

# **DISCUSSION GUIDE**

## **LEADING YOURSELF IN MINISTRY**

### **SERIES INTRODUCTION**

Leading yourself in ministry is equally as important as leading your congregation. In fact, if you do not lead yourself well, your congregation will be left with a leader who is lost and unfit for ministry. In this series, we are unpacking how to lead yourself in ministry.

## VIDEO 1

### LEADING YOUR EGO PART 1

The day-to-day tasks and responsibilities of being a pastor are extremely fulfilling. While this is a positive thing, oftentimes this feeling of fulfillment can turn into an unhealthy pride. It is imperative for every pastor to understand how to lead their ego.

#### 5 Things for Leading Your Ego

1. Be \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Remember your roots.
3. Put your \_\_\_\_\_ in perspective.
4. Remember your failures.
5. Acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_ That Good.”

#### Discussion Questions

1. What are some patterns of pride that you have allowed to effect your leadership in the past?
2. Define humility in your own words, within the context of your pastoral responsibility.
3. What is the significance of putting your successes in perspective?
4. List three ways that you can check yourself to ensure that your ego is not limiting your leadership.

## VIDEO 2

### LEADING YOUR EGO PART 2

In this Part 2 of Leading Your Ego, we are unpacking five more fundamentals of leading your ego in ministry.

#### 5 More Things for Leading Your Ego

1. Correctly \_\_\_\_\_ accolades compliments.
2. Listen more than you talk.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ self-deprecate.
4. Don't take yourself so seriously.
5. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ your press clippings.

#### Discussion Questions

1. How can you ensure that you are handling compliments in a way that does not fuel your personal pride?
2. What are some strategies that you can utilize for yourself to ensure that you listen before you speak?
3. What are the harmful effects of taking yourself too seriously?
4. Which of these areas outlined within the video do you struggle with the most?

## VIDEO 3

### LEADING YOUR THOUGHTS

As a pastor or church leader, your thought life is extremely important. Your thoughts will control you if you do not control them first. In this video, we are discussing how you can do just that.

#### 7 Ways to Lead Your Thoughts

1. Ask \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Separate you and your thoughts.
3. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ to yourself.
4. Don't compare.
5. Get rid of \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Ease up on your speed of thinking.
7. Keep your \_\_\_\_\_ in check.

#### Discussion Questions

1. What toxic thought patterns have you found yourself in, within the realm of ministry?
2. What strategies can you take to keep yourself from overthinking?
3. Why is comparison dangerous for a pastor?
4. Explain the importance of keeping your emotions in check.

## VIDEO 4

### LEADING YOUR EMOTIONS PART 1

Emotions can get in the way of every day life and ministry. Emotions can also fuel you to propel your ministry. The truth is, you can control how your emotions effect you in terms of how you respond to them. Here is what you need to know.

#### What Emotions Do

1. Emotions \_\_\_\_\_ thers.
2. Emotions drive action.
3. Emotions are your  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Emotions grow the church.
5. Emotions communicate  
\_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_.

#### Discussion Questions

1. Understanding that emotions drive action, how can you ensure that your actions reflect the values of your church?
2. How can emotions grow the church?
3. What are some good things that emotions can communicate?
4. What are some bad things that emotions can communicate?

## VIDEO 5

### LEADING YOUR EMOTIONS PART 2

In this video, we are taking a look at the five core emotions that every pastor feels. Each of these emotions must be managed effectively for a thriving ministry.

#### Leading Some Core Emotions

1. Leading \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Leading Fear.
3. Leading \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Leading Sadness.
5. Leading \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Discussion Questions

1. What emotions have you had the most problems with leading during your ministry?
2. Which of these emotions do you feel like you have grown in the most?
3. Write down one time that you have struggled to lead each of these emotions.
4. Reflect on what you could do to improve your ability to lead each of these emotions.

## VIDEO 6

### LEADING YOUR SELF-IMAGE

Self-image is a tough thing to manage in every day life, let alone in ministry. As a pastor, you are under the scrutiny of your congregation, your board, and you feel the pressure of ministry. As a pastor, it is imperative that you are able to view yourself in a healthy way. Here is how to do just that.

#### 6 Ways to Lead Your Self-Image

1. You are made in \_\_\_\_\_ image.
  - a. Ps 139:13 & 14
2. Take inventory of all your traits.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ your negative thinking.
4. Know who you are.
5. Know who you are not.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ to those who love you.

#### Discussion Questions

1. What are some practical ways that you can confront your negative thinking?
2. What does it mean to be made in God's image? What does this mean for your life and for your ministry?
3. Why is it important to talk to those who love you?
4. What things have caused you to struggle with self-image in the past?