



**Course Name:** Why Men Do Not Lead Part 1

By Dr. Bob Turner

---

**Course description:**

Throughout our history, it has been common to hear men express their lack of desire to serve. This course focuses on the underlying reasons men do not step up to lead. Today, we look at the first of several lessons designed to address this issue and then develop a plan to overcome it.

**Course Objectives: By the end of this class students will have...**

- A. Listed a minimum of ten reasons that hinder men from leading in the church.
- B. Examined the details behind two reasons for this occurrence.
- C. Described two ways we can overcome these hindrances.

**Outline of the class:**

- A. Divide the class into groups of 4 to 6 at each table. Ask each group to take 10 minutes to list as many reasons as possible why they believe men do not desire to lead in the church today.
- B. Once the lists are completed, take the next few minutes and ask each group to share their list of reasons. During this time, write the list on a whiteboard for further discussion in lessons over the next few weeks.
- C. The lesson today focuses on two primary areas described. These may have been mentioned in the list. If so, take time to discuss them in greater detail.
  - 1. Lack of ability
    - a. As a class, discuss why this is such a significant hindrance.
      - 1) People are educated or trained in areas other than leadership.
      - 2) Potential and experience are not the same as ability.
      - 3) Without ability, men will not lead.
      - 4) Introduce 1 Co. 12:13-27 and Romans 12:4-8 where we find that the body is made up of different gifts and each must exercise them accordingly. One of these gifts involves leadership.
      - 5) Discuss 1 Timothy 3:10 where deacons must first be proven. Does this factor into the discussion?

- b. After talking about why this hinders men from leading, take time to discuss a plan to overcome it.
    - 1) Men should be privately approached to discuss their abilities and determine their willingness to grow as leaders.
    - 2) Provide class to equip men in leadership skills and abilities.
2. Fear
- a. As a class, list out the areas people fear when describing leadership.
    - 1) Fear of what others think or say about them
    - 2) Fear of loss
    - 3) Fear of rejection
    - 4) Fear of public speaking
    - 5) Fear of failure
    - 6) Fear of responsibility
    - 7) Fear of notoriety
    - 8) Fear of saying or doing the wrong thing
    - 9) Fear of leading others
  - b. Afterwards, discuss ways to overcome fear in the areas described previously. How can we overcome our fear in leadership?
    - 1) Communicate: talk about what we fear
    - 2) Move out of our “comfort zones”
    - 3) Face the fear (start with simple and move to the complex)
    - 4) Know our spiritual self (weaknesses and strengths)
    - 5) Know our greatest Ally (think about David and Goliath, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and Daniel)
    - 6) Discuss how Romans 8:31-39 can help.

**Conclusion:**

- A. There are many reasons we will talk about that explain why men do not lead. These reasons may be personal, but they hinder the development and direction of leadership desperately needed in the church today.
- B. As we discuss more reasons in the weeks ahead, be thinking about a plan for how we can move beyond these hindrances, address the challenges that exist, and overcome them in ways that promote greater leadership development.
- C. Next week, we will discuss additional areas that hinder men from leading.