kingdom? WISDOM**
- 5. The "will you leave it" test (vs. 11). Is he or she willing to pay the high cost in order to fish for men and not for perch? LOVE**

### **2 Tim 2:2 NIV**

*And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.*

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*Questions Great Leaders Regularly Ask Themselves*  
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- 1. How do I feel about my leadership focus? Great leaders need a high degree of focus.**
- 2. Do I have enough "growth engines" and "big dog" leaders to accomplish my goals? "Incrementalism" will kill the best of organizations.**
- 3. What are my biggest problems?**
- 4. How am I really doing on a personal level? Physically? Emotionally? Spiritually?**
- 5. Is my heart for people becoming more radically inclusive?**

*"The hardest person you will ever lead is you"*