

THE IMPORTANCE OF FOLLOWING AN EXPERIENCED LEADER

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Matthew 16: 24-25

An experienced leader is a person who has been where you want to go. This type of leader knows how to lead you to your destination in the most **EFFICIENT** way possible. Despite what you have heard, experience is **NOT** the best teacher. It is the most **MEMORABLE** teacher.

**EXPERIENCED LEADERS DO NOT HAVE THE BEST
CHARISMA, YET THEY ARE THE MOST
MEMORABLE.**

Experienced leaders lead by **EXAMPLE**, not theory, They lead by **ACTION**, not philosophy. They take the mistakes and successes of their past to improve their followers future. The benefit of following an experienced leader is

that they can explain the **INEVITABLE** trouble, challenges and pleasures that lies ahead.

When a person can tell you what lies ahead of your journey it is a tremendous advantage given to you. Knowing what lies ahead of your journey is half the battle. The other half is listening and humbling yourself to their counsel so you can be victorious.

In order to benefit from the greatness of an experienced leader you have to be willing to do two things...**LISTEN AND OBEY**. An experienced leader does not need your advice or opinion. They know what to do. They need your **COOPERATION** and **SUBMISSION**.

It takes a very humble person to follow an experienced leader. If you are willing to be humble you can get to your destination faster while following an experienced leader. You can learn an extensive level of knowledge while following an experienced leader.

You can grow and mature faster while following an experienced leader. A wise person understands that it is better to listen to a twenty minute conversation to find out what took a person twenty years to figure out. When the twelve disciples decided to follow Jesus, He was an experienced leader.

King Jesus is a King in His own country. Before the world was created He was the beginning. John 1:1-2 says, "*In the beginning there was the Word. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.*" When Jesus recruited His disciples He was not seeking their opinions.

He was not creating a board of directors to help him make decisions. He wanted a group of people who were willing to **FOLLOW** Him. Jesus had a wealth of knowledge and wisdom He wanted to pass on.

All throughout the four Gospels Jesus talked majority of the time while the disciples listened and learned. In three

years time, the disciples went from not knowing anything about the Kingdom of God to **DEMONSTRATING** the power of God's Kingdom. Learning from an experienced leader will make you an expert in what they taught you.

The disciples were entrepreneurs, businessmen who were **NOT** spiritually inclined. However, after humbling themselves to the leadership of Jesus they were able to heal the sick, cast out devils, raise the dead and perform miracles. Their willingness to follow an experienced leader enabled them to do greater works at a faster pace.

**IF YOU WANT TO MOVE FURTHER FASTER,
FOLLOW THE ROAD THAT IS ALREADY PAVED.**

Matthew 16:24-25 says, "Then Jesus said to his followers, If people want to follow me, they must give up the things they want. They must be willing even to give up their lives to follow me. Those who want to save their lives will give up true life, and those who give up their lives for me will have true life."

Jesus **DID NOT** solicit people's opinion. He asked that you **FOLLOW**, listen and obey Him. The disciples went from being powerless to powerful in a short period of time because they followed someone who **KNEW** how to get them to where they wanted to go.

If you want to be a successful businessman **FOLLOW** a person who is currently successful in business. If you want to be happy **FOLLOW** someone who is happy so they can show you how to lead yourself. Experience is not the best teacher. It is the most memorable teacher.

The primary reason why it is important to follow an experienced leader is because you will **NEVER FORGET** what you experienced. After Jesus died and ascended back to heaven the disciples never forgot what Jesus taught them because they did not get their knowledge from a book. They lived it!

**IT IS A BLESSING TO FOLLOW AN EXPERIENCED
LEADER.**

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