Leadership Development in the Local Church: An Intentional Strategy for Developing Leaders at Every Level

Brian Moss

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Charlie Davidson

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Abstract
Every evangelical pastor knows that they have a responsibility to make disciples, and most of their churches have a system for doing so. They also know that every healthy church needs healthy leaders. As more and more of the next generation drop out of church and consequently leadership roles in the local church, the evangelical church is facing a serious crisis. Most church leaders would agree that developing new leaders is a critical responsibility of the local church, yet very few churches actually have an intentional leadership development process. Even worse, many pastors are confused as to how leadership development differs from standard discipleship.

Utilizing surveys of sixty-four church leaders, this project will identify the state of current leadership development among churches and will then submit a model for implementing intentional leadership development in the local church.

As leadership development experts, we regularly have conversations with senior executives around the world about the key experiences that are required for leaders to grow in their roles. The topic of developing a global mindset and exposing leaders to multicountry and multicultural experiences is gaining increasing interest. These megatrends are likely to create a deficit in the pool of leaders who have global experience and a true global mindset. And while multicultural training and cultural sensitivity courses for leaders are readily available, they tend to be a poor substitute for actual on-the-ground experience. 3. Be intentional. An international assignment should not be a CV filler. To learn and grow, people need a real challenge. If church leadership development a priority and you've identified potential leaders, you're ready to begin training. Here are 4 aspects that should be included. Here we will consider some aspects in training that should be a part of a strategy for developing future leaders. Relational Aspect in Training for Future Church Leaders. One of the most effective ways of developing future leaders is to have a current leader come along side of them in a mentoring, discipleship, coaching or apprenticeship type of relationship because it provides the following: observation of a role model. If we want to develop effective leaders, we need to be patient with the process and take the time to be with them not merely provide formal, academic instruction. Academic Aspect in Training for Future Church Leaders. Liberty university baptist theological seminary. Leadership development in the local church: an intentional strategy for developing leaders at every level. Doctor of ministry project. A Thesis Project Submitted to Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary in partial fulfillment of the requirements.